

Important Changes to National Science Foundation Reporting

The National Science Foundation (NSF) will soon implement significant changes in the way Principal Investigators (PIs) report on their NSF-funded projects. As part of a federal government-wide effort for greater consistency in research reporting formats among grant making agencies, NSF is transitioning to the Research Performance Progress Report (RPPR). The new format will replace the annual, final, interim and Project Outcomes reporting currently done in FastLane.

The RPPR will have the following components: Accomplishments, Products, Participants & Other Collaborating Organizations, Impact, Changes/Problems, Special Reporting Requirements, and Appendix for Significant Contributors

Key Differences of the new project report system:

- Dashboard interface will make it easier for PIs and Co-PIs to see which reports are due or overdue
- Rich text editor that supports scientific characters and symbols
- PDF upload to support images, charts, and other complex graphics
- Improved citation search
- Eliminates reporting on significant participants

On March 18, 2013, NSF will transfer its current project reporting service from FastLane to Research.gov. Research.gov is a modernization of FastLane, providing research-related information and grant management services in one location. PIs will login to Research.gov as "NSF Users" using their existing FastLane ID and password, so no new registration or password is required.

As part of the transition of project report submission through Research.gov, there will be a mandatory FastLane freeze. NSF awardees must stop submitting project reports in FastLane starting on February 1, 2013. To assist the grantee community with this transition, NSF will extend overdue dates for project reports that are currently scheduled to become overdue between January 31 and April 30, 2013.

What this means if you have a current NSF award:

- If you have a report due before January 31, 2013, then submit the report through FastLane before that date.
- If you have a report due between February 1, 2013 and March 17, 2013, then you will need to wait until after March 18, 2013 to submit through the new Research.gov website.
- If you have a report due after March 18, 2013, then submit by the due date using the new Research.gov website.

NSF is offering the following free webinar to provide additional information regarding these important changes. For details:

[January 16: Project Reports on Research.gov: What's In It for Me?](#)

For Fact Sheets, screen shots, FAQs, Quick Reference and Getting Started Guides and other information on the RPPR format or Research.gov, go to the [Project Reports](#) page.