

NSF Biographical Sketch and Current & Pending Support Fillable PDF Document FAQs

1. Where can I access the NSF-approved fillable PDF formats for biographical sketch and current and pending support?

The NSF-approved fillable PDF format for the biographical sketch is available at <https://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/biosketch.jsp>.

The NSF-approved fillable PDF format for current and pending support is available at <https://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/cps.jsp>.

2. Where can I provide feedback on the NSF-approved PDF forms for biographical sketch and current and pending support?

Feedback can be submitted via Research.gov using the <https://www.research.gov/research-web/feedback> tool. Under site area, select either Biographical Sketch or Current & Pending Support as appropriate.

3. I need guidance on what information I should provide when completing my biographical sketch. Where can I get more details?

Detailed information about the content is available in the [Proposal and Award Policies and Procedures Guide \(PAPPG\), Chapter II.C.2.f](#).

4. I need guidance on what information I should provide when completing my current and pending support documentation. Where can I get more details?

Detailed information about the content is available in the [Proposal and Award Policies and Procedures Guide \(PAPPG\), Chapter, II.C.2.h](#). A [set of frequently asked questions related to current and pending support](#) also is available.

5. How do I upload these documents to my proposal?

Researchers will upload their biographical sketch and current and pending support PDF documents to their proposals in Research.gov, FastLane, or Grants.gov just as they did prior to the requirement that this information be submitted in an NSF-approved format.

6. When will NSF begin enforcing the use of an NSF-approved format for biographical sketch and current and pending support?

Upon implementation of the revised *Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide (PAPPG)* (NSF 20-1) on June 1, 2020, all proposals submitted on or after June 1 2020 will be required to submit biographical sketches and current and pending support using an NSF-approved format. Proposals without these NSF approved documents will be blocked from submission.

7. How will I know if my documents are in an NSF-approved format?

The list of NSF-approved formats for biographical sketch is available at <https://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/biosketch.jsp>.

The list of NSF-approved formats for current and pending support is available at <https://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/cps.jsp>.

Effective June 1, 2020, NSF will validate biographical sketch and current and pending support documents are submitted in an NSF-approved format upon document upload in Research.gov and FastLane. Non-compliant documents will not be uploaded to the proposal, and users will receive an error with instructions on how to proceed. A proposal cannot be submitted without these required documents. Researchers submitting proposals via Grants.gov will receive an email notification if their documents are not submitted in an NSF-approved format, together with instructions on how to resubmit these documents.

8. In Research.gov when I select "print proposal" and view the entire proposal PDF, my biographical sketch and current and pending support documents still appear fillable. Why is this happening and will this impact the submission and review of my proposal?

These documents may appear as fillable in the Research.gov print view of the proposal for researchers who uploaded their biographical sketch and current and pending support documents using the NSF PDF fillable templates but the document fields are not actually fillable. This is a known issue that will be corrected later this spring and will not impact the submission and review of your proposal. Note: This issue does not exist for proposals prepared in FastLane or Grants.govs.

9. Who do I contact if I have questions?

Policy-related questions should be directed to policy@nsf.gov. If you have technical or IT system-related questions regarding the NSF fillable PDF formats, please contact the NSF Help Desk at 1-800-673-6188 (7:00 AM - 9:00 PM ET; Monday - Friday except federal holidays) or via fastlane@nsf.gov.