



**REVISION OF THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION (NSF)
GRANT GENERAL CONDITIONS (GC-1)
June 15th, 2005**

Effective June 15th, 2005, new NSF grants and funding amendments to existing NSF grants¹ will begin referencing and are subject to the Grant General Conditions (GC-1) dated 06/15/05. The complete text of the GC-1 (as well as other NSF grant policy issuances) is available electronically on the NSF website.²

A comprehensive summary of the significant changes is included below. Any questions regarding these changes may be directed to the Policy Office, Division of Institution and Award Support, on (703) 292-8243 or by e-mail to policy@nsf.gov.

Significant Changes to the Grant General Conditions (GC-1) Dated 6/15/05

- ◆ **Overall document** has been completely revised to reflect incorporation of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-110 into 2 CFR §215. As a result, references to A-110 sections have been updated throughout. The document has also been changed to replace the term “awardee” with the term “grantee.”
- ◆ **Prior Approval Requirements, Article 2**, has been supplemented to indicate that prior approval requests must be submitted electronically via FastLane, unless other arrangements have been made in advance with the cognizant NSF Grants Officer.
- ◆ **Equipment, Article 6**, has been revised and reorganized to consolidate information on inventory requirements into a new section of the Article. Because of increasing threats to information technology systems, the Article also reminds grantees that they must adequately maintain and insure adequate safeguards against the loss, damage, or theft of information technology equipment and systems purchased with NSF funds.
- ◆ **Significant Project Changes, Article 8**, has been updated to show that the grantee is responsible for maintaining documentation on all subawards and making such documentation available to NSF upon request. Grantees should include descriptions of subaward activities in their annual and final project reports. If the grantee issues subawards exceeding \$2,000 for construction, alteration or repair that

¹ The NSF Grant General Conditions do not apply to organizations participating in the Federal Demonstration Partnership.

² The Policy Office website address is: <http://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/>

Significant Changes

Page 2

are within the scope of 2 CFR §215 Appendix A, appropriate clauses should be included in the applicable subawards.

- ◆ **Travel, Article 10**, has been modified to state that, except as provided in the governing cost principles, the difference between economy airfare and a higher-class airfare is unallowable.
- ◆ **Project Reporting Requirements, Article 15 and Expenditure Reports, Article 16**, are now 2 new distinct Articles that contain information on NSF reporting requirements. Information on annual and final project reporting requirements have been consolidated into Article 15 and information on expenditure reports has now been moved to a separate Article 16. The content of the Articles has not changed except that language has been added to Article 15 with regard to submission of special reports.
- ◆ **Publications, Article 20**, has been updated to reflect that the grantee is responsible for ensuring that the cognizant NSF Program Officer is provided access, either electronically or in paper form, to a copy of every publication of material based on or developed under an award.
- ◆ **Patent Rights, Article 21**, has been supplemented to include the full text of the Patent Rights clause that was previously only contained in the NSF Grant Policy Manual.
- ◆ **Nondiscrimination, Article 27**, has been modified to include additional sections of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 that are applicable to NSF awards.
- ◆ **National Security: Classifiable Results Originating Under NSF Grants, Article 28**, has been modified to show that Executive Order (E.O.) 12958 has been amended.
- ◆ **Debarment and Suspension, Article 35**, is an entirely new Article that informs recipients that they must fully comply with the requirements stipulated in Subpart C of 45 CFR §620, entitled "*Responsibilities of Participants Regarding Transactions.*"
- ◆ **Government Permits and Activities Abroad, Article 39**, has been supplemented to highlight for grantees potential areas of concern with regard to conducting activities abroad.