



**REVISION OF THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION (NSF)
AGENCY SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS TO THE
RESEARCH TERMS & CONDITIONS
EFFECTIVE JANUARY 5, 2009**

Effective January 5, 2009, all new NSF grants and funding increments on existing NSF grants to organizations subject to 2 CFR Part 215, will incorporate by reference the Research Terms & Conditions dated July 1, 2008, and the NSF Agency Specific Requirements dated 01/09. The Research Terms & Conditions will not be applied to NSF cooperative agreements and NSF fellowship awards made to individuals.

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 NSF Agency Specific Requirements to the Research Terms & Conditions , dated 01/09

- ◆ **Article 2. Prior approval requirements not included in the Research Terms & Conditions**, has been updated to eliminate the prior approval requirement for obtaining an extension to new Small Grant for Exploratory Research (SGER) awards. The SGER program is being replaced by the Grants for Rapid Response Research (RAPID) and the EARly-concept Grants for Exploratory Research (EAGER) mechanisms. RAPID and EAGER follow standard NSF policies and procedures related to no-cost extensions.

- ◆ **Article 9, Form and Timing of Financial Reporting**, has been revised to require use of the Federal Financial Report (FFR) for submission of expenditure information. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB), as part of its implementation activities initiated in response to the Federal *Financial Assistance Management Improvement Act of 1999* (P.L. 106-107), has directed that the Federal Financial Report (FFR) replace the Federal Cash Transactions Report (FCTR). In support of that initiative, the FastLane FCTR will be deactivated effective January 5, 2009. The FCTR will remain available in view only mode for historical reports. Instructions for using the FFR are available in FastLane Help under Financial Functions/ Prepare FFR or from the Grantee Cash Management Section staff at <http://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dfm/cmeab.jsp>

- ◆ **Article 13, Travel**, has been updated to incorporate revised circumstances under which use of a foreign-flag air carrier is permissible. The article now addresses Airline "Open Skies" Agreements between the United States and a foreign government, which the Department of Transportation has determined meets the requirements of the Fly America Act. The Article

provides information on the “Open Skies” Agreement with the European Union, and includes a link to the General Services Administration website for additional information on other Open Skies Agreements.