

Ethics Education in Science and Engineering ([NSF 05-532](#)) Frequently Asked Questions - Revised

BUDGET

Q: Is there a limit to the amount of funds I can request for my proposal?

A: There is no official limit. The budget for this initial round is \$1.5 million, and the program expects to make around 5 to 12 awards, with amounts not exceeding \$300,000. Investigators should be aware that if they submit proposals with requests that far exceed that amount, reviewers and NSF program officials may question the feasibility of their doing the project with much less funding.

Q: Can funds be used for graduate stipends or tuition waivers?

A: Yes, EESE proposals may request support in all the usual NSF budget categories.

ELIGIBILITY

Q: What organizations are eligible to apply?

A: Accredited U.S. colleges or universities and U.S. professional associations are eligible. Professional associations include non-profit organizations like science or engineering societies and educational consortia. Trade associations and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are not professional associations, and are not eligible to apply. Trade associations and NGOs may be involved as sub-awardees or in consultant or advisory roles in proposals.

Q: Can two or more organizations submit a proposal together?

A: Yes. There are two ways to do this. One organization may submit a single proposal, in which a single award is being requested, with sub-awards administered by the lead organization. Alternatively, the organizations may simultaneously submit the proposal, with each organization requesting a separate award. Section II.D.3 of the NSF Grant Proposal Guide (GPG) describes these collaborative proposals more fully and includes instructions for their submission; see http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/gpg/nsf04_23/2.jsp#IID3. There is no limit on the number of proposals under which an organization may be included as a non-lead collaborator or sub-awardee.

Q: At my university, the College of Arts and Sciences wants to submit a proposal, and the College of Engineering wants to submit a separate proposal. Are both eligible?

A: No. If we receive both, we will notify you and you will have a week from notification to select one and notify NSF. If one is not selected, they both will be returned without review.

Q: Will proposals addressing medical or biomedical ethics be considered?

A: No, the EESE program will not consider proposals focused on ethics for medical students or in medical education. EESE will not consider proposals that will start or provide incremental improvements to formal or informal educational activities responsive to Federal mandates for research integrity or human-subjects training requirements.

Q: I have not incorporated a plan to test the educational activities in my project at another institution. Will my proposal be eligible for consideration?

A: Yes, it will be eligible. But panelists will be asked to keep in mind the criterion of testing at another institution in evaluating the submissions.

PROPOSAL PREPARATION-GENERAL

Q: What needs to be included in the Project Summary?

A: The Project Summary must clearly address, in separate statements within the one-page limit, both the broader impacts and the intellectual merit. Proposals that do not address both merit-review criteria in separate statements in the project summary will be returned without review. The broader impacts must also be addressed in the Project Description and described as an integral part of the narrative. See the NSF Grant Proposal Guide at http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=gpg.

Q: Will you enforce the page limits on proposals?

A: Yes.

Q: Do citations and references count against the project-description page limit?

A: No. They should be included in the References Cited section of the proposal

Q: Can I request an extension of time to submit a proposal?

A: No.

Q: What if FastLane or my university computer is unavailable on a submission deadline?

A: Please avoid this problem by submitting early. If you choose not to submit until the last minute, it is at your own risk.

Q: What if there is an earthquake, fire or other disaster?

A: Please contact Matt Bauer, on the EESE management team immediately, at mbauer@nsf.gov. We will make determinations on a case-by-case basis.

PROPOSAL PREPARATION-SPECIFIC

Q: Can a project include developing a Web site (or augmenting an existing one)?

A: Yes, provided that the work performed is in line with the objectives set out in the announcement. Proposals solely to develop or expand Web sites are unlikely to be competitive. Competitive proposals would incorporate Web-site development (if that is an aspect of their plans) with other outreach and dissemination activities.

Q: Can a project propose to create an ethics-training program that leads to a graduate degree?

A: Yes, provided that there is a clearly stated plan to test the program's feasibility at more than one institution.