

From: Chemistry Community <CHEM-COMM@LISTSERV.NSF.GOV> on behalf of Bessel, Carol <cbessel@NSF.GOV>
Sent: Tuesday, March 24, 2020 7:34 PM
To: CHEM-COMM@LISTSERV.NSF.GOV <CHEM-COMM@LISTSERV.NSF.GOV>
Subject: NSF: CHE: COVID-19/Loss of Operations, Future Manufacturing Webinar, QIS International Supplements, RFI Convergence Accelerator, S-STEM

Dear NSF Chemistry Community:

Please note the following items:

(1) Administrative Relief for Recipients and Applicants of Federal Financial Assistance Directly Impacted by the Novel Coronavirus due to Loss of Operations

NSF has issued [Important Notice No 146](#) to the Community Regarding COVID-19. NSF has also issued additional [guidance on NSF's implementation](#) of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Memorandum ([M-20-17](#)), entitled, *Administrative Relief for Recipients and Applicants of Federal Financial Assistance Directly Impacted by the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) due to Loss of Operations*. NSF has implemented flexibilities authorized by OMB from specific administrative, financial management and audit requirements contained in 2 CFR Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* without compromising accountability requirements.

Among the provisions are:

2. NSF has extended the **deadline dates for specific funding opportunities**. A listing of these extensions is available on the Foundation's [COVID-19 webpage](#). Deadline dates for funding opportunities that do not appear on the list remain unchanged. PIs who are unable to meet stated deadlines should contact the cognizant NSF Program Officer to discuss the issue. NSF will consider extensions on a case by case basis.

6. Awardees are authorized to **continue to charge salaries, stipends, and benefits to currently active NSF awards** consistent with their institution's policy of paying salaries (under unexpected or extraordinary circumstances) from all funding sources, Federal and non-Federal. Awardees are also authorized to charge other costs to NSF awards that are necessary to resume activities supported by the award, consistent with applicable Federal cost principles and the benefit to the project. Awardees must not assume that supplemental funding will be available should the charging of such costs or other fees result in a shortage of funds to eventually carry out the project. If a shortfall is anticipated, recipients must contact the cognizant NSF Program Officer to discuss the situation.

7. Recipients who incur **costs related to the cancellation of events, travel, or other activities** necessary and reasonable for the performance of the award, or the pausing and restarting of grant funded activities due to the public health emergency, are authorized to charge these costs to their award. Recipients must not assume that supplemental funding will be available should the charging of cancellation or other fees result in a shortage of funds to eventually carry out the event or travel... *Please consult the [full document](#) for details.*

For **comprehensive NSF coronavirus-related information** see https://www.nsf.gov/news/special_reports/coronavirus/. **Please check frequently for updates.**

(2) Webinar on Future Manufacturing

The recently released [Future Manufacturing \(NSF20-552\)](#) solicitation encourages fundamental research and education of a future workforce that will enable manufacturing that either does not exist today or exists only at

such) small scales that it is not viable.

For Fiscal Year 2020, there are three thrust areas: Cyber Manufacturing, Eco Manufacturing, and Biomanufacturing. The NSF anticipates \$40 M funding this year for three types of awards:

- Research Grants: 5 years, \$500 K - \$2 M / y. Fundamental, multidisciplinary, and integrative research & education
- Seed Grants: 2 years, \$250 K / y. Teambuilding, concept development, and research initiation, leading to future proposals
- Future Manufacturing Networks: 5 years, \$500 K total. Form communities of researchers, educators and stakeholders

Letters of Intent are due April 10, 2020 and full proposals are due June 5, 2020.

NSF is hosting a [webinar on Future Manufacturing on Thursday March 26, 2020, from 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm EDT](#). For details on how to join, see [here](#). Program directors will discuss the research thrusts, types of proposals, proposal requirements and evaluation criteria specific to this solicitation. If you have questions after reading the solicitation, please submit them.

(3) Dear Colleague Letter: International Collaboration Supplements in Quantum Information Science and Engineering Research ([NSF 20-063](#))

With this Dear Colleague Letter, NSF invites requests for supplemental funding from existing quantum information science and engineering research awardees to add a new -- or strengthen an existing -- international dimension to their award. International collaboration should advance fundamental knowledge and discovery in quantum fields and enhance the NSF Principal Investigator's (PI) own research and/or education objectives as outlined in the existing NSF award.

For consideration in a given fiscal year (running from October 1 to September 30), requests must be received before **May 1** of that fiscal year.

(4) Dear Colleague Letter: Request for Information (RFI) on Future Topics for the NSF Convergence Accelerator and Call for Future Topics Conference Proposals ([NSF 20-061](#))

The purpose of this RFI and call for future topics conference proposals is to seek input from global industry, institutions of higher education (IHEs), non-profits, government entities, and other interested parties on potential NSF Convergence Accelerator tracks for FY 2021.

Potential NSF Convergence Accelerator tracks for FY 2021 can be related to [Industries of the Future \(lotF\)](#), [NSF's Big Ideas](#), or other topics, that may not relate directly to an lotF or Big Idea, but nonetheless have the potential for significant national impact.

To submit a concept for future NSF Convergence Accelerator tracks, please visit: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2021RFI> and complete the online questionnaire no later than **April 30, 2020**. To be considered for the FY 2021 Convergence Accelerator solicitation, conference proposals should plan to hold the conference by September 30, 2020.

(5) NSF Scholarships in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (S-STEM) ([NSF 20-526](#))

A well-educated science, technology, engineering, and mathematics workforce is a significant contributor to maintaining the competitiveness of the U.S. in the global economy. The NSF Scholarships in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (S-STEM) program addresses the need for a high-quality STEM workforce in STEM

disciplines supported by the program and for the increased success of low-income academically talented students with demonstrated financial need who are pursuing associate, baccalaureate, or graduate degrees in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Recognizing that financial aid alone cannot increase retention and graduation in STEM, the program provides awards to Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs) to fund scholarships and to advance the adaptation, implementation, and study of effective evidence-based curricular and co-curricular activities that support recruitment, retention, transfer (if appropriate), student success, academic/career pathways, and graduation.

Full Proposal Deadline Date: April 22, 2020

Best regards,

Carol

Carol A. Bessel, Ph.D.
Acting Division Director
Division of Chemistry
National Science Foundation
2415 Eisenhower Avenue
Alexandria, VA 22314

Email: cbessel@nsf.gov

Phone: 703-292-4906