

Summer 2022 - ERA Forum Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

No.	Questions	Category	Response
1.	Once selected, radio buttons on the Current and Pending form cannot be unselected. If you decide to eliminate an item, the radio button remains selected and a blank page or two appears in the final application. Creating a new form is administrative burden. Will you update the form so that the radio buttons can be unselected?	Current & Pending Support	Once a radio button has been selected it cannot be unselected. This is standard behavior of radio buttons. A form reset feature is something we can consider adding.
2.	Will SciENcv have an import option for the NSF Current & Pending Support document? Many institutions have separate databases for tracking effort and a simple upload of that data into SciENcv it would assist administrators from having to separately update the information in both the institution's system and SciENcv.	SciENcv	Not at this time but NIH is investigating a solution to address this.
3.	Is it possible to update degree information that populates, in the SciENcv system, or does the PI need to update first in ORCID? If the latter, will the PI need to re-populate SciENcv before finalizing the CV?	SciENcv	Data imported from ORCID to SciENcv remains static in the biographical sketch (i.e., it will not automatically update if changed in ORCID). A user can update their degree information in ORCID and then create new SciENcv documents which will use this information, or manually update degree information in existing SciENcv documents.
4.	When the fillable forms are for Biographical Sketch(es) and Current and Pending Support documents are discontinued, all senior personnel will have to create them using SciENcv. This will be a burden for faculty who are non-academics and do research with municipal or community organizations. Given NSF's interest in having community participatory research, will there be a work-around allowed for these researchers?	SciENcv	NSF fillable forms can still be used until end of September 2023. After that time, we expect all researchers to use SciENcv. SciENcv has many ease-of-use features that reduce burden compared to fillable PDFs. And SciENcv can implement the legal requirement for electronic signature more effectively than PDFs.
5.	We submitted a proposal where I am listed as Senior Personnel. I also have the AOR role. I worked on the proposal but after I added my own name (using my NSF ID) as Senior Personnel, I was unable to access the proposal. Another AOR had to remove me as Senior Personnel before I could access it again. Will NSF consider this situation and enable one to be both an AOR and Senior Personnel on the same proposal?	Roles	The ability to be both a Senior Personnel and be an AOR is currently not supported, and the role of the Senior Personnel supersedes the AOR's. We plan to resolve this in a future release.

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6.	My organization would like the AOR or SPO staff to be able to initiate proposals, which is currently limited to PIs. Would you consider making this change to Research.gov? The AOR would still review and submit the proposal.	Proposal Creation	The system follows the guidance set by policy. Only the PI can initiate a proposal.
7.	Will Research.gov provide system-to-system (S2S) proposal submission capability? If not, why not? We use S2S capability with Grants.gov. The beauty is data entry into one system, not two. Please explain this to the community.	S2S	Yes. As FastLane retires, the Grants.gov integration features found in FastLane are migrating to Research.gov. S2S users will be able to test this in the Fall, and we really need volunteers for this.
8.	I would like the ability to share the proposal with the SPO/AOR as an Other Authorized (OAU). Both ASSIST and Grants.gov allow individuals in an assisting role to take this action. Could Research.gov allow this?	Share Proposal	The system currently allows PIs to grant view and edit access to the AOR staff. The system also allows PIs to grant view and edit access to Other Authorized users who are not part of the AOR staff.
9.	Can you elaborate on what proposal types and features are left to be rolled out in Research.gov?	Proposal Types/Features	Click on https://www.research.gov/research-web/content/aboutpsm and click on "Proposal Submission Capabilities" from the left navigation pane. At a high level Post-Doctoral Fellowships that require reference letter writers, SBIR/STTR proposals, supplemental funding, and the Grants.gov integration.
10.	Can you elaborate on what proposal types and features are left to be rolled out in Research.gov?	SAM	No. NSF's systems are programmed to support the Uniform Guidance and NSF requirement that an organization must maintain an active SAM registration. If the SAM registration is not active at the time of award, NSF Grants Officers are blocked from the final approval until such time that the SAM registration is active.
11.	Recently, organizations have been experiencing issues with UEIs and SAM.gov. Can you provide guidance on workarounds and who we should contact when issues arise?	SAM	NSF cannot assist users for issues at Sam.gov. Please contact the NSF Help desk if a UEI issue or organization issue is causing problems in your proposal or award. Given recent delays with SAM.gov, NSF encourages starting the registration or renewal process early.

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12.	Will we be able to prepare and submit separately submitted collaborative proposals using Grants.gov after it is integrated with Research.gov?	SAM	Separately submitted collaborative proposals cannot be done with Grants.gov submissions because there is no ability to link temporary proposals.
13.	Will we be able to prepare and submit separately submitted collaborative proposals using Grants.gov after it is integrated with Research.gov?	PI Transfers	Separately submitted collaborative proposals cannot be done with Grants.gov submissions because there is no ability to link temporary proposals.
14.	Please explain how NSF Broad Agency Announcement Management (BAAM) (https://baam.nsf.gov/s/) interfaces with Research.gov and Grants.gov? Will there be the ability to submit BAAs through Research.gov or will users also have to keep track of NSF BAAM moving forward?	BAAM Integration	At this time, BAAM integration is still evolving as NSF plans how the BAA Awards will work in the future.