NSF Public Access Requirement and Project Reports

The National Science Foundation (NSF) now requires investigators who receive an award based on a proposal submitted/due on or after January 25, 2016, to comply with the Public Access requirement to deposit published journal articles and juried conference papers in the NSF Public Access Repository. For more information on Public Access requirements, please refer to the About Public Access page on the NSF website at:
http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2016/nsf16009/nsf16009.jsp#q8

The **Project Outcomes Report** (POR) is a separate requirement for all awards, or funding increments, or supplements, made on or after January 4, 2010. POR must be submitted at the completion of the project by the PI directly through Research.gov (not FastLane) and should consist of a brief summary, prepared specifically for the public (which can include Congress and its staff) on outcomes of the funded project. The report should be written in an accessible language and make a clear argument as to why the findings of the research are of interest to American taxpayers. A full set of FAQs with regard to the POR can be found on the Policy Office website at: http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/policydocs/porfaqs.jsp#2 and http://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/index.jsp. Please note that the project outcomes report is separate from the annual report, or final report, or progress (interim) report.

Annual report must be submitted within 90 days prior to the end of the current budget period to allow adequate time for the Program Officer to review and approve the report. The report becomes overdue the day after the 90 day period ends.

A **Final project** report must be submitted within 90 days following expiration of an award, and must be submitted electronically via the NSF FastLane System. The report becomes overdue the day after the 90 day period ends. A final report replaces an annual report only if the expiration date for the award coincides with the project's award anniversary. If it does not, then an annual report will be due for the 12-month period following the previous report period.

An **Interim Report** can be submitted at any time during the life of the award to inform NSF of activities related to the funded project such as significant publications or a completed dissertation. Interim Reports should not be confused with Annual Reports; Interim Reports do not fulfill your annual reporting requirements. For example, the submission and review of an Interim Report does not release a continuing grant increment, whereas the successful submission and approval of an Annual Report does.

NSF Policy Statement: Rebudgeting of Salaries in Awards Involving Students

The NSF policy regarding rebudgeting of salaries in awards involving students is that salaries and wages in awards involving students should not be reallocated or rebudgeted for senior personnel salaries.

NOTE: Subrecipients are required to submit their reports to the Office of Research.