

These events are designed to help faculty prepare competitive proposals for the National Science Foundation's Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Program!



To learn more, about the NSF CAREER program, click [HERE!](#)

To register online for Texas A&M CAREER events, click [HERE!](#)

1. GETTING TO KNOW THE NSF*

Aug. 28, 2024, Wed., 1:30 - 3:00 pm, Virtual
Webinar

An overview of the National Science Foundation (NSF) covering the organization, proposal types, proposal review, and review criteria (Intellectual Merit and Broader Impacts), as well as discussion about what's new at the NSF. Useful to researchers when deciding whether to submit a proposal to NSF and to which program to submit. Open to all faculty levels.

2. NSF SUPPORTING PROPOSAL DOCUMENTS*

Sept. 10, 2024, Tues., 1:30 - 3:00 pm, Virtual
Webinar

Discussing supporting documents required for National Science Foundation proposals, including recent changes to the Biosketch, Current & Pending (Other) Support, and Mentoring Plan. It will also provide information on available resources to assist faculty with developing these documents. Open to all faculty levels.

3. CAREER: INTRODUCTION TO THE NSF CAREER PROGRAM WITH RECENT AWARDEES PANEL +

Oct. 17, 2024, Thurs., 11:00 - 1:00 pm, Rudder Tower 301 & 302
In-Person Kick-Off With Recent Awardees Panel

This Kick-off to the FY25 RDS CAREER Assistance Program begins with an introduction to the National Science Foundation's Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Program and includes an awardee panel lunch. Topics covered include PI eligibility, deadlines, proposal requirements, what makes the CAREER program different from other NSF programs, why CAREER proposals are not typical research proposals, how CAREER proposals are reviewed differently from typical research proposals, and available resources to assist faculty with preparing CAREER proposals.

4. CAREER: TIMELINE, STRATEGIES, & LONG TERM GOALS FOR DEVELOPING A PROPOSAL +

Nov. 11, 2024, Mon., 12:00 - 1:00 pm, MSC 2406A

Discussion and Q&A With Former NSF Program Officers & Past CAREER Awardees

Timeline and strategies to develop a successful NSF CAREER proposal, how to decide what research topics to pursue, how to find a home program at NSF, when to submit, and how to build a competitive case, as well as effective ways to connect an NSF CAREER Plan to long-term goals.

5. CAREER: PROJECT DESCRIPTION +

Dec. 2, 2024, Mon., 12:00 - 1:00 pm, Rudder Tower 302

Discussion and Q&A With Former NSF Program Officers & Past CAREER Awardees

Required and recommended sections to include in a project description, why having a section on "Prior Achievements" is recommended, and what to include in the "Prior Achievements" section. Specific discussion will include research goals and objectives, scope of the project, best practices and common mistakes, differences between fundamental research and development work, why many reviewers are in favor of hypothesis-driven research, why having a section on "Relationship to the Present State of Knowledge in the Field" is recommended, and common research plan weaknesses

6. CAREER: WRITING GROUPS KICK-OFF

Feb. 4, 2025, Tues., 9:00 - 10:00 am, Virtual

Virtual Kick-Off

This virtual interactive event will start with introducing 20+ campus representatives in programs that faculty can collaborate on the education and outreach aspects of their NSF proposals, followed by an expo for attendees to network with these campus program representatives.

7. EDUCATION AND OUTREACH EXPO ♦

Feb. 25, 2025, Tues., 1:30 - 3:00 pm, Rudder Tower 601

Presentation and Expo

This interactive networking event will start with faculty viewing on-line introductions to 20+ campus representatives in programs that faculty can collaborate on the education and outreach aspects of their NSF proposals. Then, at the expo, attendees will have opportunity to network with these campus program representatives. All faculty are encouraged to attend.

8. CAREER: PROJECT SUMMARY & STRUCTURING AND FORMATTING PROPOSALS FOR REVIEWERS +

Mar. 17, 2025, Mon., 12:00 - 1:00 pm, MSC 1400

Discussion and Q&A with former NSF Program Officers and past CAREER Awardees

Discussion of what is required for the Project Summary will include tips on how to write it most effectively for an NSF CAREER proposal, and how to make a positive lasting impression on reviewers. Also included will be tips for making an NSF CAREER proposal stand out, section hierarchy and structuring of the proposal, using NSF language, graphics advice, formatting (e.g., fonts & white space), and features of strong departmental letters.

9. CAREER: THE EDUCATION PLAN +

Mar. 25, 2025, Tues., 12:00 - 1:30 pm, Rudder Tower 701

Working Lunch Session

This working lunch session will begin with discussion of education goals and objectives, creating quantifiable metrics and specific plans for success, integration of research and education, leveraging Texas A&M's HSI status, and examples of good and bad education objectives. Bring ideas for your education plan and explore campus programs you can leverage in your plan development.

10. NSF CAREER PROJECT SUMMARY FEEDBACK SESSION +

Apr. 17, 2025, Thurs., 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, MSC 2500

Roundtable Discussion

Participants will bring their CAREER project summaries to a group to get feedback on strengths and weaknesses from former program directors, recent CAREER awardees, research development staff, and peer attendees. Each group will review 4 – 6 project summaries.

* Events covering general topics about NSF, not specific to the CAREER program

+ Lunch will be provided to registered attendees

♦ Refreshments will be available

CHECK OUT THESE LINKS:

- To learn more about the NSF CAREER Program:
 - <https://new.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/faculty-early-career-development-program-career>
- To register online for Texas A&M CAREER events:
 - <https://vpr.tamu.edu/research-development-services/professional-development/>



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