

NSF Postdoctoral Mentoring Plan Requirement

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NSF Grant Proposal Guide

GPG Chapter II.C.2.j

Each proposal that requests funding to support **postdoctoral researchers** must include, as a supplementary document, a description of the mentoring activities that will be provided for such individuals.

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GPG Chapter II.C.2.j, cont.

In no more than one page, the mentoring plan must describe the mentoring that will be provided to all postdoctoral researchers supported by the project, irrespective of whether they reside at the submitting organization, any subawardee organization, or at any organization participating in a simultaneously submitted collaborative project.

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GPG Chapter II.C.2.j, cont.

Examples of mentoring activities include, but are not limited to: career counseling; training in preparation of grant proposals, publications and presentations; guidance on ways to improve teaching and mentoring skills; guidance on how to effectively collaborate with researchers from diverse backgrounds and disciplinary areas; and training in responsible professional practices.

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GPG Chapter II.C.2.j, cont.

The proposed mentoring activities will be evaluated as part of the merit review process under the Foundation's broader impacts merit review criterion.

Proposals that include funding to support postdoctoral researchers, and, do not include the requisite mentoring plan will be **returned without review** (see [GPG Chapter IV.B.](#))

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GPG Chapter II.C.2.j, cont.

Proposers are advised that the mentoring plan may not be used to circumvent the 15-page project description limitation.

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GPG Chapter II.D.4.a.

Submission of a collaborative proposal from one organization: If a proposed subaward includes funding to support postdoctoral researchers, the mentoring activities to be provided for such individuals must be incorporated in the supplemental mentoring plan outlined in [GPG Chapter II.C.2.j.](#)

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GPG Chapter II.D.4.b.

Submission of a collaborative proposal from multiple organizations: If applicable, the lead organization's submission must include a supplemental mentoring plan that must not exceed one page, and that addresses the mentoring activities to be provided for all postdoctoral researchers supported under the **entire** collaborative project.

Key Documents

- ◆ Grant Proposal Guide (NSF 10-1)

http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=GPG

- ◆ NSF Postdoctoral Fellowships

https://www.fastlane.nsf.gov/jsp/homepage/postdoc_fel.jsp

- ◆ When in doubt –

<http://www.nsf.gov/>