

1. Key Personnel:

Except for the Principal Investigator(s) (PIs) or Co-PIs identified in this award, requests to make any changes to personnel, organizations, and/or partnerships specifically named in the proposal, that have been approved as part of this award, shall be submitted in writing to the cognizant NSF Program Official for approval prior to any changes taking effect. Requests for prior approval of changes to the PI(s) must be submitted through Research.gov/FastLane for review by the cognizant NSF Program Official and approval by an NSF Grants Officer.

2. Program/Project Description

The NSF Convergence Accelerator promotes use-inspired, convergence research in areas of national importance via partnerships between academic and non-academic stakeholders. The NSF Convergence Accelerator Phase II solicitation (**NSF 21-572**) seeks to build upon the Phase I research supported by the Convergence Accelerator, leading to rapid research advances that can deliver useful results to society. The guiding rationale of the NSF Convergence Accelerator is that a high level of interdisciplinarity and engagement with multiple kinds of stakeholders, including researchers and the ultimate users of research products, is essential to deliver progress on scientific challenges of societal relevance — such as those embodied by the **two** tracks in this solicitation. Successful NSF Convergence Accelerator Phase II awards are expected to have four important characteristics: 1) convergence research approach; 2) a strong, multi-organization partnership involving researchers, users, and other stakeholders; 3) high probability of successful deliverables within a two-year period that will ultimately benefit society, and 4) strong alignment with the track goals as described in this solicitation.

3. Project Governance

The Awardee will ensure that an efficient and effective project governing structure is in place throughout the award period to support all critical or significant project activities.

The project governance section of this document must include a description, provided by the applicant, of the critical management positions on the project. The roles of those personnel should be described, but do not include the names of the personnel associated with the roles. The roles of any governing or advisory board or committee/s, any liaison bodies or individuals, if applicable, may be discussed in this section or section 4 below.

4. Governing Responsibilities.

The Awardee will ensure efficient and effective performance of all project responsibilities by the governing components throughout the award period.

5. Reporting Requirements and Ongoing Project Oversight

- 1.) This award is subject to the provisions of **NSF 21-572**, NSF Convergence Accelerator Phase II.
- 2.) Oversight. Reviews of progress may take the form of site visit(s), reverse site visit(s), teleconferences, **virtual meetings**, and written reports not limited to what is described below. Awardees will be asked to demonstrate progress towards achieving the project goals and the goals of the relevant track (**E or F**).
 - a. In-person or virtual meetings. The awardee will prepare briefing material as designated by the cognizant NSF Program Director (PD) with content, format, and submission timeline established by the cognizant NSF PD.
 - i. Within the first approximately 30 days of the Award, all Key Personnel will be required to participate in an approximately two-day kick-off meeting at NSF (or in a virtual format). The purpose of this meeting will be to discuss, in detail, the Convergence Management Plan and the Timeline of Milestones and Deliverables.
 - ii. Key Personnel will be required to attend quarterly site or reverse-site visits (**in person or virtual**).

- iii. Key Personnel will be required to attend an evaluation meeting at NSF person **(or virtual as decided by NSF)** near the end of year one. The purpose of the evaluation meeting is to assess progress the awardees have made towards advancing project goals via a well-functioning interdisciplinary and multi-organization team.
 - b. Teleconferences/**virtual meetings** between the PI and the NSF PD, plus any relevant co-PI's/collaborators will be arranged as needed (roughly monthly) at times to be jointly decided by the NSF PD and the PI.
 - c. Reports. The Awardee will provide (via Research.gov) ad hoc and regular reports as designated by the NSF PD with content, format, and submission timeline established by the cognizant NSF PD.
 - i. Awardee will provide a brief monthly status report by email which provides updates of their accomplishments over the past month.
 - ii. A quarterly project report will be prepared and submitted to NSF, as an interim report in FastLane or Research.gov, within 15 days following the end of each 3-month reporting period.
 - iii. The annual report will be submitted as an Annual Report to Fastlane or Research.gov. Additional materials may be required as part of the in-person evaluation meeting.
 - iv. Other reports may be requested by NSF, as appropriate and with reasonable accommodations for scope and timeline.
- 3.) Funding for the project can be reduced and/or restricted. The cognizant PD can recommend termination in the case of non-performance.

6. Program-specific terms and conditions, if applicable.

Key Personnel will be required to participate in an annual NSF Convergence Accelerator Expo with the purpose of showcasing NSF-funded Convergence Accelerator awards in order to establish partnership opportunities and, ultimately, achieve long-term sustainability of the projects.

Additional in-person or virtual meetings, for instance to facilitate cross-team collaboration for Track success, may be requested by NSF as appropriate.