

Agency Implementation Strategies

The following information was provided by NIH and NSF officials at the February 19th COGR (Council on Government Relations) meeting.

NSF

- Is receiving \$3 Billion (normal annual budget is \$6B)
- \$2.5B is for research and related programs
- \$300M for major equipment and \$200M for facilities modernization
- NSF will not issue calls for proposals except in areas of targeted funding.
- 24,000 investigator initiated proposals in house. 8,000 have been reviewed with 3,000 having scores of very good or higher. NSF will use much of its funding for proposals in this pool.
- NSF will not provide supplements to existing awards.
- NSF's plans have to be reviewed by the National Science Board, which meets this week, and by Congress.

NIH

- Is receiving \$10.4 B (normal annual budget is ~\$29B)
- \$7.4B for research priorities of the Institutes and Centers and the Common Fund (which supports Roadmap activities, etc.)
- NIH will fund well-scored but unfunded proposals as well as proposals currently in review. Investigators will be asked to revise proposals to describe activities that can be accomplished in 2 years and submit a detailed budget (even if original proposal required a modular budget).
- \$0.8B will be retained for the Director's Challenge program – there should be some RFAs in the next week or so.
- \$1B for construction projects and \$300M for shared instrumentation. There will likely be RFAs in the next week or so.
- NIH will provide supplements to currently funded awards – to accelerate the tempo of the work, not to restore previous budget cuts. No details yet.

Reporting requirements will be much more extensive than normal and will require quarterly reporting of:

- Funds received, obligated and expended
- Progress to project completion
- Jobs created and jobs retained

Agencies will be paying a lot of attention to 'burn rate.' If money isn't being spent in a timely way, the award can be rescinded and given to another project. And, there will be increased scrutiny. Agency IG's offices also received significant additional funding!