High Performance Network Connections - 2003 (HPNC)

Program Solicitation
NSF 03-529
Replaces Document 02-073

National Science Foundation
Division of Advanced Networking Infrastructure and Research

Full Proposal Deadline(s) (due by 5 p.m proposer's local time):

April 21, 2003

SUMMARY OF PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

General Information

Program Title:

High Performance Network Connections - 2003 (HPNC)
Advanced Networking for Research and Education

Synopsis of Program:

The purpose of this program is to:

1. enable research and education at the forefront of science and engineering via the establishment of high performance (45mbits per second or greater) Internet connections to a national research network;
2. prepare the next generation of scientists, engineers, and other researchers, especially individuals in traditionally underserved groups, to use advanced networking in support of discovery, learning and innovation.

Institutions in EPSCoR (http://www.ehr.nsf.gov/epscor/) states as well as minority serving institutions are encouraged to submit to this program.

Note: *One-day workshops on proposal writing for this program will be held prior to the deadline date. Contact the Cognizant Program Officer for more information.*

Cognizant Program Officer(s):

- Gregory Monaco, Program Director, Directorate for Computer & Information Science & Engineering, Division of Advanced Networking Infrastructure and Research, 1175 N, telephone: (703) 292-8948, fax: (703) 292-9010, email: gmonaco@nsf.gov

Applicable Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number(s):

- 47.070 --- Computer and Information Science and Engineering

Eligibility Information

- **Organization Limit:**

  Only one proposal may be submitted by an eligible organization, provided that the organization has not previously been funded for a high performance network connection. Eligible organizations include U.S. universities and two- and four-year colleges as well as non-profit, non-academic organizations, including independent museums, observatories, research laboratories, and similar organizations in the U.S. that are directly associated with educational and research activities and are not currently connected to an advanced network (45 mbps).

- **PI Eligibility Limit:** One proposal per PI.
- **Limit on Number of Proposals:** None Specified.

Award Information

- **Anticipated Type of Award:** Standard Grant
- **Estimated Number of Awards:** 15 - Award size ranging from $70,000 to $200,000 for two years ($35,000 to $100,000 per year).
- **Anticipated Funding Amount:** $2,000,000 in available funds in Fiscal Year 2003

Proposal Preparation and Submission Instructions

A. Proposal Preparation Instructions

- **Full Proposal Preparation Instructions:** This solicitation contains information that supplements the standard Grant Proposal Guide (GPG) proposal preparation guidelines. Please see the full text of this solicitation for further information.

B. Budgetary Information

- **Cost Sharing Requirements:** Cost Sharing is required (Percentage).
- **Cost Sharing Level/Amount:** 100%
- **Indirect Cost (F&A) Limitations:** NSF will not reimburse the awardee for any indirect costs associated with leased line costs and service provider fees. If the organization's normal practice is to include these costs in their indirect cost base, then the indirect cost amount for these two categories will not be funded by NSF but may be used to meet the organization's cost sharing.
- **Other Budgetary Limitations:** Other budgetary limitations apply. Please see the full text of this solicitation for further information.

C. Due Dates

- **Full Proposal Deadline Date(s)** (due by 5 p.m proposer's local time):
  April 21, 2003

Proposal Review Information

- **Merit Review Criteria:** National Science Board approved criteria. Additional merit review considerations apply. Please see the full text of this solicitation for further information.

Award Administration Information

- **Award Conditions:** Additional award conditions apply. Please see the full text of this solicitation for further information.
- **Reporting Requirements:** Standard NSF reporting requirements apply.

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I. INTRODUCTION

The National Science Foundation and the Division of Advanced Networking Infrastructure and Research (ANIR) have had a profound effect on science and engineering research and education through support of computer networking, beginning in 1986 with NSFNET and continuing through 2002 with the vBNS and then the Internet2 Abilene network. To date 210 universities and research facilities have received NSF high performance connections awards.

The number of researchers in the higher education community who require access to high performance networks continues to grow, the range of applications continues to expand, and the technology continues to evolve (e.g., grid computing). High performance networks have become critical tools, enabling research and education at the forefront of science and engineering where high performance network services such as tele-collaboration, distributed high performance computing, data mining, and remote visualization and imaging

are increasingly employed.

The current need is to continue extending access to an advanced network while training the next generation of scientists, engineers, and other researchers and educators to effectively utilize these tools so they may generate the creative ideas of the future.

II. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This program supports the establishment of high performance connections to advanced Internet facilities (such as the vBNS or Abilene) to:

- enable identified cutting edge science and engineering research and education applications with special network requirements (such as high bandwidth and/or bounded latency) that cannot readily be met through commodity network service providers. Such advanced network connections will be at or above 45 Mbps, and
- prepare the next generation of scientists, engineers, and other researchers and educators to understand and use the network.

In the past, the program has primarily focused on cutting-edge research. However in this announcement, the programmatic focus includes and extends beyond research, to include aspects of network sustainability and advanced networking education for students, particularly those in underserved areas.

A portion of the award may be used to purchase equipment (e.g., a small cluster of computers) that will directly enable research and education.

Institutions may propose to connect their local network infrastructure to the national research network infrastructure by any appropriate technique, for example,

- acquiring services from a network service provider,
- connecting to a gigapop, or
- connecting to a university that already has a high performance connection.

The high performance connection must be interconnected with an appropriate local network infrastructure.

III. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

Only one proposal may be submitted by an eligible organization, provided that the organization has not previously been funded for a high performance network connection. Eligible organizations include U.S. universities and two- and four-year colleges as well as non-profit, non-academic organizations, including independent museums, observatories, research laboratories, and similar organizations in the U.S. that are directly associated with educational and research activities and are not currently connected to an advanced network (45 mbps).

Synergistic collaboration among researchers and educators or partnerships with industry or government laboratories are encouraged where appropriate.

Proposals from groups of institutions, where none of the institutions have been previously funded by NSF for a high performance connection, are encouraged, where the proposers can, in addition to meeting the other criteria outlined below, demonstrate a clear cost savings by connecting together rather than separately.

Due to the limited availability of funds, prospective applicants are urged to contact the Cognizant Program Officer for guidance.

IV. AWARD INFORMATION

NSF anticipates that $2.0 Million will be available in FY 2003 to fund proposals received in response to this announcement. NSF anticipates funding approximately 15 proposals with awards between $70,000 and $200,000 for two years ($35,000 to $100,000 per year). The final number of awards will be subject to availability of funds and the quality of the proposals.

V. PROPOSAL PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

A. Proposal Preparation Instructions

Full Proposal Instructions:

Proposals submitted in response to this program announcement/solicitation should be prepared and submitted in accordance with the general guidelines contained in the NSF *Grant Proposal Guide* (GPG). The complete text of the GPG is available electronically on the NSF Website at: http://www.nsf.gov/cgi-bin/getpub?gpg. Paper copies of the GPG may be obtained from the NSF Publications Clearinghouse, telephone (703) 292-7827 or by e-mail from pubs@nsf.gov.

The project description must include the following sections:

Discovery Enabled by the Network Connection

This section must describe:

- the scientific and/or engineering research application(s) and the unique advanced networking requirements (e.g., amount of bandwith, latency, and/or jitter requirements), and,
- end-to-end services (including development or adaptation of any specialized hardware or software to conduct the proposed research) required by the proposed research applications.

Network Engineering Plan

This plan should be prepared jointly by persons from the proposed research application areas, from campus local network provider organizations, and from involved wide area network service providers. It should indicate how the proposed connection will deliver the high-performance service "end to end", and must describe:

- how the high performance network service will be delivered to the application (local infrastructure);
- how the high performance network service relates to commodity networking at the campus and off-campus levels; and,
- how the high performance network service will be managed and operated.

Plan for Sustainability

This section of the proposal might address how the proposers will establish and maintain:

- a mentorship with a school with an established advanced network connection;
- peering partnerships between researchers and/or educators at the proposing institution with researchers or educators at institutions having successful ongoing projects using advanced networking; and,
- participation in advanced networking meetings, research meetings, and science collaborations.

Education and Training Plan

With respect to education, college and university proposers must include:

- An appropriate plan to enrich the curriculum for computer science (CS) majors in the areas of advanced networking and grid computing, and/or
- An appropriate plan to enrich the curriculum for non-CS majors in the areas of advanced networking and grid computing.

Extension Plan

This section of the proposal must provide a plan to extend the use of the high performance network beyond early adopters.

Additional Requirements

In addition, all proposals must:

- specify cost sharing items;
- contain an agreement letter from an authorized university official to continue to support the proposed advanced network access after the period of NSF support ends; and,

- have scientists and engineers involved in the proposed research and education activities represented as co-PIs (principal investigators) on the proposal.

Proposers are reminded to identify the program announcement/solicitation number ((03-529)) in the program announcement/solicitation block on the proposal Cover Sheet. Compliance with this requirement is critical to determining the relevant proposal processing guidelines. Failure to submit this information may delay processing.

B. Budgetary Information

Cost Sharing:

Cost sharing may include, but is not limited to, any portion of the costs of the high performance connection itself (e.g. circuit costs, circuit installation charges), software/equipment costs needed to interface campus network infrastructure to the external high performance connection (e.g., border routers or switches) not covered in the award.

Cost sharing at a level of 100 percent of the requested total amount of NSF funds is required for all proposals submitted in response to this announcement/solicitation. The proposed cost sharing must be shown on line M on the proposal budget. Documentation of the availability of cost sharing must be included in the proposal.

Only items which would be allowable under the applicable cost principles, if charged to the project, may be included in the awardee's contribution to cost sharing. Contributions may be made from any non-Federal source, including non-Federal grants or contracts, and may be cash or in kind (see OMB Circular A-110, Section 23). It should be noted that contributions counted as cost sharing toward projects of another Federal agency may not be counted towards meeting the specific cost sharing requirements of the NSF award.

All cost sharing amounts are subject to audit. Failure to provide the level of cost sharing reflected in the approved award budget may result in termination of the NSF award, disallowance of award costs and/or refund of award funds to NSF.

Indirect Cost (F&A) Limitations:

NSF will not reimburse the awardee for any indirect costs associated with leased line costs and service provider fees. If the organization's normal practice is to include these costs in their indirect cost base, then the indirect cost amount for these two categories will not be funded by NSF but may be used to meet the organization's cost sharing.

Other Budgetary Limitations:

If the high performance connection replaces an existing connection, only the costs above those of the existing connection will be considered for support.

Eligible NSF grant expenses include:

- costs of the high performance connection itself (e.g. circuit costs, circuit installation charges), and
- software/equipment costs needed to interface campus network infrastructure to the external high performance connection (e.g., border routers or switches);
- software/equipment costs for a small computer cluster for education and participation in grid projects.

Membership fees, participation fees and bundled costs are not eligible NSF grant expenses.

C. Due Dates

Proposals must be submitted by the following date(s):

Full Proposal Deadline(s) (due by 5 p.m proposer's local time):

April 21, 2003

D. FastLane Requirements

Proposers are required to prepare and submit all proposals for this announcement/solicitation through the FastLane system. Detailed instructions for proposal preparation and submission via FastLane are available at: http://www.fastlane.nsf.gov/a1/newstan.htm. For FastLane user support, call the FastLane Help Desk at 1-800-673-6188 or e-mail fastlane@nsf.gov. The FastLane Help Desk answers general technical questions related to the use of the FastLane system. Specific questions related to this program announcement/solicitation should be referred to the NSF program staff contact(s) listed in Section VIII of this announcement/solicitation.

Submission of Electronically Signed Cover Sheets. The Authorized Organizational Representative (AOR) must electronically sign the proposal Cover Sheet to submit the required proposal certifications (see Chapter II, Section C of the Grant Proposal Guide for a listing of the certifications). The AOR must provide the required electronic certifications within five working days following the electronic submission of the proposal. Proposers are no longer required to provide a paper copy of the signed Proposal Cover Sheet to NSF. Further instructions regarding this process are available on the FastLane Website at: http://www.fastlane.nsf.gov

VI. PROPOSAL REVIEW INFORMATION

A. NSF Proposal Review Process

Reviews of proposals submitted to NSF are solicited from peers with expertise in the substantive area of the proposed research or education project. These reviewers are selected by Program Officers charged with the oversight of the review process. NSF invites the proposer to suggest, at the time of submission, the names of appropriate or inappropriate reviewers. Care is taken to ensure that reviewers have no conflicts with the proposer. Special efforts are made to recruit reviewers from non-academic institutions, minority-serving institutions, or adjacent disciplines to that principally addressed in the proposal.

The National Science Board approved revised criteria for evaluating proposals at its meeting on March 28, 1997 (NSB 97-72). All NSF proposals are evaluated through use of the two merit review criteria. In some instances, however, NSF will employ additional criteria as required to highlight the specific objectives of certain programs and activities.

On July 8, 2002, the NSF Director issued Important Notice 127, Implementation of new Grant Proposal Guide Requirements Related to the Broader Impacts Criterion. This Important Notice reinforces the importance of addressing both criteria in the preparation and review of all proposals submitted to NSF. NSF continues to strengthen its internal processes to ensure that both of the merit review criteria are addressed when making funding decisions.

In an effort to increase compliance with these requirements, the January 2002 issuance of the GPG incorporated revised proposal preparation guidelines relating to the development of the Project Summary and Project Description. Chapter II of the GPG specifies that Principal Investigators (PIs) must address both merit review criteria in separate statements within the one-page Project Summary. This chapter also reiterates that broader impacts resulting from the proposed project must be addressed in the Project Description and described as an integral part of the narrative.

Effective October 1, 2002, NSF will return without review proposals that do not separately address both merit review criteria within the Project Summary. It is believed that these changes to NSF proposal preparation and processing guidelines will more clearly articulate the importance of broader impacts to NSF-funded projects.

The two National Science Board approved merit review criteria are listed below (see the Grant Proposal Guide Chapter III.A for further information). The criteria include considerations that help define them. These considerations are suggestions and not all will apply to any given proposal. While proposers must address both merit review criteria, reviewers will be asked to address only those considerations that are relevant to the proposal being considered and for which he/she is qualified to make judgments.

What is the intellectual merit of the proposed activity?
How important is the proposed activity to advancing knowledge and understanding within its own field or across different fields? How well qualified is the proposer (individual or team) to conduct the project? (If appropriate, the reviewer will comment on the quality of the prior work.) To what extent does the proposed activity suggest and explore creative and original concepts? How well conceived and organized is the proposed activity? Is there sufficient access to resources?

What are the broader impacts of the proposed activity?
How well does the activity advance discovery and understanding while promoting teaching, training, and learning? How well does the proposed activity broaden the participation of underrepresented groups (e.g., gender, ethnicity, disability, geographic, etc.)? To what extent will it enhance the infrastructure for research and education, such as facilities, instrumentation, networks, and partnerships? Will the results be disseminated broadly to enhance scientific and technological understanding? What may be the benefits of the proposed activity to society?

NSF staff will give careful consideration to the following in making funding decisions:

Integration of Research and Education
One of the principal strategies in support of NSF's goals is to foster integration of research and education through the programs, projects, and activities it supports at academic and research institutions. These institutions provide abundant opportunities where individuals may concurrently assume responsibilities as researchers, educators, and students and where all can engage in joint efforts that infuse education with the excitement of discovery and enrich research through the diversity of learning perspectives.

Integrating Diversity into NSF Programs, Projects, and Activities
Broadening opportunities and enabling the participation of all citizens -- women and men, underrepresented minorities, and persons with disabilities -- is essential to the health and vitality of science and engineering. NSF is committed to this principle of diversity and deems it central to the programs, projects, and activities it considers and supports.

Additional Review Criteria
The following additional criteria will be used in the review process:

1. Quality of the proposed research application(s) that require the high performance connection and evidence that the connection is required;
2. Adequacy of the network engineering plan, including clear involvement of appropriate technical expertise in computer networking, if not provided by local professionals, then available through arrangements with appropriate third parties (e.g., gigapop operators, network service providers, relationships with other campuses, or access to regional support teams);
3. Adequate plan to sustain and increase the use of the network connection (e.g., plan to extend the reach of the

proposed connection beyond the group of early adopters);
4. Adequate plan to enhance networking curricula for CS and/or non-CS majors;
5. Adequate existing and/or proposed local network infrastructure to deliver advanced network service to the desktops and facilities of the intended end users;
6. Coordination of procedures with proposed network service providers;
7. Committment to provide for the future continuing support of the proposed network connections as indicated by letters of commitment from appropriate institutional officials;
8. Cost-effectiveness of the proposed network connection; evidence of thoroughness of effort to obtain cost-effective connection.

B. Review Protocol and Associated Customer Service Standard

All proposals are carefully reviewed by at least three other persons outside NSF who are experts in the particular field represented by the proposal. Proposals submitted in response to this announcement/solicitation will be reviewed by Panel Review.

Reviewers will be asked to formulate a recommendation to either support or decline each proposal. The Program Officer assigned to manage the proposal's review will consider the advice of reviewers and will formulate a recommendation.

A summary rating and accompanying narrative will be completed and submitted by each reviewer. In all cases, reviews are treated as confidential documents. Verbatim copies of reviews, excluding the names of the reviewers, are sent to the Principal Investigator/Project Director by the Program Director. In addition, the proposer will receive an explanation of the decision to award or decline funding.

In most cases, proposers will be contacted by the Program Officer after his or her recommendation to award or decline funding has been approved by the Division Director. This informal notification is not a guarantee of an eventual award.

NSF is striving to be able to tell applicants whether their proposals have been declined or recommended for funding within six months. The time interval begins on the date of receipt. The interval ends when the Division Director accepts the Program Officer's recommendation.

In all cases, after programmatic approval has been obtained, the proposals recommended for funding will be forwarded to the Division of Grants and Agreements for review of business, financial, and policy implications and the processing and issuance of a grant or other agreement. Proposers are cautioned that only a Grants and Agreements Officer may make commitments, obligations or awards on behalf of NSF or authorize the expenditure of funds. No commitment on the part of NSF should be inferred from technical or budgetary discussions with a NSF Program Officer. A Principal Investigator or organization that makes financial or personnel commitments in the absence of a grant or cooperative agreement signed by the NSF Grants and Agreements Officer does so at their own risk.

VII. AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

A. Notification of the Award

Notification of the award is made to *the submitting organization* by a Grants Officer in the Division of Grants and Agreements. Organizations whose proposals are declined will be advised as promptly as possible by the cognizant NSF Program Division administering the program. Verbatim copies of reviews, not including the identity of the reviewer, will be provided automatically to the Principal Investigator. (See section VI.A. for additional information on the review process.)

B. Award Conditions

An NSF award consists of: (1) the award letter, which includes any special provisions applicable to the award and any numbered amendments thereto; (2) the budget, which indicates the amounts, by categories of expense, on which NSF has based its support (or otherwise communicates any specific approvals or disapprovals of proposed expenditures); (3) the proposal referenced in the award letter; (4) the applicable award conditions, such as Grant General Conditions (NSF-GC-1); * or Federal Demonstration Partnership (FDP) Terms and Conditions * and (5) any announcement or other NSF issuance that may be incorporated by reference in the award letter. Cooperative agreement awards also are administered in accordance with NSF Cooperative Agreement Terms and Conditions

(CA-1). Electronic mail notification is the preferred way to transmit NSF awards to organizations that have electronic mail capabilities and have requested such notification from the Division of Grants and Agreements.

*These documents may be accessed electronically on NSF's Website at http://www.nsf.gov/home/grants/grants_gac.htm. Paper copies may be obtained from the NSF Publications Clearinghouse, telephone (703) 292-7827 or by e-mail from pubs@nsf.gov.

More comprehensive information on NSF Award Conditions is contained in the NSF *Grant Policy Manual* (GPM) Chapter II, available electronically on the NSF Website at http://www.nsf.gov/cgi-bin/getpub?gpm. The GPM is also for sale through the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office (GPO), Washington, DC 20402. The telephone number at GPO for subscription information is (202) 512-1800. The GPM may be ordered through the GPO Website at http://www.gpo.gov.

Special Award Conditions:

PIs of successful proposals will be required to attend a high-performance network connections workshop.

C. Reporting Requirements

For all multi-year grants (including both standard and continuing grants), the PI must submit an annual project report to the cognizant Program Officer at least 90 days before the end of the current budget period.

Within 90 days after the expiration of an award, the PI also is required to submit a final project report. Failure to provide final technical reports delays NSF review and processing of pending proposals for the PI and all Co-PIs. PIs should examine the formats of the required reports in advance to assure availability of required data.

PIs are required to use NSF's electronic project reporting system, available through FastLane, for preparation and submission of annual and final project reports. This system permits electronic submission and updating of project reports, including information on project participants (individual and organizational), activities and findings, publications, and other specific products and contributions. PIs will not be required to re-enter information previously provided, either with a proposal or in earlier updates using the electronic system.

VIII. CONTACTS FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

General inquiries regarding this program should be made to:

- Gregory Monaco, Program Director, Directorate for Computer & Information Science & Engineering, Division of Advanced Networking Infrastructure and Research, 1175 N, telephone: (703) 292-8948, fax: (703) 292-9010, email: gmonaco@nsf.gov

For questions related to the use of FastLane, contact:

- Priscilla L. Bezdek, Directorate for Computer & Information Science & Engineering, Division of Advanced Networking Infrastructure and Research, 1175 N, telephone: (703) 292-8950, fax: (703) 292-9010, email: pbezdek@nsf.gov

IX. OTHER PROGRAMS OF INTEREST

The NSF *Guide to Programs* is a compilation of funding for research and education in science, mathematics, and engineering. The NSF *Guide to Programs* is available electronically at http://www.nsf.gov/cgi-bin/getpub?gp. General descriptions of NSF programs, research areas, and eligibility information for proposal submission are provided in each chapter.

Many NSF programs offer announcements or solicitations concerning specific proposal requirements. To obtain additional information about these requirements, contact the appropriate NSF program offices. Any changes in NSF's fiscal year programs occurring after press time for the *Guide to Programs* will be announced in the NSF E-Bulletin, which is updated daily on the NSF Website at http://www.nsf.gov/home/ebulletin, and in individual program announcements/solicitations. Subscribers can also sign up for NSF's Custom News Service (http://www.nsf.gov/home/cns/start.htm) to be notified of new funding opportunities that become available.

Related Programs:

For other Advanced Networking Infrastructure and Research programs see http://www.cise.nsf.gov/anir. For the cross-cutting ITR program, see http://www.itr.nsf.gov.

ABOUT THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

The National Science Foundation (NSF) funds research and education in most fields of science and engineering. Awardees are wholly responsible for conducting their project activities and preparing the results for publication. Thus, the Foundation does not assume responsibility for such findings or their interpretation.

NSF welcomes proposals from all qualified scientists, engineers and educators. The Foundation strongly encourages women, minorities and persons with disabilities to compete fully in its programs. In accordance with Federal statutes, regulations and NSF policies, no person on grounds of race, color, age, sex, national origin or disability shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving financial assistance from NSF, although some programs may have special requirements that limit eligibility.

Facilitation Awards for Scientists and Engineers with Disabilities (FASED) provide funding for special assistance or equipment to enable persons with disabilities (investigators and other staff, including student research assistants) to work on NSF-supported projects. See the GPG Chapter II, Section D.2 for instructions regarding preparation of these types of proposals.

The National Science Foundation promotes and advances scientific progress in the United States by competitively awarding grants and cooperative agreements for research and education in the sciences, mathematics, and engineering.

To get the latest information about program deadlines, to download copies of NSF publications, and to access abstracts of awards, visit the NSF Website at http://www.nsf.gov

- **Location:** 4201 Wilson Blvd. Arlington, VA 22230
- **For General Information** (NSF Information Center)**:** (703) 292-5111
- **TDD (for the hearing-impaired):** (703) 292-5090 or (800) 281-8749
- **To Order Publications or Forms:**

  Send an e-mail to: pubs@nsf.gov

  or telephone: (703) 292-7827
- **To Locate NSF Employees:** (703) 292-5111

PRIVACY ACT AND PUBLIC BURDEN STATEMENTS

The information requested on proposal forms and project reports is solicited under the authority of the National Science Foundation Act of 1950, as amended. The information on proposal forms will be used in connection with the selection of qualified proposals; project reports submitted by awardees will be used for program evaluation and reporting within the Executive Branch and to Congress. The information requested may be disclosed to qualified reviewers and staff assistants as part of the proposal review process; to applicant institutions/grantees to provide or obtain data regarding the proposal review process, award decisions, or the administration of awards; to government contractors, experts, volunteers and researchers and educators as necessary to complete assigned work; to other government agencies needing information as part of the review process or in order to coordinate programs; and to another Federal agency, court or party in a court or Federal administrative proceeding if the government is a party. Information about Principal Investigators may be added to the Reviewer file and used to select potential candidates to serve as peer reviewers or advisory committee members. See Systems of Records, NSF-50, "Principal Investigator/Proposal File and Associated Records," 63 Federal Register 267 (January 5, 1998), and NSF-51, "Reviewer/Proposal File and Associated Records," 63 Federal Register 268 (January 5, 1998). Submission of the information is voluntary. Failure to provide full and complete information, however, may reduce the possibility of receiving an award.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to an information collection unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The OMB control number for this collection is 3145-0058. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 120 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions. Send comments regarding this burden estimate and any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to: Suzanne Plimpton, Reports Clearance Officer, Division of Administrative Services, National Science Foundation, Arlington, VA 22230.

OMB control number: 3145-0058.

For information on proposal preparation workshop(s) specifically for the HPNC program, contact gmonaco@nsf.gov.

National Science Foundation Celebrating 50 Years

The National Science Foundation
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