#### **Recruitment Materials**

## **Contact 1: NSF Prenotice**

**To:** Full sample

From: NSF via Insight Policy Research-owned NSF contractor account

**Subject:** Survey of NSF Principal Investigators: Prenotice

Greetings,

I am writing to request your participation in a survey sponsored by the division for Evaluation and Assessment Capability (EAC) at the National Science Foundation (NSF). The purpose of the NSF PI Experience Survey is to help EAC better understand principal investigators' (PIs) experiences submitting proposals to the Division of Chemistry (CHE) in the NSF merit review process. Your response will help NSF maintain the quality of the review process, reduce burden on PIs applying for funding, and possibly improve the NSF merit review process.

Our contractor, Insight Policy Research (Insight), an independent research organization, has been tasked with surveying all PIs who submit proposals to CHE. In the next few hours, you will receive an email from Insight inviting you to participate in this survey. The survey should take no longer than 15 minutes to complete.

Note: If you do not see Insight's invitation in your inbox within 24 hours, please check your spam folder.

This survey is voluntary, and your decision on whether to participate in this study will not be used to determine current or future awards. The information you provide will be used for statistical purposes. Further, your responses will be kept confidential. Your participation and feedback will help NSF continue to improve the merit review process.

If you have questions regarding the survey, please contact the survey helpdesk at Experiences@nsf.gov.

Thank you and have a nice day.

Sincerely,

Erika Rissi

Lika Ricci

Chief Evaluation Officer and Section Head (Acting)

Office of Integrative Activities, Evaluation and Assessment Capacity Section

**National Science Foundation** 

OMB Control Number: xxxx-xxxx Expiration Date: xx/xx/xxxx

# **Contact 2: Survey Invitation**

**To:** Full sample

From: Insight Policy Research via Qualtrics

**Subject:** Invitation to Complete a Survey of NSF Principal Investigators

#### Dear [insert name],

Earlier today, you received an email from the division of Evaluation and Assessment Capability (EAC) at the National Science Foundation (NSF) notifying you about the NSF PI Experience Survey and requesting your help in understanding principal investigator burden in submitting proposals to the merit review process. EAC is interested to learn more about your experiences submitting your recent proposal titled [insert title] on [insert date] to the [insert program name] program in the Division of Chemistry (CHE). Because you recently submitted your funding application, your opinions are critical in NSF's effort to ensure quality in the merit review process.

To help with this study, I invite you to complete the NSF PI Experience Survey. This short survey should take no longer than 15 minutes to complete. Your participation in this survey is completely voluntary, and your decision on whether to participate will in no way be used to determine current or future awards.

To complete this survey, please follow this secure, unique link:

[URL]

The information you provide will be used for statistical purposes. Your responses will be kept strictly confidential and are subject to safeguards as provided by the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. § 552a). Your participation and feedback will help NSF continue to improve the merit review process.

If you have any questions about the survey, please contact the survey helpdesk at Experiences@nsf.gov.

Thank you for your help with this research.

Sincerely,

James McCall, Ph.D. Survey Researcher Insight Policy Research

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OMB Control Number: xxxx-xxxx Expiration Date: xx/xx/xxxx

### **Contact 3: First Reminder**

To: Nonresponders and partial responders
From: Insight Policy Research via Qualtrics

**Subject:** Reminder to Complete Survey of NSF Principal Investigators

Dear [insert name],

The division for Evaluation and Assessment Capability (EAC) at the National Science Foundation (NSF) and Insight Policy Research reached out last week to ask for your help in responding to the NSF PI Experience Survey. This survey is in relation to your recently submitted proposal titled [insert title] on [insert date] to the [insert program name] program in the Division of Chemistry (CHE). Because you recently submitted your proposal, your opinions are crucial to help EAC understand principal investigators' experiences preparing and submitting NSF funding applications.

The NSF PI Experience Survey is short and should take no longer than 15 minutes to complete. **As a reminder, your participation in this survey is completely voluntary, and your decision on whether to participate will in no way be used to determine current or future awards.** 

To complete this survey, please follow this secure, unique link:

[URL]

The information you provide will be used for statistical purposes. Your responses will be kept strictly confidential and are subject to safeguards as provided by the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. § 552a). Your participation and feedback will help NSF continue to improve the merit review process.

If you have any questions about the survey, please contact the survey helpdesk at Experiences@nsf.gov.

Thank you and have a great day.

Sincerely,

James McCall, Ph.D. Survey Researcher Insight Policy Research

OMB Control Number: xxxx-xxxx Expiration Date: xx/xx/xxxx

### **Contact 4: Second Reminder**

To: Nonresponders and partial responders From: Insight Policy Research via Qualtrics

**Subject:** Reminder to Complete Survey of NSF Principal Investigators

Dear [insert name],

We are reaching out again about the National Science Foundation (NSF) PI Experience Survey in relation to your recent proposal titled *[insert title]* on *[insert date]* to the *[insert program name]* program in the Division of Chemistry (CHE). The division of Evaluation and Assessment Capability (EAC) at NSF is interested in understanding principal investigators' experiences preparing and submitting research proposals. Because you recently submitted your proposal, your opinions about your experience offer a perspective critical to the success of this study.

The NSF PI Experience Survey is short and should take no longer than 15 minutes to complete. Your participation in this survey is completely voluntary, and your decision on whether to participate will in no way be used to determine current or future awards.

To complete this survey, please follow this secure, unique link:

[URL]

The information you provide will be used for statistical purposes. Your responses will be kept strictly confidential and are subject to safeguards as provided by the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. § 552a). Your participation and feedback will help NSF continue to improve the merit review process.

If you have any questions about the survey, please contact the survey helpdesk at Experiences@nsf.gov.

Thank you and have a great day.

Sincerely,

James McCall, Ph.D. Survey Researcher Insight Policy Research

OMB Control Number: xxxx-xxxx Expiration Date: xx/xx/xxxx

## **Contact 5: NSF Reminder**

**To:** Full sample

From: NSF via Insight Policy Research-owned NSF contractor account

**Subject:** Survey of NSF Principal Investigators: Reminder

Greetings,

I am writing with a follow-up request for your participation in the NSF PI Experience Survey, a survey sponsored by the division for Evaluation and Assessment Capability (EAC) at the National Science Foundation (NSF). If you have already responded to this survey, thank you. If not, we encourage you to do so at your earliest convenience. Your timely responses are critical for EAC to understand the experience of principal investigators when submitting proposals to NSF to potentially improve the review process for all applicants.

Our contractor, Insight Policy Research (Insight), an independent research organization, has been tasked with surveying NSF principal investigators. In the next few hours, you will receive a final email request from Insight inviting you to participate in this survey. The survey should take no longer than 15 minutes to complete.

Note: If you do not see Insight's survey invitation in your inbox within 24 hours, please check your spam folder.

This survey is voluntary, and your decision on whether to participate in this study will not be used to determine current or future awards. The information you provide will be used for statistical purposes. Further, your responses will be kept confidential. Your participation and feedback will help NSF continue to improve the merit review process.

If you have questions regarding the survey, please contact the survey helpdesk at <a href="mailto:Experiences@nsf.gov">Experiences@nsf.gov</a>.

Thank you and have a nice day.

Sincerely,

Erika Rissi

Lika licsi

Chief Evaluation Officer and Section Head (Acting)

Office of Integrative Activities, Evaluation and Assessment Capacity Section

**National Science Foundation** 

OMB Control Number: xxxx-xxxx Expiration Date: xx/xx/xxxx

## **Contact 6: Third Reminder (Last Chance)**

To: Nonresponders and partial responders From: Insight Policy Research via Qualtrics

**Subject:** Reminder to Complete Survey of NSF Principal Investigators

#### Dear [insert name],

This is your last chance to share your opinions in the National Science Foundation (NSF) PI Experience Survey in relation to your recent proposal titled *[insert title]* on *[insert date]* to the *[insert program name]* program in the Division of Chemistry (CHE). Because you recently submitted your proposal, your opinions offer a perspective critical to help the division of Evaluation and Assessment Capability (EAC) better understand principal investigators' experiences preparing and submitting research proposals to the merit review process.

The NSF PI Experience Survey is short and should take no longer than 15 minutes to complete. **As a reminder, your participation in this survey is completely voluntary, and your decision on whether to participate will in no way be used to determine current or future awards.** 

To complete this survey, please follow this secure, unique link:

[URL]

The information you provide will be used for statistical purposes. Your responses will be kept strictly confidential and are subject to safeguards as provided by the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. § 552a). Your participation and feedback will help NSF continue to improve the merit review process.

If you have any questions about the survey, please contact the survey helpdesk at <a href="mailto:Experiences@nsf.gov">Experiences@nsf.gov</a>.

Thank you and have a great day.

Sincerely,

James McCall, Ph.D. Survey Researcher Insight Policy Research

OMB Control Number: xxxx-xxxx Expiration Date: xx/xx/xxxx