

Survey Introduction

This survey should take approximately 15 minutes to complete. Your answers are anonymous and will help NSF create a system that better meets applicant and awardee needs. Thank you for your time.

Questions marked with an asterisk * are required.

1. *Are you an applicant or awardee who accesses grants management services on Research.gov or FastLane? (If Yes, user is taken to question #2, if No, user is taken to question #23.)

Yes

No

Demographics

2. What is your age?

18-24

25-34

35-44

45-54

55-64

65+

Rather not say

3. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

High School/GED

Some College

Bachelor's Degree

Master's Degree

Advanced Graduate work or Ph.D.

4. In what region are you located?

U.S. Northeast

U.S. Southeast

U.S. Midwest

U.S. Southwest

U.S. West

Outside of the U.S./please specify (open-ended)

5. With what institution(s) are you affiliated? (open-ended question)

6. What is your primary role at your institution?

- Faculty
- Student/Graduate Student
- Postdoc
- Scientist
- Administrative
- Financial
- Other/please specify (open-ended)

7. What is your field(s) of research? (Multi-select)

- Astronomy & Space
- Biology
- Chemistry & Materials
- Computing
- Earth & Environment
- Education
- Engineering
- Mathematics
- Nanoscience
- People & Society
- Physics
- Polar
- Other/please specify (open-ended)
- N/A

Technology

8. In general, which best describes your attitude towards technology?

- I want to be the first to use new technology, even if it is not proven and there are risks. I am often a beta tester.
- I see opportunities in adopting new technologies. While not the first to adopt, I usually follow soon after.
- I switch to new technology only when the technology is proven, error-free, and is 100% working. I am cautious about implementing new technologies.
- I am often the last to adopt new technologies, and will do so in order to be compatible with my peers/team/organization.

9. On a day-to-day basis, what type of device(s) do you work on? (Multi-select)

- Desktop
- Laptop
- Tablet
- Mobile
- Other/please specify (open-ended)

10. What is the screen resolution of the device that you primarily use?

- To check for Windows 7, right-click on your desktop, select 'Screen Resolution' from the pop-up menu.

- To check from older Windows systems, right-click on your desktop, select 'Properties' from the pop-up menu, and then select the 'Settings' tab - look at the Screen resolution setting.

- To check for Mac, go to the Apple menu and select 'System Preferences'. Select 'Displays'. Your screen resolution will be highlighted.

800 x 600

1024 x 768

1280 x 800

1366 x 768

1920 x 1080

Other/Please specify (open ended)

I don't know

11. Outside of work, how often do you participate in the following online activities? (display matrix format)

Write or comment on blogs

Daily Weekly Monthly Yearly Less than once per year Never

Online shopping/banking

Daily Weekly Monthly Yearly Less than once per year Never

Read news

Daily Weekly Monthly Yearly Less than once per year Never

Personal email

Daily Weekly Monthly Yearly Less than once per year Never

Gaming

Daily Weekly Monthly Yearly Less than once per year Never

Stream music/videos

Daily Weekly Monthly Yearly Less than once per year Never

Social networking

Daily Weekly Monthly Yearly Less than once per year Never

Working with Grants

12. How many times have you been a reviewer on a proposal for NSF?

0

1-5

6-14

15+

13. How many proposals for Federal government grants have you submitted in your career?

- 0
- 1-5
- 6-14
- 15-35
- 36+

14. How many projects have you worked on that have been funded by Federal grants?

- 0
- 1-5
- 6-14
- 15-35
- 36-50
- 51+

15. How many Federally funded projects do you typically work on per year?

- 0
- 1
- 2-3
- 4-5
- 6+

16. Please list the tools/software that you use to gather information for later use on FastLane and/or Research.gov. For example, Microsoft Office, databases, Google Scholar. (open-ended question)

17. Please describe the person(s) on your grant that enter data into FastLane and Research.gov, and the type of information each enters. For example, assistant - enters product information. (open-ended question)

Research.gov and FastLane Usage

18. *How often do you use the following services in Research.gov and FastLane? (display in matrix format)

Award Cash Management Service (ACM\$)

Yearly Less than once per month Monthly More than once per month Daily N/A

Grant Application Status

Yearly Less than once per month Monthly More than once per month Daily N/A

Institution & User Management

Yearly Less than once per month Monthly More than once per month Daily N/A

Panelist Functions (panel reviews, travel, Interactive Panel System (IPS))

Yearly Less than once per month Monthly More than once per month Daily N/A

Project Reports

Yearly Less than once per month Monthly More than once per month Daily N/A

Proposal Functions (proposal submission, proposal review, Letter of Intent (LOI))

Yearly Less than once per month Monthly More than once per month Daily N/A

Research Administration (accounts management, travel, organizational reports)

Yearly Less than once per month Monthly More than once per month Daily N/A

Research Spending & Results

Yearly Less than once per month Monthly More than once per month Daily N/A

19. Please describe the top three tasks you visit **FastLane** to perform. For example, submit proposals, review proposals, etc. (3 separate open-ended text fields)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

20. Please describe the top tasks you visit **Research.gov** to perform. For example, requesting cash, submitting an annual report, etc. (3 separate open-ended text fields)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

21. Please tell us your impressions about Research.gov: (display in matrix format)

It is easy to learn.

Strongly Agree Agree Neutral Disagree Strongly Disagree Not Applicable

It is easy to find what I need.

Strongly Agree Agree Neutral Disagree Strongly Disagree Not Applicable

It is difficult to use.

Strongly Agree Agree Neutral Disagree Strongly Disagree Not Applicable

The search feature works well.

Strongly Agree Agree Neutral Disagree Strongly Disagree Not Applicable

The response time of the site is good.

Strongly Agree Agree Neutral Disagree Strongly Disagree Not Applicable

The layout of the website is well-organized and clear.

Strongly Agree Agree Neutral Disagree Strongly Disagree Not Applicable

The design of the site (look and feel, colors, navigation, etc.) looks outdated to me.

Strongly Agree Agree Neutral Disagree Strongly Disagree Not Applicable

I trust the content and information on the site to be accurate and up-to-date.

Strongly Agree Agree Neutral Disagree Strongly Disagree Not Applicable

The terminology on the site is familiar to me.

Strongly Agree Agree Neutral Disagree Strongly Disagree Not Applicable

This site makes my job easier and I am able to accomplish my work effectively.

Strongly Agree Agree Neutral Disagree Strongly Disagree Not Applicable

22. Please add any additional comments on how you think Research.gov could be improved. (open ended)

Upon completion of question #22, user will be taken to survey Conclusion (see end of survey.)

Demographics

23. What is your age?

- 18-24
- 25-34
- 35-44
- 45-54
- 55-64
- 65+
- rather not say

24. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

- High School/GED
- Some College
- Bachelor's Degree
- Master's Degree
- Advanced Graduate work or Ph.D.

25. In what region are you located?

- U.S. Northeast
- U.S. Southeast
- U.S. Midwest
- U.S. Southwest

- U.S. West
- Outside of the U.S./please specify (open-ended)

26. What is your primary job function? (open ended)

Technology

27. Which best describes your attitude towards technology?

- I want to be the first to use new technology, even if it is not proven and there are risks. I am often a beta tester.
- I see opportunities in adopting new technologies. And while not the first to adopt, usually follow soon after.
- I switch to new technology only when the technology is debugged, and is 100% working. I am cautious about implementing new technologies.
- I am often the last to adopt new technologies, doing so in order to be compatible with my peers/team/organization.

28. On what type of device(s) do you work on? (Multi-select)

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29. Outside of work, how often do you participate in the following online activities? (display matrix format)

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Daily Weekly Monthly Yearly Less than once a year Never

Stream music/videos

Daily Weekly Monthly Yearly Less than once a year Never

Social networking

Daily Weekly Monthly Yearly Less than once a year Never

Research.gov Usage

30. How often do you visit Research.gov?

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- A few times per year
- Once a year or less
- I am a first-time visitor

31. *Please tell us your impressions about Research.gov: (display in matrix format).

It is easy to learn.

() Strongly Agree () Agree () Neutral () Disagree () Strongly Disagree () Not Applicable

It is easy to find what I need.

() Strongly Agree () Agree () Neutral () Disagree () Strongly Disagree () Not Applicable

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The terminology on the site is familiar to me.

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This site makes my job easier and I am able to accomplish my work effectively.

() Strongly Agree () Agree () Neutral () Disagree () Strongly Disagree () Not Applicable

32. In your own words, what do you think the purpose of Research.gov is or should be? (open-ended)

33. What are the reason(s) you come to Research.gov? (open-ended)

34. What are your suggestions for improving Research.gov? (open-ended)

Upon completion of question #34, user will be taken to survey Conclusion (see end of survey.)

Conclusion

Thank you for completing this survey. If you'd like to participate in Research.gov usability testing to help better improve the system, please [use this form](#) to provide your name and contact information.