

# National Science Foundation Research Security Requirements

## What you need to know



Research Security Division  
Research Services

UNIVERSITY OF  
CALGARY

### NSF Research Security Requirements

- Research funding agencies in the United States, including the National Science Foundation (NSF), have put in place requirements to secure research and protect against undue foreign influence.
- U.S. research security requirements (including those under NSPM-33), demand transparency and disclosure from researchers applying for funding.
- NSPM-33 also mandates the establishment of research security programs at research institutions receiving U.S. federal funds.

### Trusted Research Using Safeguards & Transparency (TRUST) Framework

- The TRUST framework will launch in Fiscal Year 2025 (Oct 1, 2024 – Sept 30, 2025) and will guide the NSF in assessing proposals for research security risks.
- The NSF will assess active appointments, positions, and research support; identify instances of nondisclosure; and take into account national security considerations mandated by the CHIPS and Science Act of 2022.
- The TRUST framework upholds the NSF's values and ensures research security, while avoiding detrimental impacts to research due to over-cautiousness.

### How the NSF Addresses Research Security Violations

- The NSF can take actions against individuals and entities associated with foreign talent programs or that fail to disclose foreign funding.
- These actions include investigations; award suspension /termination; payment cancellations; and exclusion from U.S. government procurement and procurement awards.
- If you are not sure about what to include in your disclosures, have concerns about how an affiliation may impact you, or have new information to disclose, contact [researchsecurity@ucalgary.ca](mailto:researchsecurity@ucalgary.ca)

### NSF Disclosure Requirements

- There are several [disclosure documents](#) that the NSF uses to gather information on funding applicants and recipients. All senior personnel identified on a funding application are required to submit disclosure documents to the NSF.
- Disclosures mechanisms include:
  - A collaborators and affiliations document that includes all co-authors, co-editors, business relationships, and editorial boards.
  - A Biographical Sketch which includes all academic, professional, and institutional appointments. Note: Participation in [malign foreign talent programs](#) is strictly prohibited by the NSF.
  - A current and pending support document which includes all resources made available to an individual related to their research. In-kind contributions must be reported. Further information on disclosure requirements can be found in the [NSF's Proposal and Award Policies and Procedures Guide](#).
- Consult the [NSF Disclosure Requirements Matrix](#) for more information.
- NSF applicants are responsible for notifying NSF of any changes to their disclosures up to the time of the award. If your application is successful, you must notify NSF of any changes throughout the duration of the award.

### Foreign Financial Disclosure Reporting

- Further financial reporting and disclosure is done through the [Foreign Financial Disclosure Report \(FFDR\)](#).
- The FFDR is mandated by the CHIPS and Science Act and requires each institution of higher education that receives NSF funding to disclose annually, all "current financial support that is \$50,000 or more, including gifts and contracts, received directly or indirectly from a foreign source" that is associated with a [foreign country of concern](#).
- **The FFDR is prepared and submitted by the Research Services Office at UCalgary.**