[National Science Foundation](#) (NSF)

The National Science Foundation (NSF) is an independent federal agency created by Congress in 1950 "to promote the progress of science; to advance the national health, prosperity, and welfare; to secure the national defense..." NSF is vital because we support basic research and people to create knowledge that transforms the future. NSF

- Supports basic research across all fields of science and engineering, and education at all levels
- Discipline-based structure
- Cross-disciplinary mechanisms
- Merit Review = Intellectual Merit and Broader Impacts
- Receives approximately 50,000 proposals each year approximately 11,000 are funded

NSF Directorates/Offices

- [Biological Sciences](#) (BIO)
- [Computer & Information Sciences and Engineering](#) (CISE)
- [Education and Human Resources](#) (EHR)
- [Engineering](#) (ENG)
- [Geosciences](#) (GEO)
- [Mathematical & Physical Sciences](#) (MPS)
- [Social, Behavioral & Economic Sciences](#) (SBE)
- [Office of International and Integrative Activities](#) (IIA)