

# Kansas NSF EPSCoR First Awards

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Questions not answered here may be directed to Doug Byers, Assistant Director, at 785-864-3227 or [dbyers@ku.edu](mailto:dbyers@ku.edu).

### **Should we include the Collaborators and Other Affiliations document with the proposals?**

For now, in order to simplify the number of documents to submit, the PI can forgo the Collaborators and Other Affiliations document and just include them on their Bio sketch like NSF used to require. We understand that, more and more, PIs are accustomed to using the separate document so we would also accept the information that way. We just want to make sure the info is provided.

### **The RFP instructions say to upload and submit a single pdf by creating an account at Piestar (the online system used by Kansas NSF EPSCoR). Are you intending for the PI to create an account for this submission, or are you intending for the research office or AOR to create an account for this submission?**

The account can be created either by the PI or the institution's research office. The RFP instructs PIs to work with their research office in developing the proposal but the Piestar system places no restrictions on who can create an account and upload. However, the institution's research office may prefer to create the account to manage the upload on their end. We have also specified that we will only accept proposals from those we have invited. We provide a list to each institution's research office of the proposals we expect to be submitted. Any others we receive will not be accepted. The Piestar system allows a single account set up by an institution's research office to submit multiple proposals on behalf of all of its PIs. You would need to navigate through the upload process a separate time for each proposal submitted.

### **Are we encouraged/expected to have collaborators provide letters? If so, should they be consistent with NSF and/or university requirements?**

Letters of collaboration are not required for First Award proposals. Please include them as you see fit and follow the guidance of your institution's research office. However, the reviewers are not obliged to review such letters (NOTE: Letters of collaboration are different from the required letters from the PI and the PIs department chair indicated in the RFP).

### **Does the budget page need to be signed?**

Signatures are not required on the budget page included in the original First Award proposal; however, they are acceptable if institutional policies require them. If revised budgets are requested after the original submission, signatures would be required.

### **I've recently accepted a faculty position in Kansas, but my appointment doesn't start until after the proposal deadline. Can I still apply this year?**

In general, yes, but please check with your institution's research office to see that they have the mechanism to make you PI prior to the start of your appointment. Please note, though, that if you receive a First Award, Kansas NSF EPSCoR is unable to make it official until your position formally begins. In this circumstance, the start date may be delayed but the duration of the award would be the same.