

National Science Foundation
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Conflict-of-Interests and Confidentiality Statement for NSF Panelists
Includes members of proposal review panels,
site visitors, and committee of visitors.

I. Your Potential Conflicts of Interests.

Your designation as an NSF panelist requires that you be aware of potential conflict situations that may arise. Read the examples of potentially biasing affiliations or relationships listed on the second page or back of this form. As an NSF panelist, you will be asked to review applicant grant proposals. You might have a conflict with one or more. Should any conflict arise during your term, you must bring the matter to the attention of the NSF program officer who asked you to serve as a panelist. This official will determine how the matter should be handled and will tell you what further steps, if any, to take.

II. No Use of “Insider” Information.

If your designation gives you access to information not generally available to the public, you must not use that information for your personal benefit or make it available for the personal benefit of any other individual or organization. This is to be distinguished from the entirely appropriate general benefit of learning more about the Foundation, learning from other panel members, or becoming better acquainted with the state of a given discipline.

III. Your Obligation to Maintain the Confidentiality of Proposals and Applicants.

The Foundation receives proposals in confidence and protects the confidentiality of their contents. For this reason, you must not copy, quote, or otherwise use or disclose to anyone, including your graduate students or post-doctoral or research associates, any material from any proposal you are asked to review. If you believe a colleague can make a substantial contribution to the review, please obtain permission from the NSF program officer before disclosing either the contents of the proposal or the name of any applicant or principal investigator.

IV. Confidentiality of the Review Process and Reviewer Names.

NSF keeps reviews and your identity as a reviewer of specific proposals confidential to the maximum extent possible, except that we routinely send to principal investigators (PI's) reviews of their own proposals without your name, affiliation, or other identifying information. Please respect the

confidentiality of all principal investigators and of other reviewers. Do not disclose their identities, the relative assessments or rankings of proposals by a peer review panel, or other details about the peer review of proposals.

Unauthorized disclosure of any confidential information could subject you to sanctions.

YOUR CERTIFICATION

Your Potential Conflicts.

I have read the list of affiliations and relationships (on the back of this form) that could prevent my participation in matters involving such individuals or institutions. To the best of my knowledge, I have no affiliation or relationship that would prevent me from performing my panel duties. I understand that I must contact the NSF program officer if a conflict exists or arises during my service. I further understand that I must sign and return this Conflict Statement to the program officer before I may serve.

Maintaining the Confidentiality of Others.

I will not divulge or use any confidential information, described above, that I may become aware of during my service.

Your Identity as a Reviewer will be Kept Confidential (Does not apply to Committee of Visitors).

I understand my identity as a reviewer of specific proposals will be kept confidential to the maximum extent possible, except that copies of written reviews that I submit will be sent to the principal investigator(s) without my name and affiliation.

Member's Name (Please Print): _____

Member's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name of Panel: _____

Directorate/Division: _____