

# Grant logistics at UGA and NSF

# Some funding opportunities

- DARPA
- NIH
- NSF
- NSA
- Ford foundation
- Simons foundation
- Clay foundation
- UGA Internal funding
- ...

- who gets the grant? (spending of funds)
- who reads the proposal?
- who reads on behalf of UGARF and why?
- who reads on behalf of NSF and why?
- budgets
- intellectual merit review and NSF panels
- broader impacts and the NSF
- Simons grants
- internal grants (OVPR)

# who gets the grant?

- grants (funds) are almost always awarded to institutions, not individuals
- purchases are made by the institution, not the individual
- either PI (or another) makes a purchase, and is reimbursed through the institution from the grant's funds or
- the institution makes a purchase from the grant's funds on behalf of the individual
- exceptions: NSF postdocs, graduate fellows

# Citizenship and Eligibility (NSF grants)

- If awardee is the institution, must be a U.S. institution (e.g. standard grants). Awardee generally does not need to be a U.S. citizen.
- If awardee is the individual, must be a U.S. citizen, national, or permanent resident (e.g. graduate fellowship, postdoctoral fellowship)

# the process

- need to satisfy the requirements of the funding agency (e.g. NSF)
- grants awarded to the institution must also satisfy the requirements of the institution (UGA Research Foundation - UGARF)
- basic resource: grant proposal guide (NSF)
- Also SPA (Sponsored Program Administration) — acts on behalf of UGARF: some info at the proposal preparation page
- once grant is awarded to UGA, it is subject to rules regulations at institution (UGARF, administered through SPA)

NSF grants

# NSF grant procedure

- Tell Connie Poore you are going to apply for a grant!
- get an NSF id
  - if through UGA, request from Tammy Childs: [tachilds@uga.edu](mailto:tachilds@uga.edu) in Sponsored Program Office
  - if as individual (e.g. NSF postdoc), register as an independent researcher on [FastLane](#)
- after you get your ID and password, give this information to Connie Poore, she will create a blank proposal, and help start your budget in FastLane
- we recommend you get a budget draft and biosketch for UGA early (they can start looking before full proposal is in!)
- finish project description and other parts with at least a 7-10 days to spare for UGA processing (more if possible)



# NSF budgets

- Summer salary paid for up to 2 months in general. Formula is  $\frac{2}{9}$  academic year salary ([https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/policydocs/pappguide/nsf08\\_1/aag\\_5.jsp](https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/policydocs/pappguide/nsf08_1/aag_5.jsp))
- Salary amounts should be computed by Connie Poore for benefit rates, etc.
- Travel: should be justified with approximate costs and plans (e.g. 2 domestic and 1 international trip per year at a cost of \$1000/trip for domestic and \$1500 for international)
- Can fund visitors, collaborators, graduate students, postdocs, travel for grad students, etcetera
- Computers: need specific justification for particular computing use, since these are, by default, supplied by the facility via indirect costs
- Supplies are generally not allowed for the PI (institutional indirect cost)

# Other Useful Info

- budget justifications are important — be specific about particular possible conferences, travel, etc
- clear and detailed budget justifications streamline the approval process at UGA
- modifications which don't change the scope of the project are generally not difficult to arrange after the grant has been awarded
- SPA Team for Math Department

# who reads it and why?

- various documents checked by UGA to make sure they conform to UGARF rules and regulations
- particularly important to have a clear budget justification — details helpful
- NSF checks to make sure conforms to regulations
- panels at NSF are formed in response to the submissions
- intellectual merit is judged by the panel(s!) and external reviewers
- panels are told not to consider budgetary issues

# Intellectual merit

- Review Criteria
- Psychological Criteria:
  - What you are doing
  - Why it is interesting
  - Why it is plausible (evidence)
  - Why it is hard
  - Why it is new

# Broader impacts

- do not need to be budget lines
- outreach activities
- various local opportunities at UGA: math tournament, summer high school MathCamp, undergraduate research projects
- contact Mo Hendon for further info about tournament and undergraduate research
- organizing conferences
- coding for the community (make available)
- also can count: giving talks (particularly to broader audiences), advising students, writing textbooks

# Simons grants

- This is a proposal to collaborate: should have a collaboration/travel plan
- Not a supplement for NSF travel — generally can't hold both grants at the same time
- Application is relatively straightforward
- Various individual documents to be uploaded
- 3 page statement of recent work (not a research proposal)
- Review process closed (don't have specific info)

# Internal grants

- Various grant opportunities through the Office of the Vice President for Research (OVPR)
- Details on internal submission procedure
- Generally significantly less involved than NSF applications