NSF RAPID Grants Overview

- Available as a funding mechanism in most NSF programs (see the NSF Proposal and Award Policies and Procedures Guidelines (PAPPG), NSF 18-1, [https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/policydocs/pappg18_1/index.jsp](https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/policydocs/pappg18_1/index.jsp), Section II.E.2, Rapid Response Research (RAPID))
- Up to 1 year performance period
- Up to $200,000 (some programs typically support <$50K for post-disaster reconnaissance)
- Proposals having an urgency with regard to:
  - Availability/perishability of or access to:
    - Data, facilities, or specialized equipment
NSF RAPID Grants Overview

- Often in response to hazard events
  - No specific submission timeframe or deadline
- NSF Dear Colleague Letters (DCL) may be used to alert community to RAPID funding mechanism
  - Generally used for major disaster
  - May have a target deadline
- PIs MUST discuss proposals with Program Officer prior to submitting or the proposal will be returned without review
- Generally, RAPID awards for geotechnical engineering reconnaissance only after completion of more immediate, NSF-supported GEER field work

Examples of NSF Dear Colleague Letters (DCL)

RAPID Proposal Preparation

◆ Email NSF Program Officer 1-page summary ASAP prior to submission (RAPID proposal should not be submitted unless invited by a Program – or else RWR)
  o Ask whether there is a related DCL or more appropriate program
  o Inside the U.S.: Address collaborators, logistics, protocols, equipment, adherence to laws, access to affected locations (e.g., federal, state, and local government investigators on-site, building owners), and safety
  o Outside the U.S.: Address in-country collaborators, logistics, protocols, and equipment; adherence to in-country laws; access to affected locations; U.S. State Department and country embassy contacts and notifications; and safety

RAPID Proposal Preparation

◆ Review criteria (typically internal NSF; rarely external review)
  o Standard criteria: Intellectual Merit and Broader Impacts
  o Any additional criteria in the DCL
  o Clear description of why proposed research is urgent
  o Why RAPID award is most appropriate funding mechanism
  o Budget consistent with project scope

◆ Project Description (see NSF PAPPG, NSF 18-1, for proposal preparation requirements)
  o Up to 5 pages
  o All other standard NSF formatting requirements apply