

NSF Audit Resolution & Other Post Award Activities

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Audit and NSF Audit Resolution Roles

Office of Inspector General and its contractors (Auditor)	Conducts audits and issues reports in compliance with government auditing standards
Awardee (Auditee)	Provides requested information; addresses recommendations after resolution with NSF Management
NSF Management (Office of Budget, Finance and Award Management – BFA)	Resolves audit findings and recommendations with Auditee, coordinates management decisions with the OIG
Audit Follow-up Official (AFO) (NSF Deputy Director or designee)	Makes final determination in the event of escalated disagreement(s)



NSF OIG Audit Reports & NSF Management Decisions

OIG External Reports:

<https://www.nsf.gov/oig/reports/reviews.jsp#external>

NSF Management Decisions

<https://www.nsf.gov/bfa/responses.jsp>



Frequent Findings

Equipment purchases near the
end of the project period



Frequent Findings

Materials and Supplies



Frequent Findings

Participant Support Costs

- IDCs Applied
- Did not meet budgeted PSCs
- Tee-Shirts for Participants



Frequent Findings

Travel

- Graduate student not in annual report
- Collaborations
- Benefitted multiple projects
- Personal Travel



Summary of 15 Most Recent Resolutions

<u>Finding Summary</u>	<u>Questioned</u>	<u>Disallowed</u>	<u>% Disallowed</u>
Unallowable Indirect Expenses	\$ 512,034	\$ 324,360	63%
Unallocable or Unallowable Expenses	\$ 698,122	\$ 277,212	40%
Equipment Charges/Charges Near Award Expiration	\$ 955,415	\$ 359,821	38%
Unreasonable Travel	\$ 281,292	\$ 169,281	60%
Improper Salary and Related Charges	\$ 29,854	\$ 29,806	99%
Unreasonable/Unsupported PS Expenditures	\$ 120,952	\$ 64,306	53%
Subaward Expenses Not Allocable	\$ 135,876	\$ 74,756	55%
Totals	\$ 2,733,545	\$ 1,299,542	48%




Emerging Issues

&

Food for Thought



Keys to Success for Awardees

- Maintain strong internal controls in **writing**...and adhere to them!
- Maintain thorough supporting documentation for all charges made to federal awards
-  • Review expenditures (e.g., reasonableness, necessity, etc.)
- Understand award requirements and expectations (terms and conditions, NSF policy, OMB Guidance); get clarification from NSF staff as needed
- Obtain required prior NSF approvals, as needed (see RTC Appendix A, [Prior Approval Matrix](#))
- *Ask Early, Ask Often!*



Questions?

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