

Five Tips You Need to Know to Obtain an NSF CAREER Award

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Introduction

If you are reading this, you have probably considered writing and submitting a proposal to the National Science Foundation (NSF) Faculty Early Career (CAREER) program. What is the NSF CAREER program? The NSF CAREER program is a Foundation wide activity that offers NSF's most prestigious awards in support of early-career faculty who have the potential to serve as academic role models in research and education and to lead advances in the mission of their department or organization ([NSF 17-537](#)). CAREER proposals are typically due around July 18th, 19th, or 20th of every year.

To help you submit a competitive NSF CAREER proposal I have provided five tips to consider before and while preparing, organizing, and writing your NSF CAREER proposal. These tips are accompanied with two resources labelled Figure 1 and 2. **Note:** I consider Tip 1 to be the most important.

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