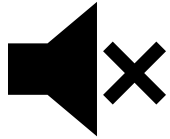


Applicant's Webinar: NICE RAMPS Funding Opportunity

April 21, 2026



Attendees are muted: Due to the number of attendees, all participant microphones and cameras are automatically muted.



Submitting Questions: Please enter questions and comments for presenters in the Zoom for Government Q&A. Chat has been disabled for this event.



Webinar Recording: This webinar and the engagement tools will be recorded. An archive will be available at www.nist.gov/nice/webinars.



Susana Barraza



Danielle Santos



Jay Thomson



David Porter

Welcome and NICE Overview

Susana Barraza

NICE Program Manager

Lead, Communications and Engagement

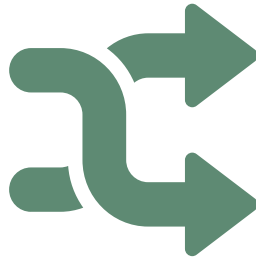
NICE Mission



To energize, promote, and coordinate a robust community working together to advance an integrated ecosystem of cybersecurity education, training, and workforce development.



Communication



Collaboration



Openness and
Transparency



Continuous
Improvement



Innovation

Strategic Alignment with Key Strategies + RAMPS Program History

Danielle Santos
NICE Deputy Director

2021-2025 NICE Strategic Plan

Goal #1: Promote the Discovery of Cybersecurity Careers and Multiple Pathways

Goal #2: Transform Learning to Build and Sustain a Diverse and Skilled Workforce

Goal #3: Modernize the Talent Management Process to Address Cybersecurity Skills Gaps

Goal #4: Expand Use of the Workforce Framework for Cybersecurity (NICE Framework)

Goal #5: Drive Research on Effective Practices for Cybersecurity Workforce Development



Build Cyber Workforce Skills

- Promote flexible pathways
- Advance WBL approaches
- Foundational cyber skills

Transform Cyber Talent Acquisitions

- Comprehensive data picture
- Career-entry challenges
- Skills-based assessment

Advance & Sustain Cyber Workforce

- Workforce capability in CET
- Cyber workforce management
- Continuous workforce development

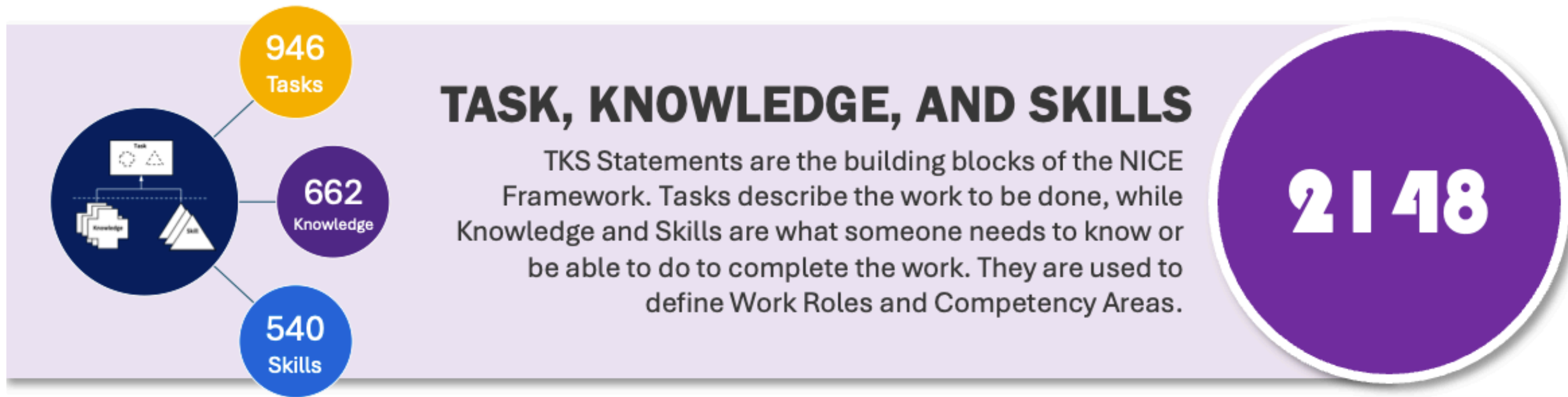
Build Cyber Workforce Ecosystems

- Ecosystem innovations
- Ecosystem development best practices
- Ecosystem stakeholders

nist.gov/nice/strategy

DRAFT • PRE-DECISIONAL

NICE Workforce Framework for Cybersecurity (NICE Framework)



nist.gov/nice/framework



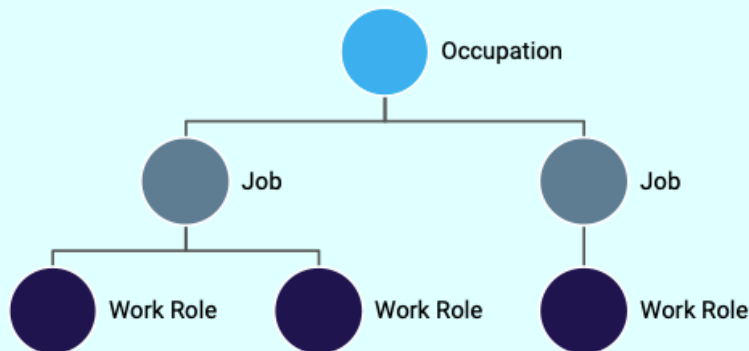
WORK ROLE CATEGORIES

These categories show the broad range of cybersecurity responsibilities across an organization, from oversight and governance to incorporating cybersecurity in design and implementations, in addition to the more specialized cybersecurity roles.

- OVERSIGHT & GOVERNANCE
- DESIGN & DEVELOPMENT
- IMPLEMENTATION & OPERATION
- PROTECTION & DEFENSE
- INVESTIGATION

WORK ROLES

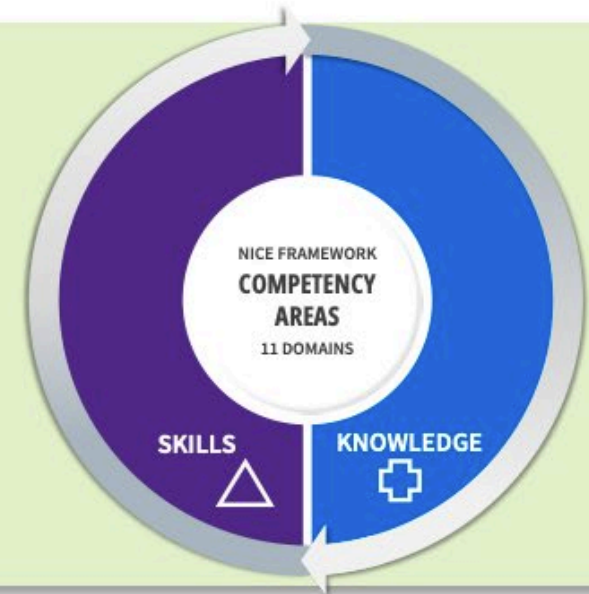
Work Roles group together TKS statements into areas of responsibility so you can learn about the kind of work that a role performs. All sorts of jobs can have cybersecurity responsibility, from legal advisors to project managers, systems developers, database administrators, incident responders, cybercrime analysts, and more.



11

COMPETENCY AREAS

Competency Areas focus on a learner's capabilities in particular domains. These can be used in conjunction with Work Roles or on their own and represent emerging areas and other topics such as AI Cybersecurity, Cyber Resiliency, Operational Technology Security, and Supply Chain Security.



nist.gov/nice/framework

Regional Alliances and
Multistakeholder Partnerships to
Stimulate (RAMPS) Cybersecurity
Education and Workforce Development



2016 Pilot Program

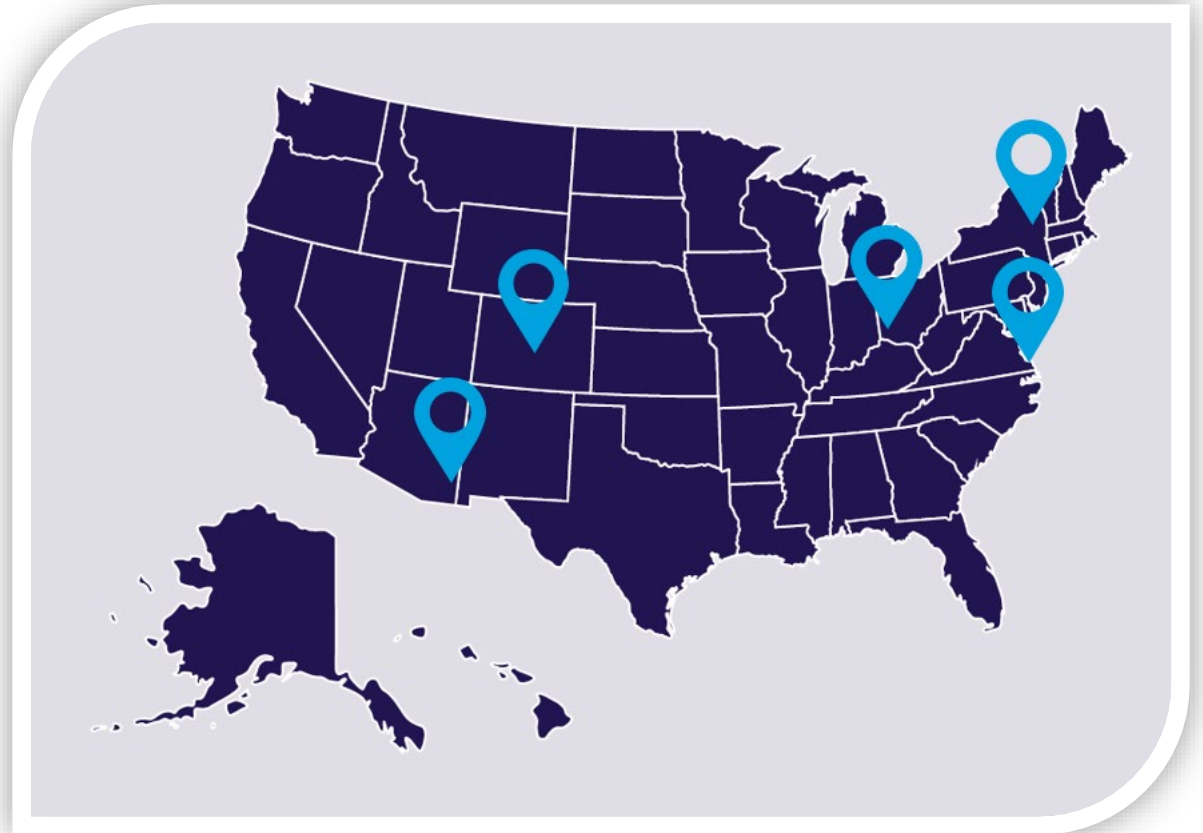
Southwest Region: Arizona Statewide Cyber Workforce Consortium

Western Region: Cyber Prep Program

Central Region: Cincinnati-Dayton Cyber Corridor (Cin-Day Cyber)

Mid-Atlantic Region: Hampton Roads Cybersecurity Education, Workforce, and Economic Development Alliance (HRCyber)

Northeast Region: The Partnership to Advance Cybersecurity Education and Training (PACET)



A Roadmap for Successful Regional Alliances and Multistakeholder Partnerships to Build the Cybersecurity Workforce

NISTIR 8287

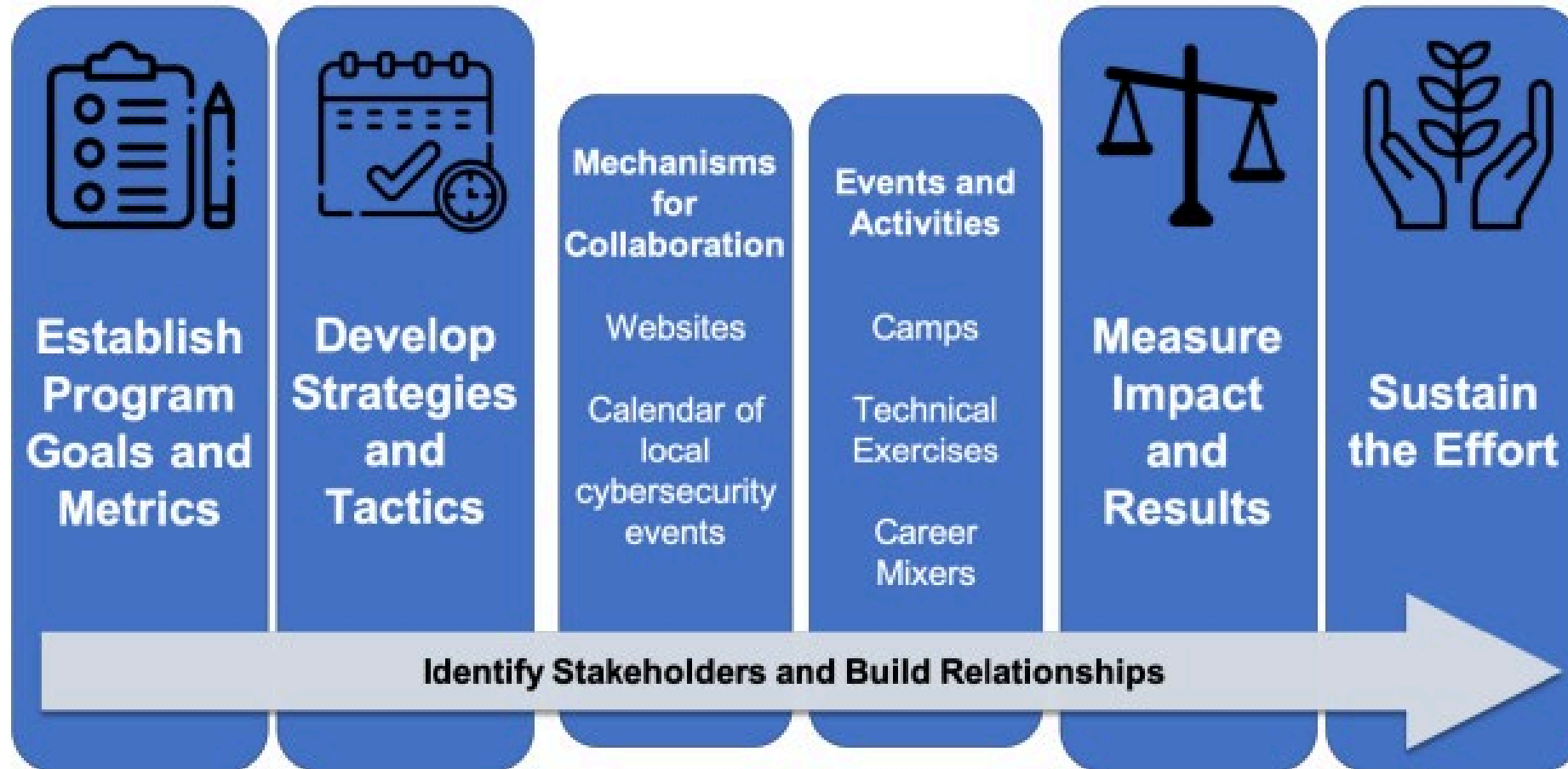


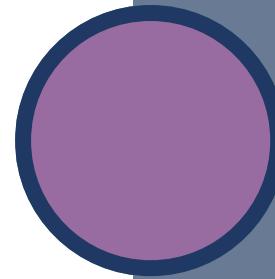
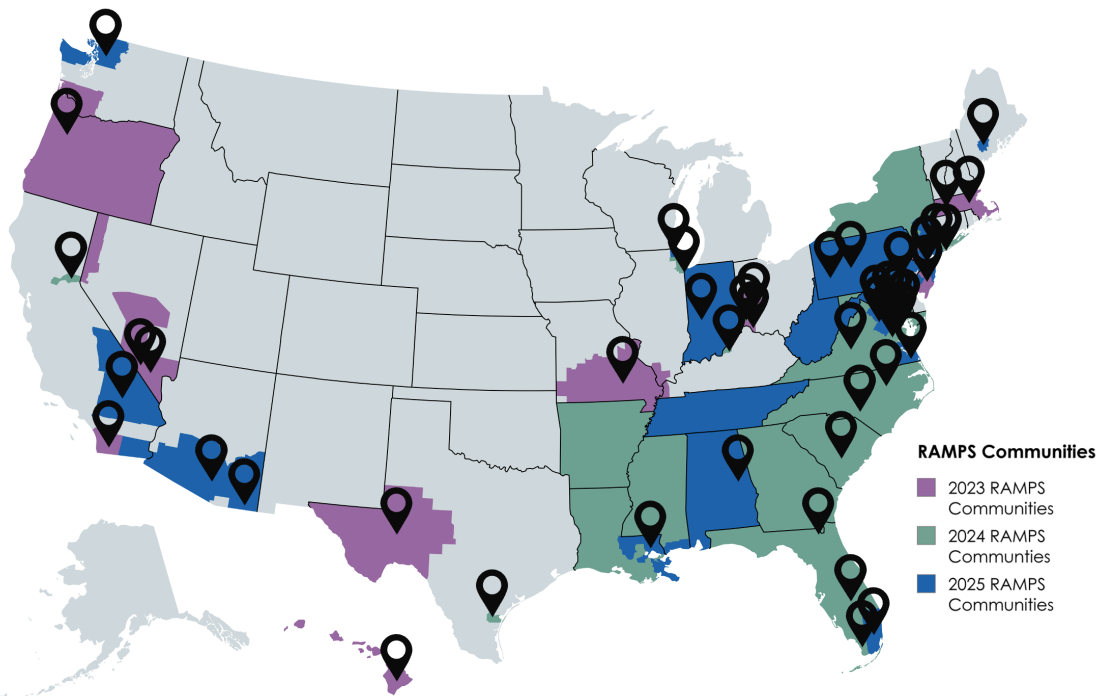
Figure 1 - RAMPS Roadmap Graphic

<https://doi.org/10.6028/NIST.IR.8287>

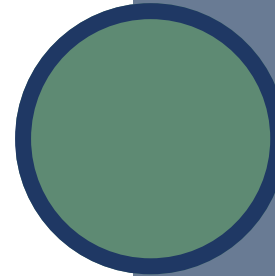
2023-2025 RAMPS Communities



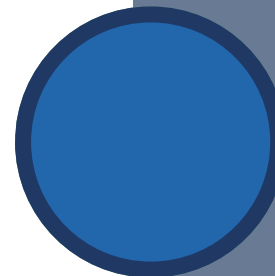
47 RAMPS communities established across 25 states



18 RAMPS awards across 15 states
(2023)



15 RAMPS awards in 11 states
(2024)



17 RAMPS awards in 13 states
(2025)

Learn more: nist.gov/nice

FY26 Notice of Funding Opportunity Information

Susana Barraza

NICE Program Manager

Lead, Communications and Engagement

RAMPS Notice of Funding Opportunity



Eligible Applicants: **all non-Federal entities**

- non-profit organizations
- for-profit organizations incorporated in the United States
- state, local, territorial, and Indian tribal governments
- accredited institutions of higher education

**Individuals and unincorporated sole proprietors are not considered “non-Federal entities” and are not eligible to apply under this NOFO. Although Federal entities are not eligible to receive funding under this NOFO, they may participate as unfunded collaborators.*

***Foreign public entities and foreign organizations are not eligible to apply under this NOFO.*

****Current or previous awardees under the RAMPS Program are eligible to apply, but sustainment of an existing or previous RAMPS Program project will not meet the goals and objectives of this NOFO*

Applicant Project Must



- Ensure that the partnership is:
 - Employer-led; Community-focused; Learner-centered; Standards-based; and Outcomes-driven
- Describe planned initiatives that align with the current NICE Strategic Plan, or successor Plan, or help support the activities of the current NICE Implementation Plan
- Advance uses of the NICE Framework, including through demonstration of how the stakeholders intend to use the NICE Framework.
- Identify the workforce needs of the local economy and assess such workforce in accordance with the NICE Framework, including ideas for how the multistakeholder organization would leverage the CyberSeek job heat map and career pathways.

Applicant Project Must (cont.)

- Identify opportunities available and recruit employers to support paid internships, externships, apprenticeships, or cooperative education programs in conjunction with education and training providers in the local community.
- Coordinate with existing federally funded education and workforce programs to decrease duplication of efforts and to build on existing successful approaches.
- Define metrics that will be used to measure the success of their efforts. Metrics should include outcomes of workforce demand and supply assessment, outcomes of recruitment activities, timeliness of milestones reached, etc.

Program Requirements

- Plan to establish a multistakeholder education and workforce partnership that includes, at minimum:
 - At least one local employer or owner or operator of critical infrastructure*, and
 - And at least one of the following: *
 - K12 School,
 - Local State Agency,
 - Local Educational Agency,
 - Institution of Higher Education,
 - Non-Profit Organization, or
 - Training Organization.
- Cost Sharing or Matching Non-federal cost share is **required**.
 - Non-federal cost share contributions, including in-kind contributions, in an amount not less than 50 percent of the Federal funds provided, is required for awards under the award issued pursuant to this NOFO

*The minimum 2 letters must come from entities who are NOT the applicant

Application and Evaluation Criteria

Susana Barraza

NICE Program Manager

Lead, Communications and Engagement

Application Content – Required Forms



- SF 424, Application for Federal Assistance
- SF-424A, Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs
- CD-511, Certification Regarding Lobbying
- SF-LLL, Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (if applicable)

Application Content - Technical Proposal

- Project Narrative (15 pages maximum, double-spaced between lines)
 - Executive Summary (no more than 2 pages)
 - Project Approach and Project Execution Plan
 - Project Impacts and Evaluation
 - Qualifications
 - Dissemination Plan
- Resume(s) of Key Personnel (2 pages per person)

- Budget Narrative and Justification
 - Information needed for each budget category is as follows:
 - Personnel, Fringe Benefits, Travel, Equipment, Supplies, Contractual (i.e., Contracts or Subawards, Other Direct Costs, Indirect Costs
- SF-424A, Budget Information - Non-Construction Programs
- SF-424B, Assurances - Non-Construction Programs
- Indirect Cost Rate Agreement
- Letters of Commitment (minimum 2 letters that are not the applicant)
- Current and Pending Support Form

- Project Scope (25 points)
- Rationality of Execution (25 points)
- Project Impact and Dissemination of Results (20 points)
- Staff and Institution Capability to Perform the Work (15 points)
- Match of Budget to Proposed Work (15 points)

Administrative Requirements

David Porter

Grants Management Specialist
Financial Assistance Agreements
Management Office (FAAMO)

Link: <https://sam.gov/content/home>

Help Desk: Monday - Friday from 8am - 8pm EST U.S. call: 866-606-8220



- 100% FREE to register
- Create an activate your account
- Get a Unique Entity ID
- Register to SAM.gov before Grants.gov
- **Start Early: the process takes about 10 days but may take up to 6 weeks! Same goes for annual renewals!**
- **If you already have an active account, make sure that the account is not expiring any time soon.**
- **Make sure all Certifications and Representations are completed. Financial Assistance General Certifications and Representations is a requirement to receive Financial Assistance.**

The screenshot shows the SAM.GOV website home page. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, Search, Data Bank, Data Services, and Help. The main content area features the SAM.GOV logo and a navigation menu. A prominent section titled "The Official U.S. Government System for:" lists various services: Contract Opportunities, Contract Data (Reports ONLY from fpls.gov), Wage Determinations, Federal Hierarchy (Departments and Subtiers), Assistance Listings, Entity Information (Entities, Disaster Response Registry, Exclusions, and Responsibility/Qualification (was fapils.gov)), and Entity Reporting (SCR and Bio-Preferred Reporting). A "View FASCSA Orders" button is also present. To the right, a "Register Your Entity or Get a Unique Entity ID" section includes a "Get Started" button, a "Renew Entity" button, and a "Check Entity Status" button. A search bar at the bottom asks "Already know what you want to find?" and shows a search for "e.g. 1606N020Q02". A "Sign In" button is located in the top right corner.



Link: <https://www.grants.gov/applicants/applicant-registration>

Help Desk: 1-800-518-4726 (24/7 excluding holidays) or support@grants.gov

Applicants must register with Grants.gov before any application materials can be submitted. To use Grants.gov, applicants must be registered in SAM.

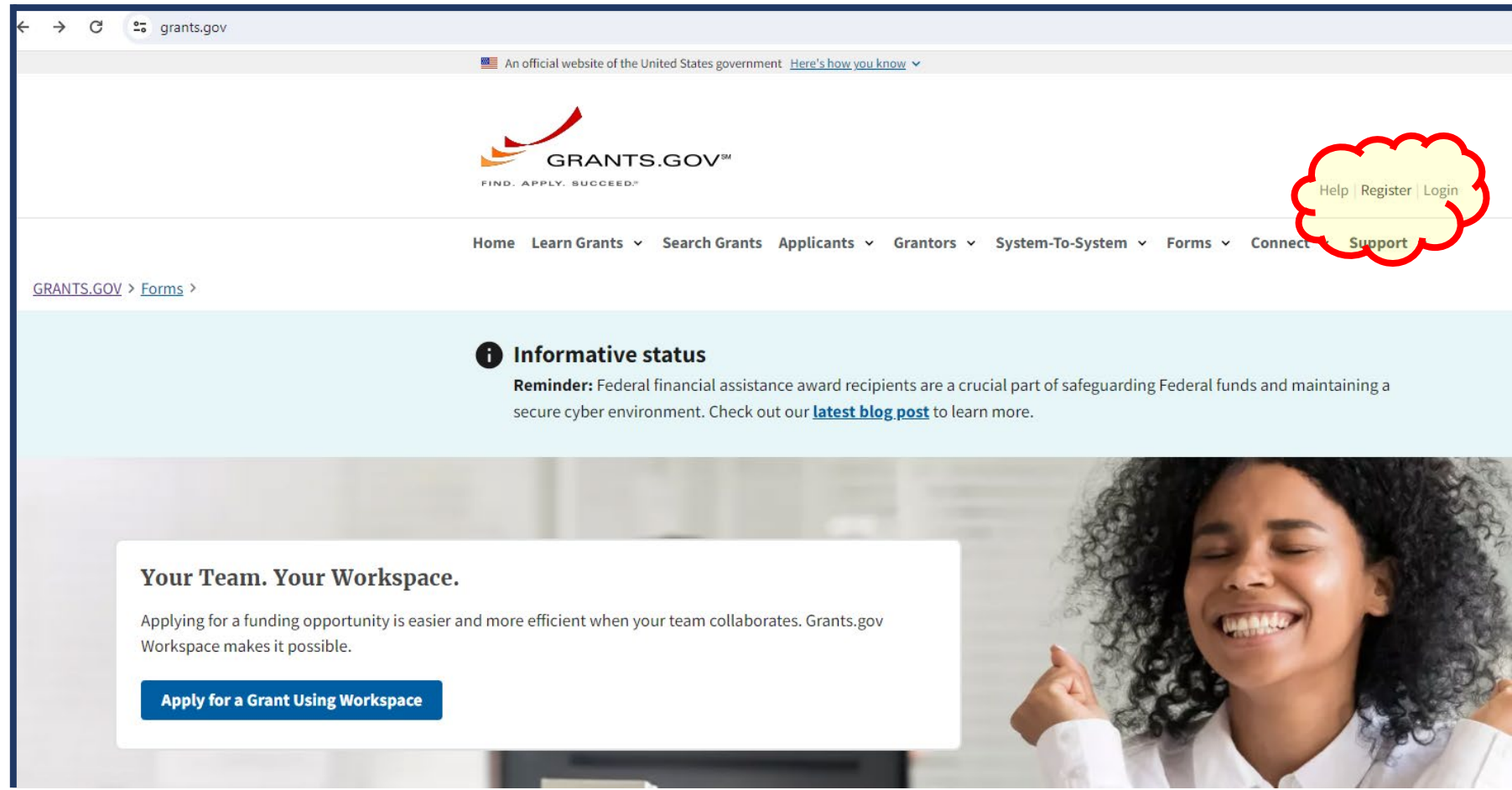
100% FREE to register

[User Guide](#)

[Applicant FAQs](#)

NOFO link:

<https://grants.gov/search-results-detail/361881>



**Deadline to submit full applications is *May 28th, 2026,*
*by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time***



SAM.gov registration must be completed before the deadline

Application must be free of Grants.gov errors; corrective submissions must be made BEFORE the submission deadline and will overwrite previous submissions

Submit early to allow time to correct any unexpected errors or submission issues

- Depending on the size of the file, transmittal may take SEVERAL MINUTES to HOURS.
- Don't wait until the deadline date to submit. The system may be slow due to last minute submissions.
- **Documents should be uploaded individually**

NIST FY26 RAMPS AWARDS



Anticipated Amounts: In Fiscal Year 2026 (FY26), NIST anticipates funding up to **16 awards for up to \$200,000 in federal funding** per award and with a project period of performance of up to **2 years**.

Cost Sharing Requirements: Non-federal cost share **IS** required. Specifically, non-federal cost share, including in-kind contributions, in an amount equal to not less than **50 percent of the Federal funds** provided, is required for awards issued pursuant to this NOFO. (Please refer to page 10 of the NOFO for additional details.)

*Please note that any cost share/non-federal amounts listed in the budget is subject to the same audit requirements as the federal funding amounts.

Completing the Budget Narrative



- You must complete the SF-424A Budget Information Form and the Direct Cost Descriptions for Applicants and Sub-Applicants.
- In preparing the Budget Information Form, you must provide a concise narrative explanation to support the budget request, explained in detail below.
- The budget narrative must provide a description of costs associated with each line item on the SF-424A. It should also include a description of leveraged resources provided (as applicable) to support grant activities.
- All proposed costs must be reasonable, allocable, and allowable under 2 C.F.R. Part 200 Subpart E, Cost Principles

We will provide some templates and tips to completing the Budget Narrative. The total dollar amounts listed under each budget category in the Budget Narrative must match the dollar amounts listed on the SF-424 and SF-424A

Personnel:

- List all staff positions by title (both current and proposed).
- Give the annual salary of each position, the percentage of each position's time devoted to the project, the amount of each position's salary funded by the grant, and the total personnel cost for the period of performance.

Fringe Benefits:

- Provide a breakdown of the amounts and percentages that comprise fringe benefit costs such as health insurance, FICA, retirement, etc. Identified separately from salaries and wages.
- Based on rates determined by organizational policy.
- Costs included as fringe should not be charged under another cost category

Travel:

- Specify the purpose, mileage, per diem, estimated number of in-state and out-of-state trips, and other costs for each type of travel.
- You should include funds to provide for the post-award conference, allowing for staff to travel to and from an estimated location, lodging, and allowable expenses.
- Organizations under the Uniform Guidance cost principles should review 2 CFR §200.475 Travel costs and for-profit organizations should review FAR 31.205-46 Travel costs for more information. All charges must be consistent with the established travel policies.
- All charges must be consistent with the established travel policies.
- Be sure to include the travel cost for the Mandatory Attendance at NICE Conference & Expo under the Federal side of your budget.

Equipment:

- Equipment is tangible personal property with a useful life greater than one year and a per-unit acquisition cost of \$10,000 or more. (If your cost level for equipment is less than \$10,000, use your level). Organizations often have lower cost thresholds for items like computers, communications devices, and IT equipment. See 2 CFR 200.1 for the definition of Equipment, and 2 CFR 200.313 for post award management requirements.
 - Items that do not meet the threshold for “equipment” should be placed under the Supplies budget category.
 - Refer to the NOFO for specific requirements for budget justification and any limitations on Equipment allocations.

Supplies:

- Identify categories of supplies (e.g. office supplies, to include laptops and cell phones) in the detailed budget and list the quantity and unit cost per item. Supplies include all tangible personal property other than “equipment” (see 2 CFR 200.1 for the definition of Supplies, and 2 CFR 200.314 for post award management requirements).

Contractual:

- A contract is for the purpose of obtaining goods and services for the non-Federal entity's own use and creates a procurement relationship with the contractor.
- Identify each proposed contract and specify its purpose and estimated cost. If applicable, identify any subrecipient agreements, including purpose and estimated costs. Describe the necessity of the contract or subaward.

Subaward:

- A subaward is for the purpose of carrying out a portion of a Federal award and creates a Federal assistance relationship with the subrecipient.

Construction:

- Construction costs are not allowed, and this line must be left as zero

Other Direct Costs:

- This category contains planned direct costs that are not appropriate to propose in any of the previous categories. List the items by type or nature of expense, and identify the basis of cost (quote, invoice, past experience, estimate, etc.).
- Describe the necessity of the costs for successful completion of the project and exclude unallowable costs. Do not duplicate costs that are already included in another cost category.

Indirect Costs:

- Indirect costs include business expenses that are not readily identified but are necessary for general operation and conduct of activities.
- If indirect costs are included in the proposed budget, provide a copy of the approved negotiated agreement if this rate was negotiated with a cognizant Federal audit agency.
- If you include indirect costs in the budget, then include either
 - a) the approved indirect cost rate with a copy of the Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA), a description of the base used to calculate indirect costs along with the amount of the base, and the total indirect costs requested, or
 - b) if you meet the requirements to use the 15% de minimis rate as described in 2 CFR 200.414(f), then include a description of the modified total direct costs base (see 2 CFR 200.1 for definition) used in the calculation along with the amount of the base, and the total indirect costs requested based on the 15% de minimis rate.

Cost Share / In-kind Contributions



- The applicant's share of expenses may include cash, services, and third-party in-kind contributions, as described at [2 CFR §200.306](#).
- The source and detailed rationale of the cost share, including cash, full- and part-time personnel, and in-kind donations, must be documented in the Budget Narrative and Justification submitted with the application and will be considered as part of the review under the evaluation criterion found in Section V of the 2026-NIST-RAMPS-01 NOFO.
- Examples of In-Kind that can be used as the required Cost Share would be:
 - An organization donating an employee's time to the project. The employee is paid by their own organization and not charged to the federal award. The employee must track their time for this project and must reflect it in the accounting records. The expense for the employee's time on the project would qualify as an In-Kind contribution and can be attributed to the non-federal cost share.
 - Work or Event Space is donated. The In-kind amount would be the prevailing rate for the space or what you would have paid if it was rented.
 - Donated items are eligible as In-Kind and should use the fair market value of goods and services and must be documented

Unallowable Costs:

- Profit and fees
- Application writing and/or development
- Any cost disallowed by 2 CFR Part 200

Funding Restrictions:

- Construction activities are not an allowable cost under this program. In addition, a recipient or a subrecipient may not charge profits, fees or other increments above cost to an award issued pursuant to the NOFO.
- Applications for product development and/or commercialization are not considered responsive to the NOFO.

Reporting Requirements

Reporting Requirements:

- **Financial Reports.** Each award recipient will be required to submit an SF-425, Federal Financial Report on a semi-annual basis for the periods ending March 31 and September 30 of each year. Reports will be due within 30 days after the end of the reporting period. A final financial report is due within 120 days after the end of the project period.
 - Please note that cost share should also be reflected in the financial reports and should be expended at approximately the same rate as federal funds.

Performance (Technical) Reports.

- Each award recipient will be required to submit a technical progress report on a semi-annual basis for the periods ending March 31 and September 30 of each year. Reports will be due within 30 days after the end of the reporting period. A final technical progress report is due within 120 days after the end of the project period. In addition to the information prescribed in 2 C.F.R. § 200.329, the final performance report shall include:
 - **An assessment of efforts made by the regional alliance or partnership to carry out the project.**
 - **The metrics used by the regional alliance or partnership to measure the success of the efforts of the regional alliance or partnership under the cooperative agreement.**

- Award funds are paid electronically through the Automated Standard Application for Payment (ASAP) system managed by the US Treasury.
- Successful applicants will be required to enroll and create a profile, if not enrolled already. See www.asap.gov for more information.

Important: Award recipients should not draw down all funds immediately to hold for future use. Rather, according to the Department of Commerce Financial Assistance General Terms and Conditions B.02.b.1 (excerpt) “Unless otherwise provided by the terms and conditions of a DOC award, non-Federal entities must time advance payment requests so that Federal funds are on hand for a maximum of 30 calendar days before being disbursed by the non-Federal entity for allowable award costs.”

[DOC Financial Assistance General Terms and Conditions as of 22 September 2025 vF.pdf](#)

SF424- Application for Federal Assistance

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424	
16. Congressional Districts Of:	
* a. Applicant <input type="text"/>	* b. Program/Project <input type="text"/>
Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed.	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="Add Attachment"/> <input type="button" value="Delete Attachment"/> <input type="button" value="View Attachment"/>
17. Proposed Project:	
* a. Start Date: <input type="text"/>	* b. End Date: <input type="text"/>
18. Estimated Funding (\$):	
* a. Federal	<input type="text"/>
* b. Applicant	<input type="text"/>
* c. State	<input type="text"/>
* d. Local	<input type="text"/>
* e. Other	<input type="text"/>
* f. Program Income	<input type="text"/>
* g. TOTAL	<input type="text"/>

SF424 (Application Form)
Estimated funding must include non-Federal Share

When completing the SF424 (application form) **DO NOT** forget to enter the required non-Federal cost share amount.

***Please ensure consistency of all numbers for the SF-424 and the SF-424A and Budget narrative.**



Budget Form SF424 and SF42A

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

16. Congressional Districts Of:

* a. Applicant * b. Program/Project

Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed.

17. Proposed Project:

* a. Start Date: * b. End Date:

18. Estimated Funding (\$):

* a. Federal	<input type="text"/>
* b. Applicant	<input type="text"/>
* c. State	<input type="text"/>
* d. Local	<input type="text"/>
* e. Other	<input type="text"/>
* f. Program Income	<input type="text"/>
* g. TOTAL	<input type="text"/>

SF424 (Application Form)
 Estimated funding must include non-Federal Share

6. Object Class Categories	GRANT PROGRAM, FUNCTION OR ACTIVITY				Total (5)
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	
a. Personnel	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>
b. Fringe Benefits	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
c. Travel	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
d. Equipment	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
e. Supplies	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
f. Contractual	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
g. Construction	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
h. Other	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
i. Total Direct Charges (sum of 6a-6h)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>
j. Indirect Charges	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>
k. TOTALS (sum of 6i and 6j)	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>
7. Program Income	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>

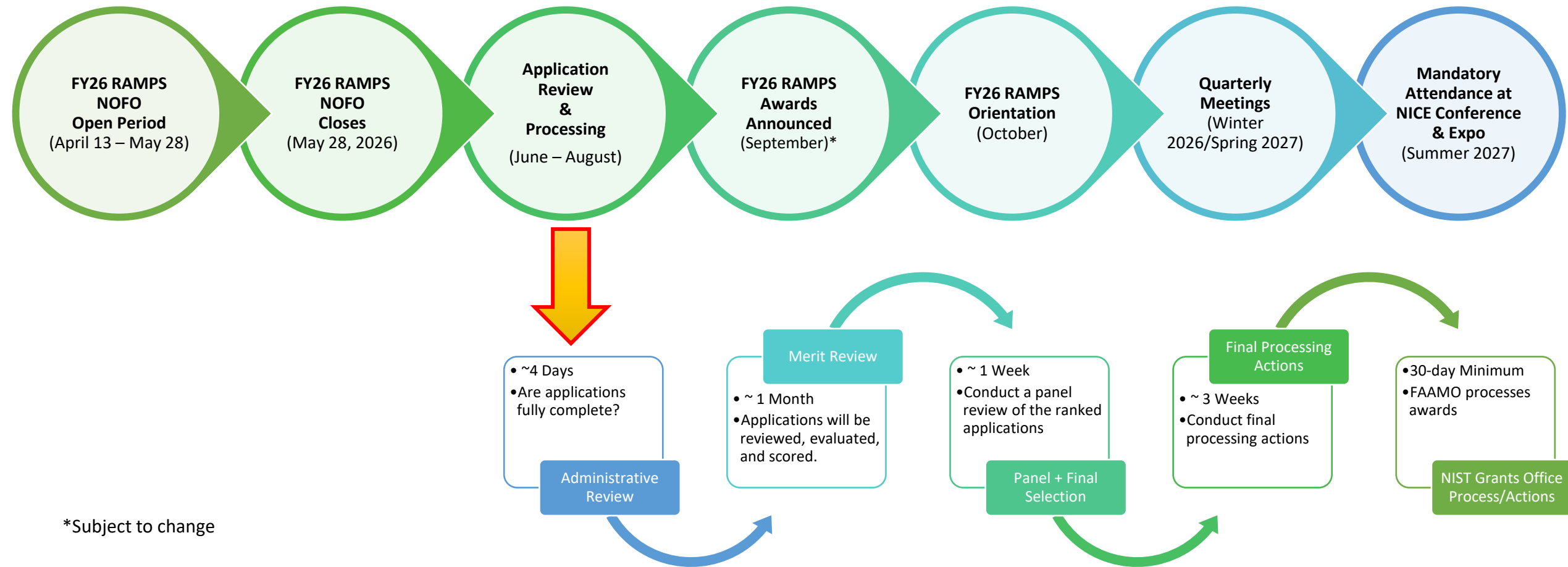
Authorized for Local Reproduction

****The total dollar amounts listed under each budget category in the Budget Narrative must match the dollar amounts listed on the SF424 and SF424A****

Application Process & Tips for Success

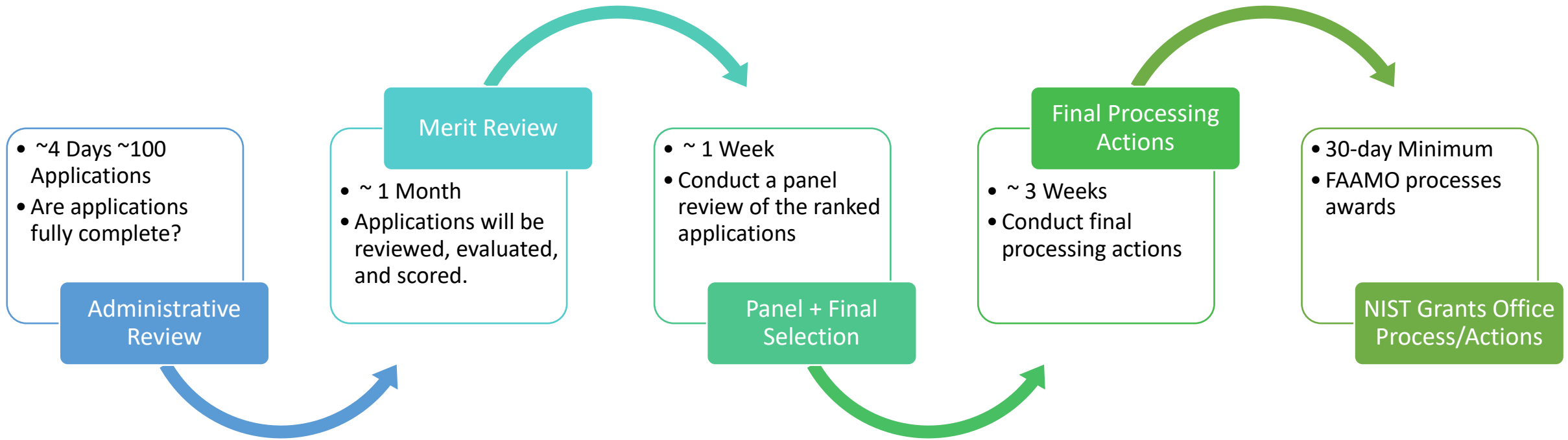
Jay Thomson MBA PMP CISSP PMI-ACP
Federal Program Officer
Senior IT Program Manager (FAC-COR-IT III, FAC-P/PM III)

RAMPS 2026 Timeline



*Subject to change

RAMPS 2026 Timeline



*Subject to change

Administrative Review of Applications

- Applications received by the **deadline** will be reviewed to determine eligibility, completeness, and responsiveness to this NOFO and to the scope of the stated program objectives.
- Once a **complete application** has been received by NIST, an initial administrative review is conducted to determine compliance with requirements and completeness of the application.
- All proposals will be **evaluated** and scored individually in accordance with the assigned weights of the above evaluation criteria by independent peer mail review and/or by independent peer panel review.
- Applications determined to be ineligible, incomplete, and/or nonresponsive **may be eliminated** from further review.

- Merit reviews of proposals are used as a means to obtain the best available science and information to support **NICE mandates**. NIST adheres to the guidelines for the merit review process (i.e., the peer review process) as established by the Department of Commerce Grants and Cooperative Agreements Manual.
- At least three (3) independent, objective reviewers, who may be Federal employees or non-Federal personnel, will evaluate, and score each eligible, complete, and responsive application based on the evaluation criteria.
- Based on the numerical average of the reviewers' scores, a rank order will be prepared and provided to the Evaluation Panel for further consideration.

- The evaluation panel may **contact applicants via e-mail** to clarify contents of an application.
- The evaluation panel will provide a final adjectival rating and written evaluation of the applications to the Selecting Official for further deliberation.

- The Selecting Official, the Director of NICE or designee, will make final award recommendations to the NIST Grants Officer based on the recommendation provided by the Evaluation Panel.

Anticipated Announcement and Award Date



- NIST expects to complete its review, selection of successful applicants, and award processing by September 2026.
- NIST expects the earliest start date for awards under this NOFO to be **September 2026**

- Successful applicants will receive an award package from the NIST Grants Officer.
- **Please ensure you read the following (page 26-28):**
 - Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles and Audit Requirements
 - DOC Financial Assistance General Terms and Conditions
 - Executive Order 14173 - Ending Illegal Discrimination and Restoring Merit-Based Opportunity
 - Pre-Award Notification Requirements
 - Funding Availability and Limitation of Liability
 - Collaborations with NIST Employees
 - Use of Federal Government-Owned Intellectual Property

Notification to Unsuccessful Applicants



- Unsuccessful applicants will be notified by e-mail and will have the opportunity to receive a debriefing after the opportunity is officially closed.
- Applicants must request within **10 business days of the email notification** to receive a debrief from the program office.

Tips for Success

Understand submission process in NOFO

Understand all required information and documents needed for submission as listed in the NOFO

Read the NOFO multiple times, create a checklist, and follow formatting rules exactly

Develop a timeline for preparation.

SAM.Gov registration must be active to apply in Grants.gov

Use correct Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) and Employer identification number (EIN)

Designate the proper roles in the systems (i.e.: Authorized Rep in Grants.gov)

Utilize “workspace” feature in Grants.gov to draft applications

Limit application to file size / character limits / page limits / font size

Late applications will not be accepted

Identify POC on the SF-424 Block 8F for issues

Understand that the Project Narrative must reflect NICE Goals

Make sure you are using compatible software (ex: Adobe Reader)

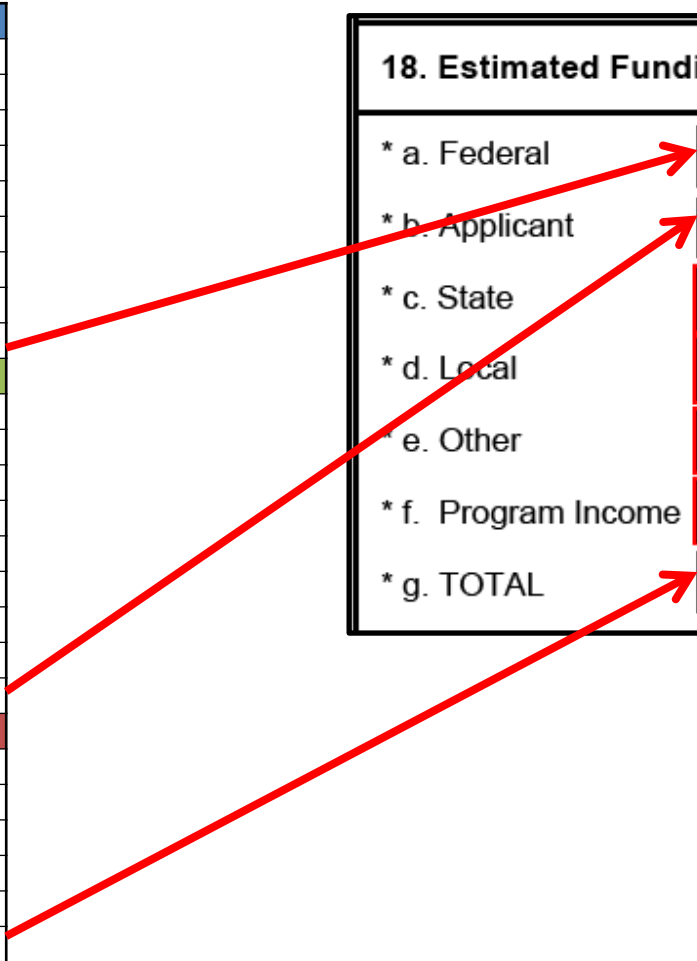
All documents need to be uploaded separately

If Multiple Applications are received only the last Application will be reviewed

Budget Narrative to SF 424

NIST			
Line Item	Year 1	Year 2	Total
Personnel	\$ 28,229.75	\$ 28,097.08	\$ 56,326.83
Fringe Benefits	\$ 6,785.98	\$ 6,721.31	\$ 13,507.29
Travel Domestic	\$ 1,303.00	\$ 1,850.00	\$ 3,153.00
Indirect Costs	\$ 18,558.34	\$ 18,453.75	\$ 37,012.09
Contractual	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 70,000.00
Other	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
Grant from NIST	\$ 99,877.07	\$ 100,122.14	\$ 199,999.21
Applicant			
Line Item	Year 1	Year 2	Total
Personnel	\$ 33,848.70	\$ 35,275.68	\$ 69,124.38
Fringe Benefits	\$ 22,935.88	\$ 24,380.14	\$ 47,316.02
Travel Domestic			
Indirect Costs			
Contractual			
Other			
Applicant Match	\$ 56,784.58	\$ 59,655.82	\$ 116,440.40
Project Totals			
Total Personnel			\$ 125,451.21
Total Fringe Benefits			\$ 60,823.31
Total Contract Cost			\$ 70,000.00
Total Other			\$ 20,000.00
Total Project Budget	\$ 156,661.65	\$ 159,777.96	\$ 316,439.61

18. Estimated Funding (\$):	
* a. Federal	199,999.21
* b. Applicant	116,440.40
* c. State	
* d. Local	
* e. Other	
* f. Program Income	
* g. TOTAL	316,439.61

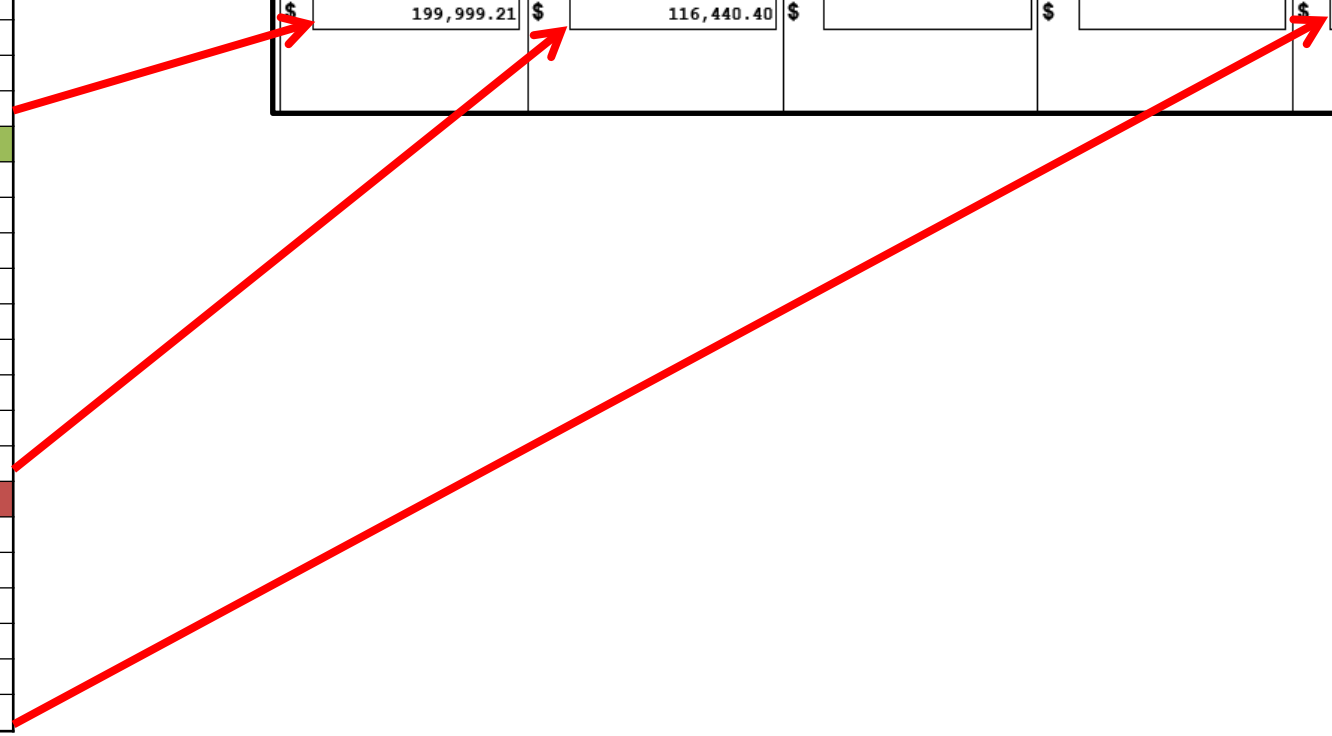


Budget Narrative to SF 424A Page 1



NIST			
Line Item	Year 1	Year 2	Total
Personnel	\$ 28,229.75	\$ 28,097.08	\$ 56,326.83
Fringe Benefits	\$ 6,785.98	\$ 6,721.31	\$ 13,507.29
Travel Domestic	\$ 1,303.00	\$ 1,850.00	\$ 3,153.00
Indirect Costs	\$ 18,558.34	\$ 18,453.75	\$ 37,012.09
Contractual	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 70,000.00
Other	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
Grant from NIST	\$ 99,877.07	\$ 100,122.14	\$ 199,999.21
Applicant			
Line Item	Year 1	Year 2	Total
Personnel	\$ 33,848.70	\$ 35,275.68	\$ 69,124.38
Fringe Benefits	\$ 22,935.88	\$ 24,380.14	\$ 47,316.02
Travel Domestic			
Indirect Costs			
Contractual			
Other			
Applicant Match	\$ 56,784.58	\$ 59,655.82	\$ 116,440.40
Project Totals			
Total Personnel			\$ 125,451.21
Total Fringe Benefits			\$ 60,823.31
Total Contract Cost			\$ 70,000.00
Total Other			\$ 20,000.00
Total Project Budget	\$ 156,661.65	\$ 159,777.96	\$ 316,439.61

BUDGET INFORMATION - Non-Construction Programs					OMB Number: 4040-0006
					Expiration Date: 06/30/2028
SECTION A - BUDGET SUMMARY					
Estimated Unobligated Funds			New or Revised Budget		
Federal (c)	Non-Federal (d)		Federal (e)	Non-Federal (f)	Total (g)
\$ 199,999.21	\$ 116,440.40				\$ 316,439.61



Budget Narrative to SF 424A Page 2



NIST			
Line Item	Year 1	Year 2	Total
Personnel	\$ 28,229.75	\$ 28,097.08	\$ 56,326.83
Fringe Benefits	\$ 6,785.98	\$ 6,721.31	\$ 13,507.29
Travel Domestic	\$ 1,303.00	\$ 1,850.00	\$ 3,153.00
Indirect Costs	\$ 18,558.34	\$ 18,453.75	\$ 37,012.09
Contractual	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 70,000.00
Other	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
Grant from NIST	\$ 99,877.07	\$ 100,122.14	\$ 199,999.21
Applicant			
Line Item	Year 1	Year 2	Total
Personnel	\$ 33,848.70	\$ 35,275.68	\$ 69,124.38
Fringe Benefits	\$ 22,935.88	\$ 24,380.14	\$ 47,316.02
Travel Domestic			
Indirect Costs			
Contractual			
Other			
Applicant Match	\$ 56,784.58	\$ 59,655.82	\$ 116,440.40
Project Totals			
Total Personnel			\$ 125,451.21
Total Fringe Benefits			\$ 60,823.31
Total Contract Cost			\$ 70,000.00
Total Other			\$ 20,000.00
Total Project Budget	\$ 156,661.65	\$ 159,777.96	\$ 316,439.61

	Year 1 Grant	Year 1 Other	Year 2 Grant	Year 2 Other	Project Total
a. Personnel	\$ 28,229.75	\$ 33,848.70	\$ 28,097.08	\$ 35,275.68	\$ 125,451.21
b. Fringe Benefits	6,785.98	22,935.88	6,721.31	24,380.14	60,823.31
c. Travel	1,303.00		1,850.00		3,153.00
d. Equipment					
e. Supplies					
f. Contractual	35,000.00		35,000.00		70,000.00
g. Construction					
h. Other	10,000.00		10,000.00		20,000.00
i. Total Direct Charges (sum of 6a-6h)	81,318.73	56,784.58	81,668.39	59,655.82	\$ 279,427.52
j. Indirect Charges	18,558.34		18,453.75		\$ 37,012.09
k. TOTALS (sum of 6i and 6j)	\$ 99,877.07	\$ 56,784.58	\$ 100,122.14	\$ 59,655.82	\$ 316,439.61
7. Program Income					

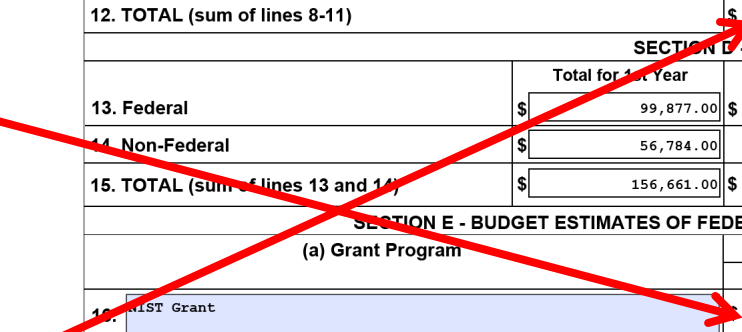
Amounts need to add up Left to Right
And then Top to Bottom

Budget Narrative to SF 424A Page 3



NIST			
Line Item	Year 1	Year 2	Total
Personnel	\$ 28,229.75	\$ 28,097.08	\$ 56,326.83
Fringe Benefits	\$ 6,785.98	\$ 6,721.31	\$ 13,507.29
Travel Domestic	\$ 1,303.00	\$ 1,850.00	\$ 3,153.00
Indirect Costs	\$ 18,558.34	\$ 18,453.75	\$ 37,012.09
Contractual	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 70,000.00
Other	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
Grant from NIST	\$ 99,877.07	\$ 100,122.14	\$ 199,999.21
Applicant			
Line Item	Year 1	Year 2	Total
Personnel	\$ 33,848.70	\$ 35,275.68	\$ 69,124.38
Fringe Benefits	\$ 22,935.88	\$ 24,380.14	\$ 47,316.02
Travel Domestic			
Indirect Costs			
Contractual			
Other			
Applicant Match	\$ 56,784.58	\$ 59,655.82	\$ 116,440.40
Project Totals			
Total Personnel			\$ 125,451.21
Total Fringe Benefits			\$ 60,823.31
Total Contract Cost			\$ 70,000.00
Total Other			\$ 20,000.00
Total Project Budget	\$ 156,661.65	\$ 159,777.96	\$ 316,439.61

SECTION C - NON-FEDERAL RESOURCES					
	(a) Grant Program	(b) Applicant	(c) State	(d) Other Sources	(e) TOTALS
8.	Applicant Match	\$ 116,440.40	\$	\$	\$ 116,440.40
9.					
10.					
11.					
12. TOTAL (sum of lines 8-11)		\$ 116,440.40	\$	\$	\$ 116,440.40
SECTION D - FORECASTED CASH NEEDS					
	Total for 1st Year	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
13. Federal	\$ 99,877.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 24,877.00
14. Non-Federal	\$ 56,784.00	\$ 14,200.00	\$ 14,200.00	\$ 14,200.00	\$ 14,184.00
15. TOTAL (sum of lines 13 and 14)	\$ 156,661.00	\$ 39,200.00	\$ 39,200.00	\$ 39,200.00	\$ 39,061.00
SECTION E - BUDGET ESTIMATES OF FEDERAL FUNDS NEEDED FOR BALANCE OF THE PROJECT					
(a) Grant Program	FUTURE FUNDING PERIODS (YEARS)				
	(b) First	(c) Second	(d) Third	(e) Fourth	
16. NIST Grant	\$ 99,877.07	\$ 100,122.14	\$	\$	\$
17.					
18.					
19.					
20. TOTAL (sum of lines 16 - 19)	\$ 99,877.07	\$ 100,122.14	\$	\$	\$
SECTION F - OTHER BUDGET INFORMATION					
21. Direct Charges:			22. Indirect Charges:		
23. Remarks:					



Section D asks applicants to estimate federal and non-federal funds required by quarter for the first year of a project.

Application Format



The following documents **HAVE** page limits:

- Grants.Gov submissions only.
- Project Narrative. The Project Narrative should be no more than 15 pages.
- Any figures, graphs, images, or pictures will count toward the page limits
- Resume(s) of Key Personnel. Resumes for all key personnel assigned to the project must be provided. Resumes are limited to two (2) pages per individual

The following documents have **NO** page limits:

- SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance
- SF-424A, Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs
- CD-511, Certification Regarding Lobbying
- SF-LLL, Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (if applicable)
- Budget Narrative and Justification
- Indirect Cost Rate Agreement
- Letters of Commitment. The minimum two required commitment letters must come from entities that are not the applicant.
- Current and Pending Support Form

ALL Documents must be uploaded Separately

Helpful External Resources

- Budget Narrative Instructions

<https://share.google/5hsVx7fMyNZ1hR19B>

- Budget Narrative Guidance for NOAA Grants May 2023

<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/s3/2025-01/2023.09-budget-narrative-guidance-for-NOAA-grants.pdf>

Wrap-up

Susana Barraza

NICE Program Manager

Lead, Communications and Engagement

Deadline to Apply:

Thursday, May 28, 2026, by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time.

Link to opportunity on Grants.gov:

<https://grants.gov/search-results-detail/361881>

NISTIR 8287

2016 RAMPS Pilot Programs and NIST Publication on Roadmaps to Successful RAMPS

Learn more at nist.gov/nice/ffo

2026 RAMPS Program

- Webinar recording
- Grants.gov information
- ASAP.gov information

NICE Webinar

Title: Community-Based Partnerships for Cybersecurity

View recording: nist.gov/nice/webinars

Questions?



Programmatic and Technical Questions

Susana Barraza

E-mail:

NICE.RAMPS@nist.gov

with '2026-NIST-RAMPS-01'
in subject line

Phone: 240-457-2638

nist.gov/nice

Technical Assistance with Grants.gov Submissions

GRANTS.GOV

E-mail:

support@grants.gov

Phone: 800-518-4726

grants.gov

NIST Grants Rules and Regulations

Nuria Martinez

E-mail:

nuria.martinez@nist.gov

Phone: 301-975-5294

nist.gov/oaam



Thank You!