

A SPECIAL BSF CALL FOR PROPOSALS IN TRANSFORMATIVE SCIENCE

The U.S. – Israel Binational Science Foundation (BSF) is pleased to announce the opening of the first round of applications in its new program devoted to Transformative Science grants. For complete details of the new program and submission instructions please consult the BSF website (www.bsf.org.il) under 'Guidelines & Forms'. Some of the terms of this competition are as follows:

1. The BSF definition of Transformative Science has been adopted from the NSF and is:
"Research driven by ideas that have potential to radically change our understanding of an important scientific concept, or lead to the creation of a new paradigm, or a new field of science. Such research is also characterized by its challenge to current understanding or by its pathways to new frontiers".
2. Proposals will be evaluated first and foremost on their transformative nature, but naturally also need to exhibit scientific excellence.
3. Applications must be submitted jointly by at least one Israeli and one American scientist, as required in all BSF programs.
4. Applications must be submitted through a non-profit institution or agency. The BSF accepts research applications from institutions of higher learning, government research institutions, non-profit hospitals and other non-profit research organizations.
5. Collaboration with industry partners is permitted but the industry partner may be a PI only if he does not request funding.
6. Grants will be managed through the institutions that made the application.
7. Transformative Science projects may be up to 3 years in duration, and will receive up to \$100,000/year, which may be divided among the PIs, according to their preference.
8. Applications to the Transformative Science program will be processed using a two tier submission process, starting with a short pre-proposal, followed by full proposals of selected applications.

9. Applications will be sent for external reviews worldwide, and the BSF cannot assure the proprietary nature of the proposal.
10. Up to 2 grants will be approved each year. Selection of the recommended applications will be made by a special expert panel consisting of both Israeli and American scientists with interdisciplinary background. However, the BSF Board will make the final decision as to the number of grants to award (1 or 2), if any.
11. **BSF does not allow any of its grantees (except in the BSF Energy program) to hold two grants simultaneously. A current grantee whose grant will not run out in 2010 is not allowed to submit to the program.**
12. **Applicants of pre-proposals that are selected for submission of full proposals will not be permitted to submit applications to the regular program in the same year.**
13. **Applicants will not be allowed to submit a pre-proposal to the program in consecutive years.**
14. **Pre-proposals will be submitted online using the relevant BSF submission system, not later than May 11, 2010. The BSF website will be open for submission on April 12, 2010.**
15. **Announcement of the applications that are selected for submission of full proposals is expected to be made by July 15, 2010.**
16. **Full proposals will be submitted online using the relevant BSF submission system, not later than Oct. 12, 2010.**
17. Final results are expected around Feb. 20, 2011.
18. Applicants are requested to acquaint themselves with the BSF regulations before they submit an application, and are encouraged to discuss the proposal with the BSF management, Dr. Yair Rotstein (yair@bsf.org.il) or Dr. Rachel (Heni) Haring (heni@bsf.org.il). Questions regarding the online application system should be directed to Ms. Orli Rosencweig (orli@bsf.org.il) or Eti Alfandary (eti@bsf.org.il).