**National Science Foundation** (NSF)
The National Science Foundation (NSF) is an independent federal agency created by Congress in 1950 "to promote the progress of science; to advance the national health, prosperity, and welfare; to secure the national defense..." NSF is vital because we support basic research and people to create knowledge that transforms the future. NSF

- Supports basic research across all fields of science and engineering, and education at all levels
- Discipline-based structure
- Cross-disciplinary mechanisms
- Merit Review = Intellectual Merit and Broader Impacts
- Receives approximately 50,000 proposals each year  approximately 11,000 are funded

NSF Directorates/Offices

- [Biological Sciences](https://www.nsf.gov/bio) (BIO)
- [Computer & Information Sciences and Engineering](https://www.nsf.gov/cise) (CISE)
- [Education and Human Resources](https://www.nsf.gov/education) (EHR)
- [Engineering](https://www.nsf.gov/eng) (ENG)
- [Geosciences](https://www.nsf.gov.geo) (GEO)
- [Mathematical & Physical Sciences](https://www.nsf.gov/mps) (MPS)
- [Social, Behavioral & Economic Sciences](https://www.nsf.gov/sbe) (SBE)
- [Office of International and Integrative Activities](https://www.nsf.gov/iai) (IIA)