I. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

California State University, East Bay is committed to creating and maintaining an educational, working, and living environment free from all forms of harassment and sexual misconduct. The University’s policies prohibit such harassment and misconduct and apply to all members of the University community.

On September 21, 2018, the National Science Foundation (NSF) published in the Federal Register a final notice of a new award “term and condition regarding sexual harassment, other forms of harassment, and sexual assault.” That term and condition requires the University to notify NSF promptly of findings of “sexual harassment, other forms of harassment, or sexual assault” against an NSF-funded principal investigator (PI) or co-PI, as well as interim administrative actions imposed by the University (e.g., administrative leave or curtailment of certain University duties).

The purpose of this procedure is to explain to the University community, especially NSF-funded investigators, how the University expects to implement this expanded and formalized agency notification requirement.

At present, this procedure addresses NSF reporting only. However, the University may have other legal or contractual obligations to report harassment or sexual misconduct to third parties, e.g., to other government agencies or sponsors in connection with specific awards or collaborations, and will act in accordance with those obligations. Also, the University anticipates that additional funding agencies or organizations may adopt comprehensive notification requirements similar to NSF’s. The University may update this procedure as necessary to address such additional notification requirements.

II. IMPLEMENTATION OF NSF NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT

1. The Office of Research and Sponsored Programs will maintain a list of all Principal Investigators and Co-Investigators receiving direct funding or a sub award from the NSF and other relevant federal sponsors.

2. At the outset of a University investigation into allegations of (i) harassment of any sort (including sexual harassment) or (ii) any unwelcome sexual conduct (including sexual assault), and throughout the investigation as appropriate, the Title IX Investigator will consider and determine whether to place the individual whose conduct is under review (the “respondent”) on administrative leave or curtail his/her University duties (e.g., teaching, research, mentoring, advising, administrative duties, or presence on campus) pending the final disposition of the matter.

3. If the University implements an Administrative Action, the Title IX Coordinator will determine whether the respondent is receiving support from NSF or other relevant federal sponsors. If it is determined that the respondent is receiving funding from the NSF (or other relevant federal sponsors) the Title IX Coordinator will confidentially notify the Associate Vice President for Research and Sponsored Programs within three (3) business days.

4. Notification to NSF regarding a Title IX administrative action. If the respondent is a PI or co-PI on any NSF award(s), including sub-award(s), NSF will be notified within ten (10) business days of the Administrative Action, in accordance with NSF requirements (presently via the “Organizational
Notification of Harassment Form” on the NSF website). The notification will describe the 
Administrative Action and the reasons for it.

5. If the Administrative Action could negatively affect the NSF-funded activity or other personnel 
associated with the award, the University may seek to appoint a substitute PI or co-PI in 
consultation with NSF. This process will necessarily involve discussions with others at the University, 
including the potential substitute PI(s) or co-PI(s) and appropriate Department Chair(s) and Dean(s), 
but disclosures will be limited to the extent possible.

6. Following any applicable appeals, if the respondent is found responsible of violating a University 
policy prohibiting harassment (including sexual harassment) or sexual assault, the Associate Vice 
President of Research and Sponsored Programs will be confidentially notified of such final 
determination within three (3) business days.

7. If the respondent is a PI or co-PI on any NSF (or other relevant federal sponsors) award(s), including 
sub-award(s), NSF will be notified within ten (10) business days of such final determination of 
responsibility, in accordance with NSF requirements (presently via the “Organizational Notification 
of Harassment Form” on the NSF website).

8. After a final determination of responsibility, and if a substitute PI or co-PI has not already been 
approved, the University may again seek to appoint a substitute PI or co-PI in consultation with 
NSF. This process will necessarily involve discussions with others at the University, including the 
potential substitute PI(s) or co-PI(s) and appropriate Department Chair(s), but disclosures will be 
limited to the extent possible.

9. In accordance with NSF requirements, notifications to NSF under this procedure regarding the 
Administrative Actions and final determinations of responsibility will identify the respondent, as 
required, but will not include personally identifiable information of others (e.g., the complainant(s) 
or witnesses).

10. When California State University, East Bay is a subawardee or non-lead institution under an NSF 
award, notifications will be made directly to NSF, per current NSF guidance. However, the 
University may also communicate with the prime awardee as necessary or appropriate under the 
circumstances.

III NSF-SPONSORED CONFERENCES

It is NSF policy to foster harassment-free environments wherever science is conducted, including at NSF- 
sponsored conferences. The NSF Proposal Award Policy and Procedure Guide (PAPPG), effective 
February 25, 2019, requires applicants requesting NSF funds for the purpose of carrying out conferences 
to have a policy or code-of-conduct that addresses sexual harassment, other forms of harassment, or 
sexual assault, and that includes clear and accessible means of reporting violations of the policy or code-
of-conduct.

Recipients of NSF funds to carry out conferences must also provide this policy or code of conduct to all 
event participants prior to the event and at the conference itself.