

Pathways to Enable Open-Source Ecosystems (POSE)

[View Guidelines](#)

[22-572](#)

NSF is introducing a new program called **Pathways to Enable Open-Source Ecosystems (POSE)**.

The purpose of POSE is to harness the power of open-source development for the creation of new technology solutions to problems of national, societal, and economic importance.

Many NSF-funded research projects result in publicly accessible, modifiable, and distributable open-sourced software, hardware or data platforms that catalyze further innovation. In some cases, an open-source product is widely adopted and forms the basis for a self-sustaining open-source ecosystem (OSE) made up of a distributed community of developers and a broad base of users in industry and government. The goal of the POSE program is to fund new OSE managing organizations, each responsible for the creation and maintenance of infrastructure needed for efficient and secure operation of an OSE based around a specific open-source product or class of products. The early and intentional formation of such managing organizations is expected to ensure more secure open-source products, increased coordination of developer contributions, and a more focused route to impactful technologies.

Upcoming Due Dates

Full Proposal

2022

May 12 - Deadline Date

Phase I

October 21 - Deadline Date

Phase II

Phase I: OSE Scoping Proposals, budget to \$300,000 for 1 year, 7-page max

Enables scoping activities to inform the development of the OSE. Should describe the long-term vision and impact of the proposed OSE, along with specific scoping activities that will lead to a well-developed and sustainable plan.

Phase II: OSE Development Grants, budget to \$1,500,000 for 2 years, 15-page max

Supports transition of an open-source research product into a sustainable OSE. Should include a detailed project plan to support deployment of later-stage successful open-source products into operational environments; describe the current context; and articulate the long-term vision and impact of the proposed OSE.

Importantly, POSE is not intended to fund the development of open-source research products, including tools and artifacts. POSE is also not intended to fund existing well-resourced open-source communities and ecosystems. Instead, the program aims to fund new managing organizations that catalyze community-driven development and growth of the subject OSEs. The expected outcomes of POSE are (1) to grow the community of researchers who develop and contribute to OSE efforts, and (2) to enable pathways for the development of collaborative OSEs that could lead to new technology products or services that have broad societal impacts. OSEs can stem from any areas of research supported by NSF.

Program Guidelines

Estimated Number of Awards

30 - Approximately 20 Phase I awards of up to \$300,000 per award with durations up to 1 year and 10 Phase II awards of up to \$1,500,000 per award with durations up to 2 years are anticipated, subject to the availability of funds and quality of proposals received. If a proposal involves multiple organizations, it must be submitted as a single proposal with subawards.

TO LEARN MORE

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR THE WEBINAR – MARCH 23, 2022, 3:30PM ET](#)

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