

NSF-DFG US-German Lead Agency Procedure in Chemistry, Process Engineering, Fluid Mechanics and Thermodynamics

DFG-Submission Information for German Project Partners

Submission with DFG as Lead Agency:

1. Proposal Title requirements for this Solicitation:

The proposal should indicate it is to be considered under this Lead Agency Procedure by prefacing the title with "NSF-DFG:".

2. Proposal Submission and Budget Preparation Instructions:

- Applicants to be funded by the DFG are requested to fulfil the eligibility requirements of DFG Research Grants. This includes the duty to cooperate (Kooperationspflicht, [DFG form 55.01](#)) within Germany for members of non-university institutions with permanent positions.
- For their joint proposals, PIs must comply with the proposal preparation requirements outlined in the Guidelines for the [Research Grants Programme](#) (Sachbeihilfe, [DFG form 50.01](#)). Proposals within this call must be prepared according to the Proposal Preparation Instructions ([DFG form 54.01](#)), and the template for Project Description ([DFG form 53.01](#)). The proposal must be written in English. Please note that for the joint proposal, up to ten project-related publications can be highlighted in the project- and subject-related publication list independent from the total number of German and US applicants. (For details on publication lists see [DFG form 1.91](#)). In the proposal text the US PI(s) should be considered as applicants (not as collaboration partners).
- The proposal must include a description of the full proposed research program and research team, and the total resources for the joint project (that is, the funds requested for both the US and German side. The funds requested from the US partner shall be accommodated to fit in section 5 of the project description DFG form 53.01). As an additional document, the "Project Data Form DFG Lead", containing the project summary, a detailed breakdown of funding requested from NSF as well as a budget justification (see form for details www.dfg.de/nsf-che-cbet) needs to be submitted. The total page limit for the Data Form is 3 pages. The Project Data Form will be shared with NSF to verify the allowability of funds requested and the fit to NSF's participating programmes.
- Full proposals must be submitted via *elan*, the DFG's electronic proposal processing system. After logging in, please use the link "Proposal for a Research Grant" in the Proposal Forms column (Proposal Submission > New Project > Individual Grants Programme > Proposal for a Research Grant). Please select "**NSF-DFG Lead CHE CBET**" from the list of calls.
- Due to *elan* system requirements, the US investigators have to be included as "Cooperation Partners" (not as applicants or co-applicants/Mitverantwortliche!) during the submission process. For each US investigator a CV complying with DFG form [53.200](#) must be submitted as "additional document".
- Letter(s) of collaboration from the US investigators need to be submitted to *elan* as additional document(s).
- If you are using the *elan* system for the first time, please note that you need to register yourself and your institutional addresses before you are able to submit a proposal. US investigators do not need to be registered in *elan*.
- US Investigators: Once a proposal is considered for funding by the DFG, the non-lead (U.S.) collaborator(s) associated with the project must submit a copy of the proposal to the proper program in NSF so that NSF has complete documentation of the overall proposed research

project. The non-lead (U.S.) collaborator will receive submission instructions from NSF at that time.

3. Submission Timeline

Research Proposals with the DFG as Lead Agency are accepted on a continuous basis **from 1 September 2025 at the earliest**. Proposals submitted earlier cannot be accepted.

4. Information on Personal Data

Please note the DFG's data protection notice on research funding, which can be viewed and downloaded at <https://www.dfg.de/en/service/privacy-policy>. If necessary, please also forward this information to those individuals whose data will be processed by the DFG due to their involvement in your project.