

# *New Annual Malign Foreign Talent Recruitment Program Certification for NSF-Funded Principal Investigators and Co-Principal Investigators*

## **NEW NSF CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT**

The U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF) is implementing a new [annual certification requirement](#) for Principal Investigators (PIs) and co-Principal Investigators (co-PIs) regarding Malign Foreign Talent Recruitment Programs (MFTRP). The requirement addresses Section 10632 of the [CHIPS and Science Act of 2022](#) (42 U.S.C. § 19232) regarding malign foreign talent recruitment programs, and will become effective June 7, 2025. NSF stipulates that **all PIs or co-PIs named on an NSF award made on or after May 20, 2024 must annually certify in Research.gov that they are not a party to a MFTRP.**

- Individuals who are currently a party to a MFTRP are not eligible to serve as senior/key personnel on an NSF proposal or on any NSF award made on or after May 20, 2024.
- If you are a PI or co-PI who is impacted by this requirement, you will be prompted to complete the MFTRP certification after signing into [Research.gov](#) using the Sign in link at the top of the page.
- PIs and co-PIs are only required to certify once per year on the Research.gov website.
- It is anticipated that this certification requirement will be expanded to all senior/key personnel roles at a future date.
- The sharing of individual Research.gov credentials is strictly prohibited. All required certifications and attestations must be completed personally by the designated Senior/Key Personnel.

Frequently Asked Questions, instructions and MFTRP contract examples can be found on the [MFTRP section](#) (click + for dropdown of information) of the NSF's Office of the Chief of Research Security Strategy and Policy website.

## **UCSF POLICY**

**Reminder:** MFTRPs often create unmanageable conflicts of commitment. Applying to or participating in a Foreign Talent Recruitment Program (FTRP) or a MFTRP is classified as a [Category I Outside Activity](#) and requires prior institutional review and approval. All UCSF researchers must disclose any involvement in a FTRP or MFTRP as part of their annual [Conflict of Interest Disclosure](#) in Research Gateway.

For details on the distinction between FTRPs and MFTRPs, please visit the [Foreign Talent Recruitment Programs](#) page on the Office of Ethics and Compliance website. Additional training associated with this and other research security issues can be found in the [UC Learning Center](#) (search for “Research Security at the University of California”).

Please reach out to [ResearchSecurity@ucsf.edu](mailto:ResearchSecurity@ucsf.edu) for support and guidance related to this requirement.