

AI Safety Fund AI Agent Evaluations and Synthetic Content RFP Q&A

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General Questions

Q1. Is there any flexibility in proposal submission deadlines?

If your proposal falls within the three posted RFPs, you must submit your proposals within the deadline through the application process on FLUXX to be considered for grant funding. The submission deadline for the Biosecurity RFP and Cybersecurity RFP is January 20, and the deadline for the AI Agent Evaluations and Synthetic Content RFP is January 31. The application portal will close following the deadline and applicants will not be able to submit after the deadline has passed.

Q2. You mention the proposed budgets should not exceed \$500K in the document, but what about length? Is a 2-year budget OK?

Proposals should reflect a 1-year duration and budget.

Q3. Is there any guideline on the expected format of the proposal and specifically the expected length?

When uploading documents to the proposal application in the Fluxx portal, please refer to the scope of work template and budget template for guidance. Templates are available for download from the [FLUXX Grantee Portal](#) upon registration. For Budget, Scope of Work, and Timeline & Deliverables, the Fluxx portal will accept standard office document formats such as .doc, .docx (Word), .xls, .xlsx (Excel), .ppt, .pptx (PowerPoint), and .pdf.

Q4. Would you be able to provide a brief outline of the application?

The application calls for a Scope of Work, Timeline, and Budget. Templates are available for download from the [FLUXX Grantee Portal](#) upon registration. The application portal includes questions regarding Applicant Information, a short Project Summary, Grant information, and Partner/Collaborator Information, and also has space for optional additional documents such as resumes and letters of support. Lastly, applicants will be required to review and acknowledge our [policies](#).

Q5. May a PI be part of two proposal submissions? Can they be the lead PI for one submission and a co-PI (but not the lead) for another submission?

Yes, PIs may apply in multiple proposal submissions, and proposals can include multiple PIs. Please designate a lead PI on your application, and list collaborators as Partners in your application. You can add as many Partners as needed for your research team.

Q6. What is the funding range you're looking to sponsor?

Funding not exceeding \$600k will be considered for Biosecurity and Cybersecurity proposals, and funding not exceeding \$500k will be considered for AI Agent Evaluations and Synthetic Content proposals. Please refer to the [Biosecurity](#), [Cybersecurity](#), and [AI Agent Evaluations and Synthetic Content](#) RFPs for funding ranges and more information.

Q7. Is there a list of previously funded projects?

Please refer to our [website announcements](#) for previously funded projects.

Q8. What are your requirements such as frequency of reports?

All grantees will be required to submit a mid-term narrative and financial report, a final narrative and financial report, and a final presentation of the findings. Reporting templates will be provided to grantees.

Q9. Can I request a meeting with the AISF to discuss my research topic to see if it aligns with what you want to fund?

Due to the competitive nature of the call for proposals, the AISF is not fulfilling individual requests to discuss and provide feedback on research proposals outside of the application process. The AISF looks forward to receiving proposals that address safe deployment of AI across Biosecurity, Cybersecurity, AI Agent and Synthetic Content contexts. We look forward to reviewing research proposals that support the advancement of AI safety under these topics.

Q10. Is there a limit to the length of the proposal? Are there any format preferences or restrictions?

Please refer to Q3 and the templates for applicant Scope of Work, Budget, and Timeline provided in the Fluxx portal, including specifications for length. Please note that registering in the Fluxx system is easy and a necessary step to access the templates.

Q11. What level of technical details are required to be included in the submission? Is there a space in the application for applicants to include problem statements, research questions, and approach/methodology?

Applicants should submit a Description of the Project (ideally 300 words, with a maximum word count of 1000 words) in their Scope of Work. This should include a brief description of the approach of the project and methodology. As noted in Q10, please see the Scope of Work template in the Fluxx application portal for more information.

Q12. Can startups apply for grants?

Yes, the AISF funds academic labs, non-profits, independent researchers, and for-profit mission-driven entities, which may include startups. Please refer to the RFPs found on our [Funding Opportunities page](#) for grantmaking information and eligibility.

Q13. For international applicants, is there a requirement for US 501(c)(3) before submitting an application?

There is not a requirement. The AISF can grant to international organizations that are not US 501(c)(3). Proposals from international applicants advancing in the selection process will have to provide key documentation for the organization including but not limited to organization/business legal name or individual name, conflict of interest disclosure, organization/business age, legal documentation, owner/managing director information, and other relevant information.

Q14. Are the terms of the award in the agreement template negotiable?

If an organization needs to negotiate the terms of the agreement, please attach a letter to the application noting the organization is not able to accept the terms and conditions as they are currently written in the agreement. And if known, also note the specific terms or conditions that are a concern.

Q15. Can a postdoctoral student be listed as a co-PI on a proposal?

Yes.

Q16. I see that award notifications are anticipated in April 2025. When would the grant period begin?

After notifying awardees in late April, the grant period will begin as soon as the contracts are executed, which could be as early as May.

Q17. What time/timezone will the application portal close?

The Fluxx portal application will close at midnight Pacific Time on January 31.

Q18. What is the maximum cap for indirect costs for the AI Agent Evaluations and Synthetic Content RFP?

The maximum cap is 20%. For more information, please see the Indirect Costs Policy on our [AISF policies page](#). (Note that the policy had previously erroneously stated 15% as the maximum cap; this has been corrected).

Q19. Can a postdoctoral researcher be included as a collaborator in the portal?

Yes.

Q20. We are currently in the middle of establishing a joint organization. Does the organization need to be registered at the moment of submission to be considered? Or would it be possible to register it during the evaluation process/once the funds have been confirmed?

No, your organization does not need to be registered at the moment of submission to be considered. However, your organization must be established by the time we do the due diligence review and award of funds.