NSF Project Summary

**Overview:** **The Overview includes a description of the activity that would result if the proposal were funded and a statement of objectives and methods to be employed.**

Questions to consider as you develop this section in your concept paper/project summary/narrative:

* *What is the gap in knowledge or need that is driving your research proposal?*
* *What is your overall objective or central hypothesis?*
* *What is your rationale-why do you want to do the research?*
* *How are you and your research team qualified and well prepared to undertake this research?*
* *What are the specific aims of the project, including main methods/approaches for each, as well as how evaluation will be used?*
* *How is what you are proposing creative and original?*

**Intellectual Merit:  The Intellectual Merit criterion encompasses the potential to advance knowledge.**

Questions to consider as you develop section this in your concept paper/project summary/narrative:

* *What is the potential for the proposed activity to advance knowledge and understanding within its own field or across different fields?*

**Broader Impacts: The Broader Impacts criterion encompasses the potential to benefit society and contribute to the achievement of specific, desired societal outcomes.**

Questions to consider as you develop this section in your concept paper/project summary/narrative:

* *What is the potential for the proposed activity to benefit society or advance desired societal outcome(s)?*
* *Can you describe how the proposed impacts will result in advancement? If you can quantify your expected outcomes, try doing so. (For example, “10 undergraduate students will continue forward into STEM career paths”)*
* *Will the impact of your project be amplified through the proposed dissemination plan?*
* *How will attainment of the desired societal outcome(s) benefit society?*