



**STScI** | SPACE TELESCOPE  
SCIENCE INSTITUTE

EXPANDING THE FRONTIERS OF SPACE ASTRONOMY

# Grants Status Update

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on behalf of the STScI Science Policies Group and GRA

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## Overview

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- Director's Discretionary Time Budget Allocation
- What to Expect in Cycle 2
  - Cycle 2 Grants Timeline
  - Cycle 2 Anticipated Funding Level
- What the FRC will be looking for
  - Travel funding request guidance
- Grants & Budgets Resources



## Director's Discretionary Time Budget Allocation

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- HST DD proposals were bundled and discussed during the midcycle financial review committees (FRCs)
- JWST does not have midcycle FRCs, so DDT funding initially was scheduled to be discussed during the Cycle 2 FRC
- Limited funding available for Cycle 1 DD programs (~\$800k), and typically 12-18 DDs accepted per cycle (based on HST)
- STScI has preliminarily rolled out a pre-approved allocation of **\$50k** per DD program, contingent on:
  - Compliance checks by Grants
  - Science scope check by JWST SPG
- Programs >\$50k will be reviewed by the JWST FRC and funding recommendation submitted to the STScI DO
- Faster turnaround of funding, smaller workload for the science community
- Drawback: Does not allow for complex budgets



## What to expect for Cycle 2 Grants

| Date                       |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| May 10, 2023               | Release of Science Program                                   |
| May 15-19, 2023            | Budget Notification Letters Distributed                      |
| Late-May – early June      | JWST Cycle 2 Grants Webinar                                  |
| June 29, 2023              | JWST Cycle 2 Budget Deadline                                 |
| Mid-August – end September | JWST Cycle 2 Financial Review Committee (pending scheduling) |

- The Cycle 2 grants review will go through the Financial Review Committee (FRC)
- NASA anticipates allocating **\$60M** for JWST grants in Cycle 2 and keeping at that level in future cycles.



## A reminder: what the FRC will be looking for

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- Science and budgets are reviewed in detail. All costs must be required and justified, with links of the work back to the science objectives to be achieved
- Unusual or high costs are especially scrutinized (and thus must be especially justified)
- All co-Is (including unfunded and foreign) must have their contributions described
- Any duplication of effort must be clearly described and well justified
- Funding for ground-based observations will not be funded unless they were discussed in the science proposal
- Computers and publication requests must be commensurate with the level of the project. Unusually high costs for requests must be well justified
- Travel requests should be critical to the project. **Travel costs amounting to more than 10% of the total budget often face extra scrutiny.**
- (A more comprehensive list of these bullets is available in the Cycle 2 Call for Proposals)

<https://jwst-docs.stsci.edu/jwst-opportunities-and-policies/jwst-call-for-proposals-for-cycle-2/jwst-grant-funding-and-budget-submissions>



## Grants and budgets resources

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- The call for proposals  
<https://jwst-docs.stsci.edu/jwst-opportunities-and-policies/jwst-call-for-proposals-for-cycle-2/jwst-grant-funding-and-budget-submissions>
- The budget proposer guide  
<https://www.stsci.edu/scientific-community/grants-administration/stsci-budget-proposer-guide>
- STScI General Grant Provisions  
<https://www.stsci.edu/scientific-community/grants-administration>
- Grants will run an informational webinar ~1-2 weeks after the budget notifications. We request feedback from the J-STUC on what topics they would like to make sure are covered.



Questions? Comments?

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