

NSF ETAP Availability and Due Date Changes - Investigator FAQ

What do I need to know at a glance?

- NSF ETAP will have planned system downtime on multiple dates between February 6 and March 1.
- The ETAP Help Desk is closed on weekends and Federal holidays.
- To reduce applicant risk and ensure access to technical support, ETAP automatically adjusted certain application due dates that fell on weekends, Federal holidays, or planned outage dates.
- This was a one-time, system-wide update.
- Investigators retain full control over Opportunity due dates.

When did the application due date changes occur?

All applicable due dates were automatically updated on Wednesday, February 4, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. ET.

This was a one-time, system-wide update applied uniformly to all Opportunities with due dates on weekends, Federal holidays, or planned outage dates to improve customer service and system reliability.

Why were the application due dates changed?

This one-time update adjusts application due dates to align with periods when:

- ETAP system availability will not be affected by NSF critical network component upgrades, and
- The ETAP Help Desk will be available to provide support.
- The Help Desk operates **Monday-Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. ET**, excluding Federal holidays.

ETAP is communicating with applicants to make them aware of these changes.

Which application due dates were changed?

Original Due Date	Updated Due Date	Reason for Change
Fri 2/6	Mon 2/9	NSF Systems Unavailable (Scheduled Outage)
Sat 2/7	Tue 2/10	NSF Systems Unavailable (Scheduled Outage)
Sun 2/8	Wed 2/11	Help Desk Unavailable
Fri 2/13	Tue 2/17	NSF Systems Possibly Unavailable (Contingency)
Sat 2/14	Wed 2/18	NSF Systems Possibly Unavailable (Contingency)



Original Due Date	Updated Due Date	Reason for Change
Sun 2/15	Thu 2/19	Help Desk Unavailable
Mon 2/16	Fri 2/20	Help Desk Unavailable
Sat 2/21	Mon 2/23	NSF Systems Unavailable (Scheduled Outage)
Sun 2/22	Tue 2/24	NSF Systems Unavailable (Scheduled Outage)
Sat 2/28	Mon 3/2	NSF Systems Possibly Unavailable (Contingency)
Sun 3/1	Tue 3/3	NSF Systems Possibly Unavailable (Contingency)

Can I change application due dates after the system update?

Yes.

Investigators retain control over application due dates.

If you want to change an application due date for your Opportunity, please make the change in ETAP. Applicants have been advised to rely on the due date in ETAP.

We strongly encourage you to avoid selecting weekend or Federal holiday deadlines, or dates shown in the table above, to ensure applicants have access to Help Desk support and to reduce the risk of technical issues during submission.

What if the system change conflicts with my award requirements?

Investigators are responsible for ensuring that due dates in ETAP comply with award requirements.

If you have any questions or concerns about award requirements, please contact your Program Officer.

Do investigators need to notify applicants directly?

No.

Applicants will see the revised due date displayed in ETAP and will receive notifications through official system communications.

What should I do if applicants are unable to submit applications because ETAP is down?

We suggest that you extend the due date in ETAP, or provide alternate submission instructions.

What if I already advertised the original due date elsewhere?

The official due date is the date displayed in ETAP.

You may wish to update external materials to reflect the revised due date or note that the due date was extended.



Will this happen again for future Opportunities?

This was a one-time update limited to Opportunities with due dates between Feb 6 and Mar 2.

If similar changes are made in the future, programs and ETAP users will be notified.

Who should I contact with questions?

Questions about ETAP system issues or availability:

ETAP Help Desk

etaphelp@nsf.gov

1-800-673-6188

The ETAP Help Desk is available Monday–Friday, 7:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m. ET, excluding Federal holidays.

Questions about award requirements or compliance:

Your NSF Program Officer

