

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
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ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22230



DIVISION OF POLAR PROGRAMS
GEOSCIENCES DIRECTORATE

August 19, 2013

Dear USAP Participant:

The United States Antarctic Program (USAP) within the National Science Foundation (NSF) has been in the process of reviewing and updating medical and dental requirements for deployment to Antarctica for several months. This is a significant effort and will be underway for some time to come but the first of several anticipated changes has just been implemented. We are happy to notify all USAP participants of this change:

- Effective immediately, the requirement to repeat the panoramic (Panorex™) or full mouth series dental x-ray at five-year intervals for deployment to Antarctica is eliminated.
- This change applies to all USAP participants (NSF staff, grantees, contractors, and visitors) required to physically qualify for deployment to Antarctica.
- The requirement for a panoramic or full mouth series dental x-ray prior to first deployment, as well as the requirement for annual posterior bite-wing x-rays, remain unchanged.

Please disseminate this information to all members of your team. The formal policy change can be found on the USAP medical web site. See:

<http://www.usap.gov/travelAndDeployment/contentHandler.cfm?id=1399>

As additional changes to PQ requirements are made we will post notifications on that URL.

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