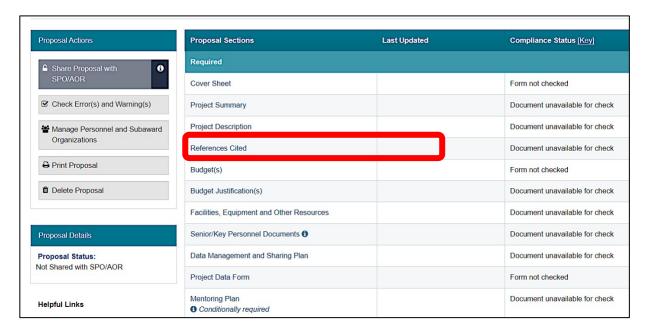# Preparing Forms for Your ATE Proposal: References Cited

This instruction sheet is derived directly from the Preparing Forms for Your NSF ATE Proposal webinar, presented on April 2, 2025. The full webinar is available for viewing at: https://tinyurl.com/MCFormsWebinar
A comprehensive version of the Quick Reference Guide can be accessed at:
https://tinyurl.com/MCFormsGuide

References Cited

Reference citations must be compiled and uploaded as a separate References Cited document. Do not use automated endnotes because the references would then be included in your 15-page Project Description. Your references will inform reviewers of the sources of data and information that you used to build the rationale for your project. References also demonstrate that you have done the research that enabled you to draw from or build upon relevant work. There is no magic number for citations, but if you have fewer than 5 the reviewers are likely to assume that you haven't completed your homework. Curate your sources to strengthen your credibility. For example, cite current labor market data from a government agency, or cite a study published in a peer-reviewed academic journal, rather than a newspaper editorial or a Wikipedia page.

NSF encourages both adaptation and adoption of strategies and work undertaken in other funded projects. Cite references to sources of data and/or work that led you to select a particular strategy, curriculum, teaching methodology or other promising or proven approaches. New AI tools such as NotebookLM can help to synthesize data from multiple studies as well as other sources, such as recorded lectures and presentations. Citation management tools like Zotero, Mendeley, or EndNote can help you manage and format your references.

Note that reference citations are also where you provide the sources of data that support your results of prior support and your motivating rationale. Labor market data from a government agency could, for example, support your rationale for developing new courses that address specific workforce needs.

Follow standard accepted scholarly practices (e.g., APA, MLA) for listing references. Be consistent in using the style you choose. Avoid the use of et. al. except for large consortia papers. In the Project Description *manually* number your references. Then prepare the separate References Cited document with citations that correspond to those numbers.