

Security Key is available as a security method for all users signing into Research.gov. A security key is a physical device that you can connect to your computer to add an extra layer of protection to your NSF account.

NSF does not provide users with a security key, so you will need to obtain one on your own to use this secure option. NSF supports these FIDO2 compliant devices:

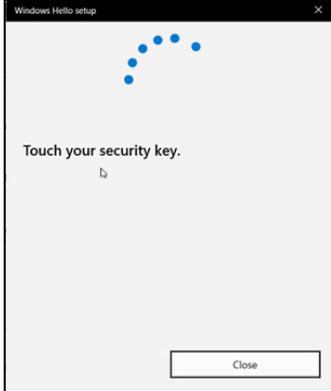
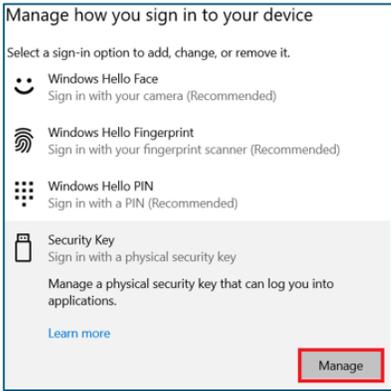
- YubiKey 5 Series
- YubiKey 5 FIPS Series

- [Security Key: Before You Begin](#)
- [Security Key: Verify & Set up](#)
- [Security Key: Signing In](#)

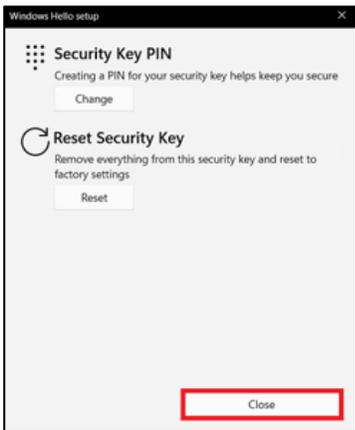
Security Key: Before You Begin

Note: A YubiKey was used for the set-up steps below. Different security keys may have different set-up instructions.

1. From your Windows system, navigate to **Accounts > Sign-In options**.
2. Select **Security Key** and click **Manage**.
3. Insert the security key into a USB port on your computer.
4. Follow on-screen instructions.

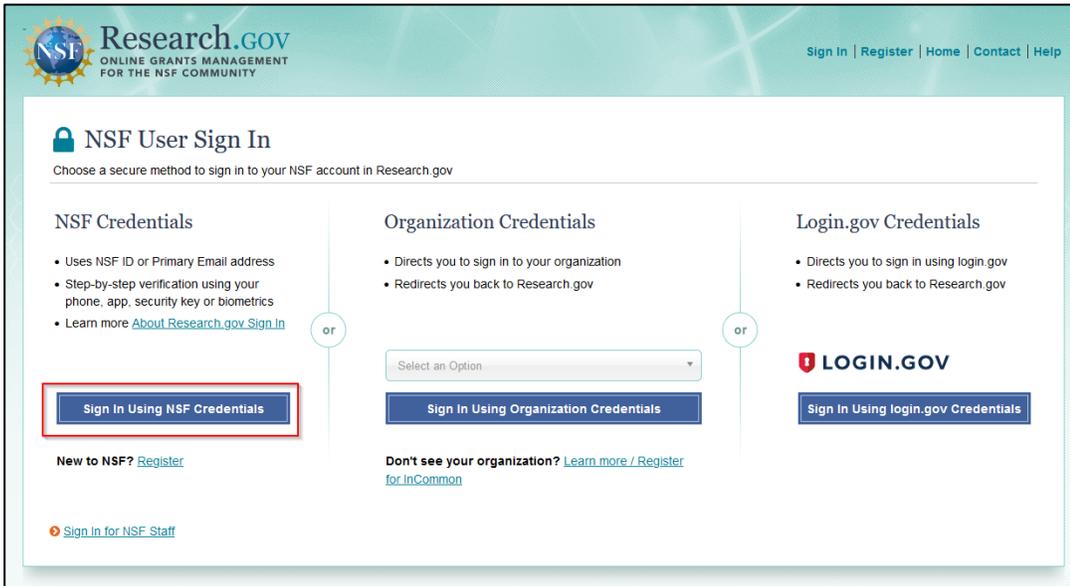


5. Click **Add**
6. Enter a PIN. Confirm the PIN and click **OK**.
7. Click **Close**

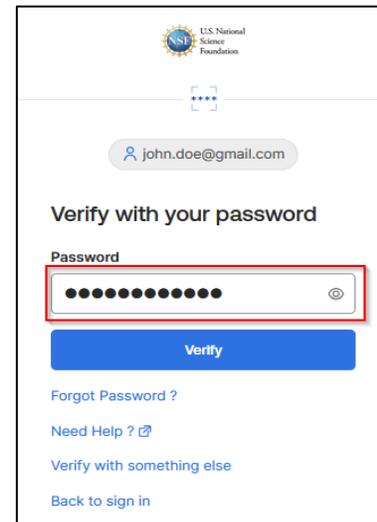
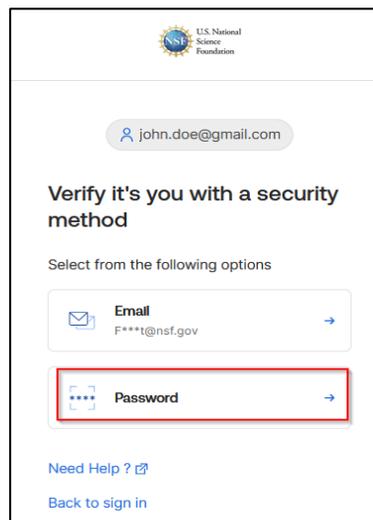
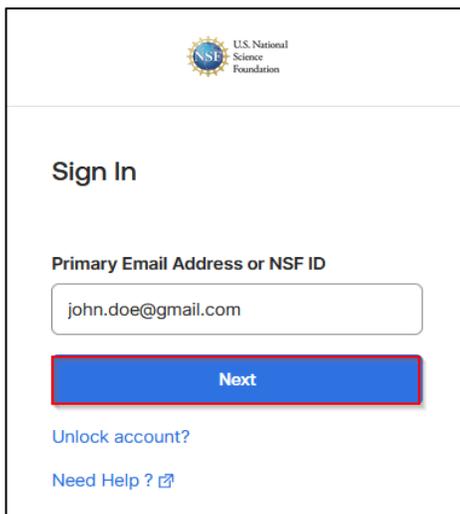


Security Key: Verify & Set up

1. Open [Research.gov](https://www.research.gov)
2. Click **Sign In** located at the top of the screen to enter NSF account credentials
3. Click **Sign In Using NSF Credentials**.

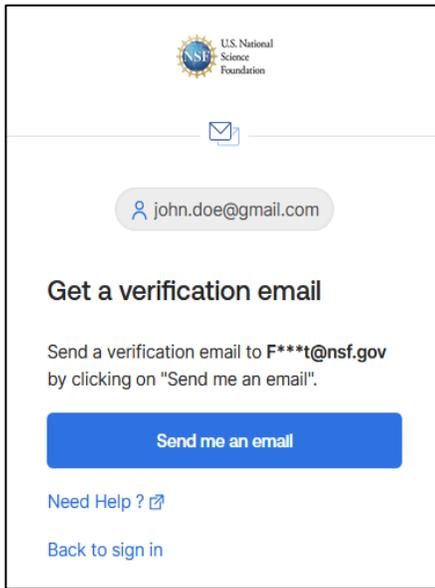


4. Enter your **Primary Email Address or NSF ID** and click **Next**
5. Enter your password then click **Verify**



If you are setting up a security method for the first time on your account, you will be prompted to verify your account via email. Your email address is another form of verification used to ensure you are the account owner.

6. Click **Send me an email**.
7. Once you click on **Send me an email**, you will receive a **one-time verification code** email from nsfextloginnoreply@nsf.gov to your Primary Email address you used when you registered for Research.gov.
Note: If you prefer to use a code instead, you can click **Enter a verification code instead**. Enter the 6-digit code at the bottom of the Account password reset email then click **Verify**.



U.S. National Science Foundation

john.doe@gmail.com

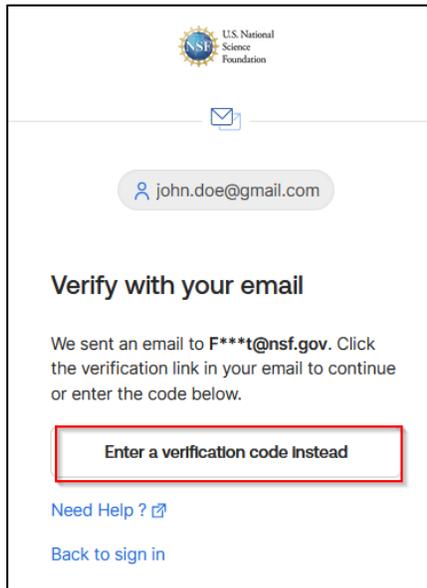
Get a verification email

Send a verification email to **F****@nsf.gov** by clicking on "Send me an email".

[Send me an email](#)

[Need Help ?](#)

[Back to sign in](#)



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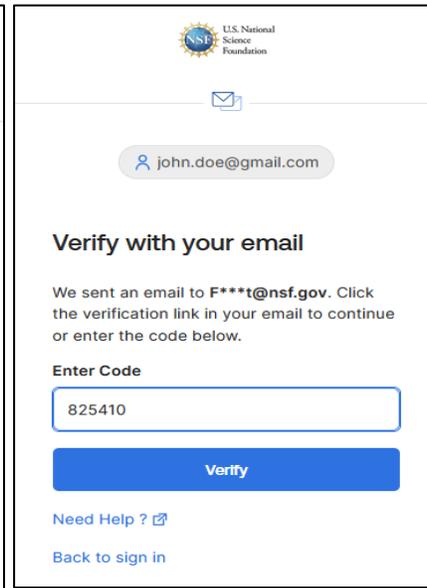
Verify with your email

We sent an email to **F****@nsf.gov**. Click the verification link in your email to continue or enter the code below.

[Enter a verification code instead](#)

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Verify with your email

We sent an email to **F****@nsf.gov**. Click the verification link in your email to continue or enter the code below.

Enter Code

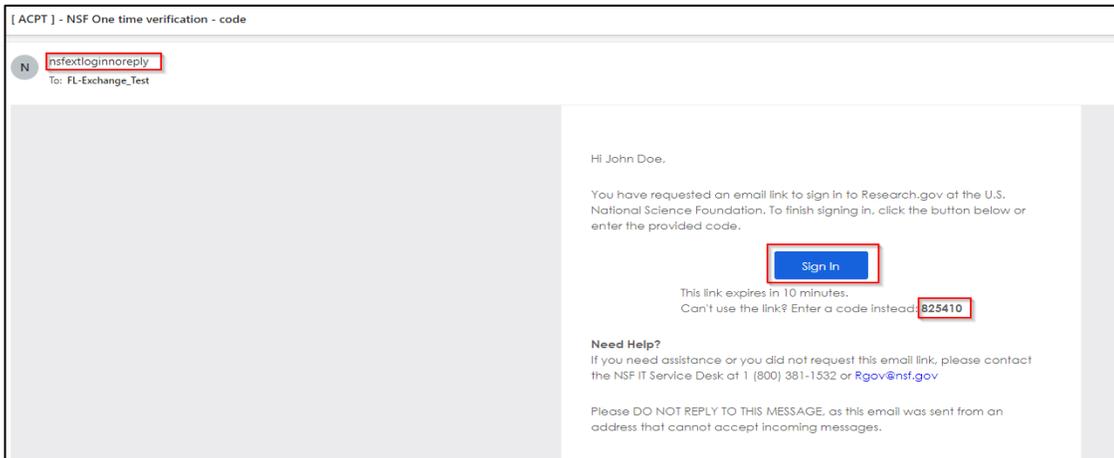
825410

[Verify](#)

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- Click **Sign In** from the email. After you click on **Sign In**, you will be required to set up an additional security method. (Your security methods displayed will depend on your role(s))



[ACPT] - NSF One time verification - code

nsfextloginnoreply
To: FL-Exchange_Test

Hi John Doe,

You have requested an email link to sign in to Research.gov at the U.S. National Science Foundation. To finish signing in, click the button below or enter the provided code.

[Sign In](#)

This link expires in 10 minutes.
Can't use the link? Enter a code instead: **825410**

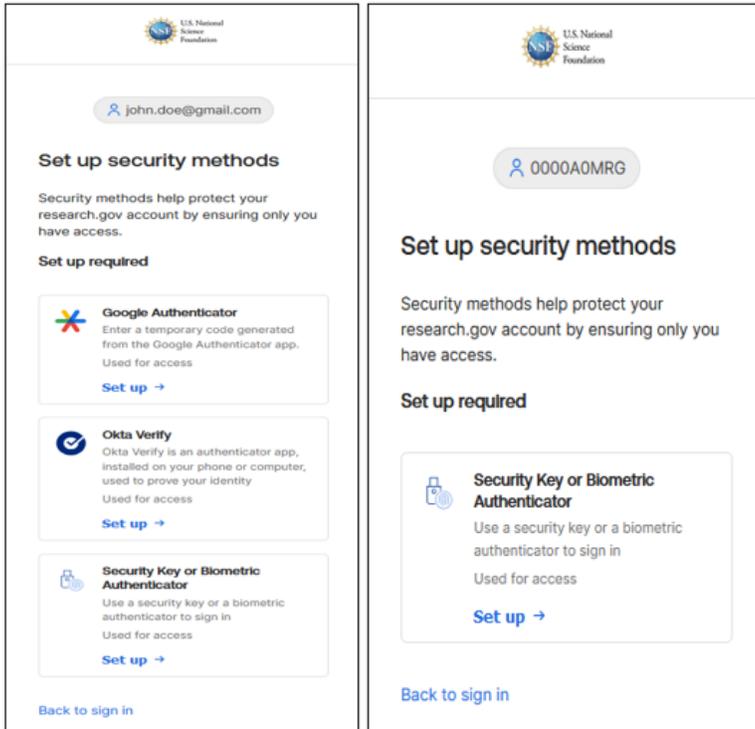
Need Help?
If you need assistance or you did not request this email link, please contact the NSF IT Service Desk at 1 (800) 381-1532 or Rgov@nsf.gov

Please DO NOT REPLY TO THIS MESSAGE, as this email was sent from an address that cannot accept incoming messages.

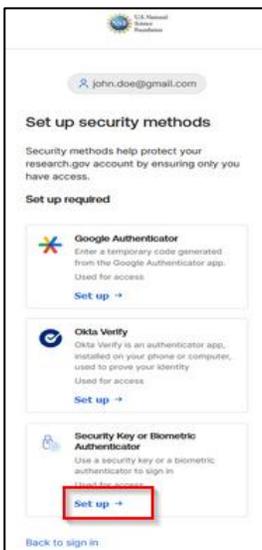
9. The Set-up security methods menu appears

Regular Users

Admin or Financial Users



10. From the browser, click **Set up** under **Security Key or Biometric Authenticator** from the **Set up security methods** screen.

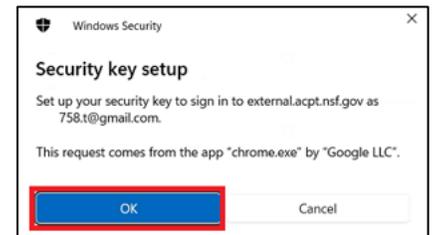
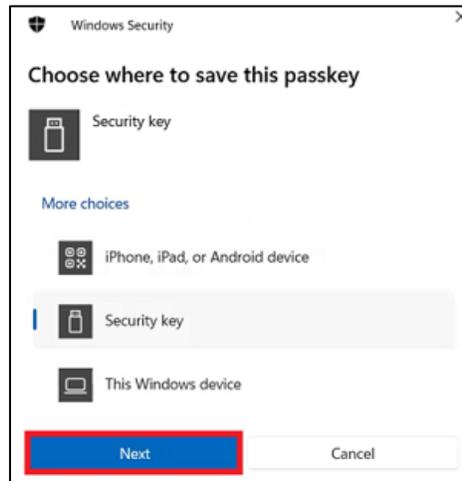
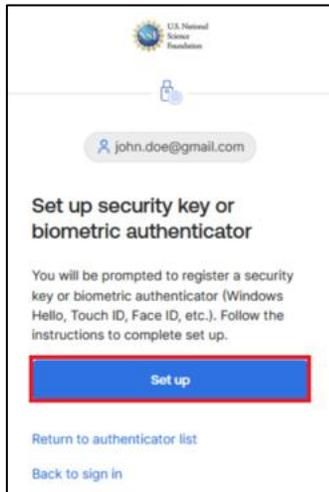


11. Click **Set up**.

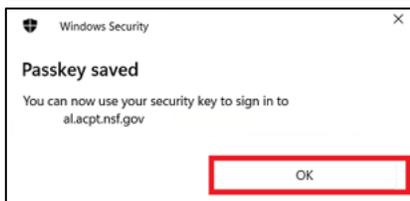
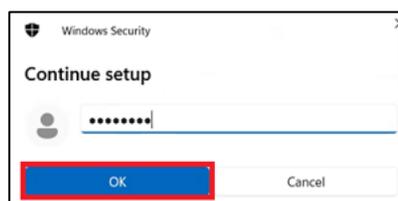
Note: If you do not own an external security key, (i.e. YubiKey) you will not be able to enroll with this option.

12. Select **Security Key** and click **Next**.

13. Click **OK** on the Security key setup window.
14. Click **OK** on the Continue setup window.



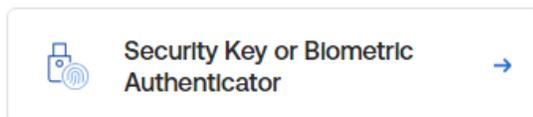
15. You may be prompted to touch the sensor on your security key.
16. Enter your PIN and click **OK** on the Continue set up window.
17. Follow the prompt below.
18. Click **OK** on the Passkey saved window.



Security Key: Signing In

Note: If you've misplaced your security key, you will not be able to authenticate using this option. Before authenticating with a security key, you will be required to enter in your NSF account's Primary Email address and password.

1. Select the **Security Key or Biometric Authenticator** to use the security key option.



2. Select **Security Key** and click **Next**.

