

Second, the institution must evaluate a student's pace using two separate measures:

(1) The student's progress for the payment period immediately prior to the evaluation, calculated using the number of credit hours or equivalents completed over the number of credit hours or equivalents included in the student's enrollment status for that payment period; and

(2) The student's cumulative rate of progress, calculated by dividing the aggregate number of credit hours or equivalents completed as of the end of the payment period by the total number of credit hours or equivalents expected to be completed as of the end of that payment period in order for the student to complete the program within the maximum timeframe. The maximum timeframe is based on the published length of the program, expressed in calendar time (*i.e.*, weeks, months, years).

To make satisfactory academic progress under the payment period measure, a student must complete the minimum number of credit hours or equivalents associated with the enrollment status that was assigned to the student for the payment period under review. For example, if an institution's definition of a "full-time academic workload" in a competency-based education program is 12 semester hours and a student enrolled in that program is assigned a full-time enrollment status in a payment period, the student would need to complete competencies with an equivalent of at least 12 semester hours in that payment period to make satisfactory academic progress. Similarly, if a student in the same program is assigned a half-time enrollment status in a payment period, the student would need to complete at least 6 semester hours in that payment period in order to make satisfactory academic progress.

For its evaluation of a student's cumulative rate of progress, the institution could use different standards for students on different enrollment tracks—for example, there could be a different maximum timeframe for a student on a half-time enrollment track, for whom the normal time for completion of the program is longer than for a student on a full-time enrollment track.

If a student fails either of the two satisfactory academic progress evaluations, the student will have failed to make satisfactory academic progress and will, based on the institution's satisfactory academic progress policies, either be assigned to a financial aid warning period or immediately lose

eligibility for title IV funds. Institutions will have the same flexibility to establish options for appeals, probation periods, and academic plans as they do under the current regulations.

Return of title IV Funds (R2T4): Under the Subscription Period Disbursement set of waivers, R2T4 calculations will be required, and will follow the normal requirements under 34 CFR 668.22 when a student withdraws.

Waivers

For all of the competency-based education programs that it offers under the experiment, the institution must select one of the following sets of waivers.

(1) Split Disbursement:

- This set of waivers was described in the July 31, 2014, notice and explained in the Competency-Based Education Experiment Reference Guide.

(2) Satisfactory Academic Progress Only:

- This set of waivers includes only the waivers to the satisfactory academic progress requirements described in the July 31, 2014, notice and explained in the Competency-Based Education Experiment Reference Guide.

(3) Subscription Period Disbursement:

- 34 CFR 668.4(a), to the extent that the regulation requires the coursework undertaken within a standard term or a nonstandard term to begin within the term start and end dates.

- 34 CFR 668.4(b), to the extent that the regulation requires the coursework undertaken within a nonstandard term to begin within the term start and end dates.

- HEA section 484(c) and 34 CFR 668.34(a)(3)(ii), (a)(5)(ii), and (b), related to the timeframe when the institution must determine whether a student is making satisfactory academic progress and the method by which an institution must calculate the pace of a student's academic progression.

- 34 CFR 685.303(d)(5), to the extent that the regulations provide that Direct Loan proceeds must be disbursed in substantially equal installments. The modification will require the institution to make disbursements of Direct Loan funds in accordance with the provisions of the Pell Grant program under the same rules used in the calculation of disbursement amounts in the Pell Grant program under 34 CFR 690.63.

- 34 CFR 690.80(b)(2)(i), which permits an institution to recalculate a student's enrollment status during a payment period after the student has begun all of the coursework for the payment period.

All other provisions and regulations of the title IV student assistance programs will remain in effect.

Accessible Format: Individuals with disabilities can obtain this document in an accessible format (*e.g.* braille, large print, audiotape, or compact disc) on request to the contact person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

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You may also access documents of the Department published in the **Federal Register** by using the article search feature at: www.federalregister.gov. Specifically, through the advanced search feature at this site, you can limit your search to documents published by the Department.

Delegation of Authority: The Secretary of Education has delegated authority to Jamiene S. Studley, Deputy Under Secretary, to perform the functions and duties of the Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education.

Program Authority: HEA, section 487A(b); 20 U.S.C. 1094a(b).

Dated: November 13, 2015.

Jamiene S. Studley,

Deputy Under Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2015–29437 Filed 11–17–15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Nuclear Energy Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Office of Nuclear Energy, Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a meeting of the Nuclear Energy Advisory Committee (NEAC). The Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 94–463, 86 Stat. 770) requires that public notice of these meetings be announced in the **Federal Register**.

DATES: Friday, December 11, 2015, 8:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: Westin Crystal City, 1800 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA 22202.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bob Rova, Designated Federal Officer, U.S. Department of Energy, 19901 Germantown Rd., Germantown, MD 20874; telephone (301) 903-9096; email: Robert.rova@nuclear.energy.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background: The Nuclear Energy Advisory Committee (NEAC), formerly the Nuclear Energy Research Advisory Committee (NERAC), was established in 1998 by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to provide advice on complex scientific, technical, and policy issues that arise in the planning, managing, and implementation of DOE's civilian nuclear energy research programs. The committee is composed of 17 individuals of diverse backgrounds selected for their technical expertise and experience, established records of distinguished professional service, and their knowledge of issues that pertain to nuclear energy.

Purpose of the Meeting: To inform the committee of recent developments and current status of research programs and projects pursued by the Department of Energy's Office of Nuclear Energy and receive advice and comments in return from the committee.

Tentative Agenda: The meeting is expected to include presentations that cover such topics as an update on activities for the Office of Nuclear Energy. In addition, there will be presentations by Nuclear Energy Advisory Committee subcommittees. The agenda may change to accommodate committee business. For updates, one is directed the NEAC Web site: <http://energy.gov/ne/services/nuclear-energy-advisory-committee>.

Public Participation: Individuals and representatives of organizations who would like to offer comments and suggestions may do so on the day of the meeting, Friday, December 11, 2015. Approximately thirty minutes will be reserved for public comments. Time allotted per speaker will depend on the number who wish to speak but is not expected to exceed 5 minutes. Anyone who is not able to make the meeting or has had insufficient time to address the committee is invited to send a written statement to Bob Rova, U.S. Department of Energy 1000 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20585, or email: robert.rova@nuclear.energy.gov.

Minutes: The minutes of the meeting will be available by contacting Mr. Rova at the address above or on the Department of Energy, Office of Nuclear Energy Web site at <http://energy.gov/ne/services/nuclear-energy-advisory-committee>.

Issued in Washington, DC, on November 12, 2015.

LaTanya R. Butler,

Deputy Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 2015-29434 Filed 11-17-15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Advanced Scientific Computing Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Office of Science, Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a meeting of the Advanced Scientific Computing Advisory Committee (ASCAC). The Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, 86 Stat. 770) requires that public notice of these meetings be announced in the **Federal Register**.

DATES:

Wednesday, December 9, 2015 8:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m.;

Thursday, December 10, 2015 8:30 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: American Geophysical Union (AGU), 2000 Florida Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20009-1277.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Christine Chalk, Office of Advanced Scientific Computing Research; SC-21/ Germantown Building; U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20585-1290; Telephone (301) 903-7486.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose of the Committee: To provide advice and guidance on a continuing basis to the Office of Scientific Computing Research and to the Department of Energy on scientific priorities within the field of advanced scientific computing research.

Purpose of the Meeting: This meeting is the semi-annual meeting of the Committee.

Tentative Agenda Topics:

- View from Germantown
- Report from the Next Generation Networking for Science Committee of Visitors
- Information on the National Strategic Computing Initiative
- Update on Exascale project activities
- Summary of workshops on technologies “beyond exascale”
- Program response to report from Subcommittee on the Office of Scientific and Technical Information (OSTI)
- Technical presentations
- Public Comment (10-minute rule)

The meeting agenda includes a report from the Committee of Visitors on the

Next Generation Networking for Science program; an update on the budget, accomplishments and planned activities of the Advanced Scientific Computing Research program; a program response to the report from the Subcommittee on the Office of Scientific and Technical Information; an update on exascale computing project activities; information on recent workshops exploring potential technologies “beyond exascale”—such as quantum computing and neomorphic computing; a technical presentation from an exascale researcher in Computer Science; and an opportunity for comments from the public. The meeting will conclude at noon on December 10, 2015. Agenda updates and presentations will be posted on the ASCAC Web site prior to the meeting: <http://science.energy.gov/ascr/ascac/>.

Public Participation: The meeting is open to the public. Individuals and representatives of organizations who would like to offer comments and suggestions may do so during the meeting. Approximately 30 minutes will be reserved for public comments. Time allotted per speaker will depend on the number who wish to speak but will not exceed 10 minutes. The Designated Federal Officer is empowered to conduct the meeting in a fashion that will facilitate the orderly conduct of business.

Those wishing to speak should submit your request at least five days before the meeting. Those not able to attend the meeting or who have insufficient time to address the committee are invited to send a written statement to Christine Chalk, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue SW., Washington DC 20585, email to Christine.Chalk@science.doe.gov.

Minutes: The minutes of this meeting will be available within 90 days on the Office of Advanced Scientific Computing Web site at <http://science.energy.gov/ascr/ascac/>.

Issued at Washington, DC, on November 12, 2015.

LaTanya R. Butler,

Deputy Committee Management Officer.

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