

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Elizabeth Voyatzis, Committee Management Officer, 400 7th Street SW, 4th Floor, Washington, DC 20506; (202) 606-8322; [evoyatzis@neh.gov](mailto:evoyatzis@neh.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The National Council on the Humanities is meeting pursuant to the National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 951-960, as amended). The Committee meetings of the National Council on the Humanities will be held on March 8, 2018, as follows: the policy discussion session (open to the public) will convene at 10:30 a.m. until approximately 11:00 a.m., followed by the discussion of specific grant applications and programs before the Council (closed to the public) from 11:00 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.

All Committee meetings will take place at Constitution Center. For specific room numbers, contact Caitlin Cater at (202) 606-8322 or [gencounsel@neh.gov](mailto:gencounsel@neh.gov).

The plenary session of the National Council on the Humanities will convene on March 9, 2018, at 9:00 a.m. in the Conference Center at Constitution Center. The agenda for the morning session (open to the public) will be as follows:

- A. Minutes of the Previous Meeting
- B. Reports
  1. Chairman's Remarks
  2. Senior Deputy Chairman's Remarks
  3. Assistant Chairman for Programs' Remarks
  4. Presentation by Guest Speaker (TBD)
  5. Congressional Affairs Report
  6. Reports on Policy and General Matters
    - a. Digital Humanities
    - b. Education Programs
    - c. Challenge Grants
    - d. Federal/State Partnership
    - e. Preservation and Access
    - f. Public Programs
    - g. Research Programs

The remainder of the plenary session will be for consideration of specific applications and therefore will be closed to the public.

As identified above, portions of the meeting of the National Council on the Humanities will be closed to the public pursuant to sections 552b(c)(4), 552b(c)(6), and 552b(c)(9)(B) of Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The closed sessions will include review of personal and/or proprietary financial and commercial information given in confidence to the agency by grant applicants, and discussion of certain information, the premature disclosure of which could significantly frustrate implementation of proposed agency action. I have made

this determination pursuant to the authority granted me by the Chairman's Delegation of Authority to Close Advisory Committee Meetings dated April 15, 2016.

Please note that individuals planning to attend the public sessions of the meeting are subject to security screening procedures. If you wish to attend any of the public sessions, please inform NEH as soon as possible by contacting Caitlin Cater at (202) 606-8322 or [gencounsel@neh.gov](mailto:gencounsel@neh.gov). Please also provide advance notice of any special needs or accommodations, including for a sign language interpreter.

Dated: February 12, 2018.

**Elizabeth Voyatzis**,  
Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 2018-03173 Filed 2-14-18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7537-01-P**

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## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

### Agency Information Collection Activities: Comment Request

**AGENCY:** National Science Foundation.

**ACTION:** Submission for OMB review; comment request.

**SUMMARY:** The National Science Foundation (NSF) has submitted the following information collection requirement to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. This is the second notice for public comment; the first was published in the **Federal Register** on December 12, 2017, and no comments were received. NSF is forwarding the proposed renewal submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance simultaneously with the publication of this second notice. The full submission may be found at: <http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain>.

**Comments:** Comments are invited on (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the NSF, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the NSF's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological

collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Comments should be addressed to: Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs of OMB, Attention: Desk Officer for National Science Foundation, 725 7th Street NW, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503, and to Suzanne H. Plimpton, Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation, 2415 Eisenhower Avenue, Room W18000, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, or send email to [splimpto@nsf.gov](mailto:splimpto@nsf.gov). Copies of the submission may be obtained by calling Ms. Plimpton at (703) 292-7556. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339, which is accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year (including federal holidays).

NSF may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Title:** Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSI) Certification Form.

**OMB Control Number:** 3145-NEW.

**Abstract:** To enhance the quality of undergraduate STEM education at Hispanic-serving institutions (HSIs), the National Science Foundation (NSF) established the Improving Undergraduate STEM Education: Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSI Program), in response to the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017 (Pub. L. 115-31) and the American Innovation and Competitiveness Act (Pub. L. 114-329). The lead institution submitting a proposal to the HSI Program must be an HSI as defined by law in section 502 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1101a) ([http://legcounsel.house.gov/Comps/HEA65\\_CMD.pdf](http://legcounsel.house.gov/Comps/HEA65_CMD.pdf)). Hence there is a need for institutions to self-certify via an HSI Certification Form (NSF Form Number 1715).

**Expected respondents:** Hispanic-Serving Institutions.

**Estimate of burden:** We anticipate 175 proposals for 2 minutes which is approximately 6 hours.

Dated: February 12, 2018.

**Suzanne H. Plimpton,**

*Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation.*

[FR Doc. 2018-03125 Filed 2-14-18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7555-01-P**

## **NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION**

### **Privacy Act of 1974; System of Records**

**AGENCY:** Office of Inspector General, National Science Foundation.

**ACTION:** Notice of a modified system of records.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the Privacy Act of 1974, the National Science Foundation (NSF) is providing notice of revisions to an existing system, NSF-52 "Office of Inspector General—Investigative Files."

**DATES:** Sections 552a(e)(4) and (11) of Title 5 of the U.S. Code require that the public have thirty days to comment on the routine uses of systems of records. The new routine uses that are the subject of this notice will take effect 30 days after publication in the **Federal Register**, unless modified by a subsequent notice to incorporate comments received from the public.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments, identified by [docket number and/or RIN number \_\_], by any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- *Email:* The Acting Senior Agency Official for Privacy, Dorothy Aronson, at [daronson@nsf.gov](mailto:daronson@nsf.gov). Include [docket number and/or RIN number \_\_] in the subject line of the message.
- *Mail:* Dorothy Aronson, Acting Senior Agency Official for Privacy, Office of Information and Resource Management, National Science Foundation, 2415 Eisenhower Ave., Alexandria, VA 22314.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dorothy Aronson, Acting Senior Agency Official for Privacy, Office of Information and Resource Management, National Science Foundation, 2415 Eisenhower Ave., Alexandria, VA 22314, or [daronson@nsf.gov](mailto:daronson@nsf.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Routine use 1 is changed to allow OIG to disclose records that may not indicate wrongdoing on their face, but in conjunction with other records may constitute evidence that wrongdoing occurred. It is also changed to clarify that disclosure recipients can include tribal governments. Other nonsubstantive changes are made to remove excess or redundant wording.

Routine use 2 is changed to advance oversight and accountability by permitting disclosure when deemed necessary to further OIG's investigative, audit, and inspection activities; and, following such activities, to facilitate institutional actions to address or prevent misconduct. Regarding the latter, we note that disclosure of information about administrative cases—including those cases that result in research misconduct findings—can be useful for NSF-funded entities affected by the investigation and/or outcome. For example, institutions employing involved individuals may need the information to effectively manage their personnel and to administer their research programs.

Routine use 3 is changed to clarify that disclosure recipients can include tribal governments and to remove excess or redundant wording.

Routine use 4 is changed to clarify that disclosure recipients can include tribal governments and to remove excess or redundant wording.

Routine use 6 is changed to refer to "research misconduct" rather than "misconduct in science", to reflect the change in terminology in NSF's regulation at 45 CFR part 689 effective April 17, 2002. It is also changed to clarify that disclosure recipients can include tribal governments.

Routine use 11 is removed as an unnecessary routine use, given that the described disclosure is already permissible under the Privacy Act, 5 U.S.C. 552a(b).

Routine use 13 is added to enable OIG to release information to the public when: (a) The matter under investigation has become public knowledge because information about it is publicly available (as is the case with suspensions, debarments, convictions, or civil judgments), (b) the Inspector General or designee determines that such disclosure is necessary to preserve confidence in the integrity of the OIG investigative process, or (c) to demonstrate the accountability of NSF employees or other individuals covered by this system. We note that routine use 13 is consistent with uses published by other federal OIGs and represents a balance between privacy interests and the public's interest in transparency. Disclosure of names pursuant to subpart (c) will help deter misconduct involving the Foundation and/or its funded activities. Public disclosure under this use would only be permissible after the Inspector General or designee initially determines that it would not result in an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Routine use 14 addresses limited disclosures—to complainants, victims, and witnesses—in situations not covered by routine use 13, and is consistent with uses promulgated by other federal OIGs. This use not only advances overall transparency, but, by keeping complainants and victims informed about cases in which they are involved, it will encourage individuals to come forward and to cooperate in future investigations. Providing witnesses with records they initially produced, or which contain their own statements or testimony, will, for example, assist the federal government in ongoing legal proceedings concerning the matter investigated.

### **SYSTEM NAME AND NUMBER**

Office of Inspector General—Investigative Files, NSF-52.

### **SECURITY CLASSIFICATION:**

Unclassified

### **SYSTEM LOCATION:**

Office of Inspector General, NSF, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230.

### **SYSTEM MANAGER:**

Inspector General, OIG, NSF, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230.

### **AUTHORITY FOR MAINTENANCE OF THE SYSTEM:**

Inspector General Act, as amended, 5 U.S.C. app. 4, 8G.

### **PURPOSES OF THE SYSTEM:**

The Office of the Inspector General (OIG) for the National Science Foundation (NSF) maintains this system of records in order to conduct its responsibilities pursuant to the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, 5 U.S.C. app. 4, 8G. The OIG is statutorily directed and authorized to conduct and supervise investigations relating to programs and operations of NSF, to promote economy, efficiency, and effectiveness in the administration of such programs and operations, and to prevent and detect fraud, waste and abuse in such programs and operations. Accordingly, the records are used in investigations of individuals and entities suspected of having committed illegal or unethical acts, and in any resulting criminal prosecutions, civil proceedings, or administrative actions.

### **CATEGORIES OF INDIVIDUALS COVERED BY THE SYSTEM:**

In connection with its investigative duties, the Office of Inspector General (OIG) maintains records on the following categories of individuals: (a) Individuals or entities who are or have been the subject of inquiries or investigations conducted by OIG,