

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

Request for Information (RFI): Request for Information on New and Emerging Areas of Science Relevant to the NIDCD Mission, To Inform an Update of the NIDCD Strategic Plan for 2028–2032

AGENCY: National Institutes of Health, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD) seeks comments and suggestions from the public in response to one question: *Are there new and emerging areas of science with the potential to impact the health and wellbeing of people with disorders of hearing, balance, taste, smell, voice, speech and language that are not reflected in the themes and goals of the NIDCD Strategic Plan?* Responses to this RFI will be considered as NIDCD updates its current strategic plan.

DATES: Comments regarding this information collection are best assured of having their full effect if received by October 26, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Submissions may be sent electronically to nidcdstrategicplan@nidcd.nih.gov, or by mail to The National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders, 31 Center Drive, Suite 3C25, Bethesda, MD 20892.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions about this request for information should be directed to Laura Cole, Ph.D., The National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders, 31 Center Drive, Suite 3C25, Bethesda, MD 20892, nidcdstrategicplan@nidcd.nih.gov, 301–496–9515.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice is in accordance with the 21st Century Cures Act, wherein NIH institutes are required to regularly update their strategic plans. The National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD) was established as a new institute within NIH when President Ronald Reagan signed Public Law 100–553 into law on October 28, 1988. The NIDCD mission is to conduct and support research and research training in the normal and disordered processes of hearing, balance, taste, smell, voice, speech, and language. Our vision is Advancing the science of communication to improve lives. To get us there, NIDCD seeks your best ideas to

help as we develop our 2028–2032 Strategic Plan.

This RFI is for planning purposes only and should not be construed as a solicitation for applications or proposals, or as an obligation in any way on the part of the United States Federal government. The Federal government will not pay for the preparation of any information submitted or for the government's use. Additionally, the government cannot guarantee the confidentiality of the information provided.

The Director of the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders, Debara L. Tucci, having reviewed and approved this document, authorizes Alycia Booth, who is the Federal Register Liaison, to electronically sign this document for purposes of publication in the **Federal Register**.

Dated: August 21, 2026.

Alycia Booth,

Federal Register Liaison, National Institutes of Health.

[FR Doc. 2026–17311 Filed 8–24–26; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

Office of the Director, National Institutes of Health; Notice of Meeting

Pursuant to section 1009 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, notice is hereby given of a meeting of the Office of AIDS Research Advisory Council.

This will be a hybrid meeting held in-person and virtually and will be open to the public, with attendance limited to space available. Individuals who plan to attend and need special assistance, such as sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodations, should inform the Contact Person listed below in advance of the meeting. The meeting can be accessed from the NIH Videocast at the following link: <https://videocast.nih.gov/>.

Name of Committee: Office of AIDS Research Advisory Council.

Date: October 22, 2026.

Time: 11:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. ET.

Agenda: The 73rd OARAC meeting will include a report from the OAR Director, and host discussions with council members, guests, and NIH officials regarding the NIH HIV research agenda.

Address: National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health, 5601 Fishers Lane, Grand Hall, Rockville, MD 20892.

Meeting Format: Hybrid.

Contact Person: Melissa Herrera, Office of AIDS Research, Office of the Director, National Institutes of Health, 5601 Fishers Lane, Room 2F18, Rockville, MD 20892, (301) 496–0357, OARACinfo@nih.gov.

Registration is not required to attend this meeting.

Any interested person may file written comments with the committee by forwarding the statement to the Contact Person listed on this notice. The statement should include the name, address, telephone number and when applicable, the business or professional affiliation of the interested person.

Information is also available on the Institute's/Center's home page: www.oar.nih.gov, where an agenda and any additional information for the meeting will be posted when available.

In the interest of security, NIH has procedures at <https://www.nih.gov/about-nih/visitor-information/campus-access-security> for entrance into on-campus and off-campus facilities. All visitor vehicles, including taxicabs, hotel, and airport shuttles will be inspected before being allowed on campus. Visitors attending a meeting on campus or at an off-campus federal facility will be asked to show one form of identification (for example, a government-issued photo ID, driver's license, or passport) and to state the purpose of their visit.

Dated: August 20, 2026.

Bruce A. George,

Program Analyst, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 2026–17269 Filed 8–24–26; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute; Notice of Meeting

Pursuant to section 1009 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, notice is hereby given of a meeting of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Advisory Council.

The meeting will be open to the public as indicated below, with attendance limited to space available. Individuals who plan to attend and need special assistance, such as sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodations, should notify the Contact Person listed below in advance of the meeting. The open session will be videocast and can be accessed from the NIH Videocasting and Podcasting website at <https://videocast.nih.gov/>.

Name of Committee: National Heart, Lung, and Blood Advisory Council.

Date: October 28, 2026.

Open: 8:15 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Agenda: To Discuss Program Policies and Issues.