

determine the new Executive Order 13658 minimum wage rate. In calculating the annual percentage increase in the CPI–W, the Department must compare the CPI–W for the most recent year available with the CPI–W for the preceding year. The Department therefore compared the percentage change in the CPI–W between the most recent year and the prior year. The Department then increased the current Executive Order 13658 minimum wage rate by the resulting annual percentage change and rounded to the nearest multiple of \$0.05.

Consistent with past practice, the Department determined the 2027 Executive Order 13658 minimum wage rate by averaging the available CPI–W data for the first two quarters of 2026 and the last two quarters of 2025 (*i.e.*, July 2025 through June 2026).³ This produced an average index level of 320.866. The Department then compared that data to the average CPI–W for the preceding year—311.293—which consists of the first two quarters of 2025 and the last two quarters of 2024 (*i.e.*, July 2024 through June 2025). Based on this methodology, the Department determined that the annual percentage increase in the CPI–W was 3.075 percent $((320.866 \div 311.293) - 1)$.

The Department then applied that annual percentage increase of 3.075 percent to the current Executive Order hourly minimum wage rate of \$13.65, which resulted in a wage rate of \$14.070 $((\$13.65 \times 0.03075) + \$13.65)$. Pursuant to the Executive Order, that rate must be rounded to the nearest multiple of \$0.05.

As a result, the new Executive Order 13658 minimum wage rate that must generally be paid to workers performing on or in connection with covered contracts beginning January 6, 2027, is \$14.05 per hour.

IV. The 2027 Executive Order 13658 Minimum Cash Wage for Tipped Employees

As noted above, section 3 of Executive Order 13658 provides a methodology to determine the amount of the minimum hourly cash wage that must be paid to tipped employees performing on or in connection with covered contracts. Because the cash wage for tipped employees reached 70 percent of the Executive Order 13658 minimum wage beginning on January 1, 2018 (*i.e.*, \$7.25 per hour compared to \$10.35 per hour), future updates to the cash wage for tipped employees must continue to set the rate at 70 percent of the full

Executive Order 13658 minimum wage. Seventy percent of the new Executive Order 13658 minimum wage rate of \$14.05 is \$9.83 $(\$14.05 \times 0.70)$. Because the Executive Order provides that the rate must be rounded to the nearest \$0.05, the new minimum hourly cash wage for tipped workers performing on or in connection with covered contracts beginning January 6, 2027, is therefore \$9.85 per hour.

V. Appendix

Appendix A to this notice provides a chart of the CPI–W data published by BLS that the Department used to calculate the new Executive Order 13658 minimum wage rate based on the methodology explained herein. A poster reflecting the new Executive Order 13658 minimum wage rate will be publicly available on the WHD website.

Dated: October 2, 2026.

Andrew B. Rogers,

Administrator, Wage and Hour Division.

Appendix A: Data Used To Determine 2027 Executive Order 13658 Minimum Wage Rate Effective January 6, 2027.

Data Source: Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI–W) (United States city average, all items, not seasonally adjusted).

	Quarter 3			Quarter 4			Quarter 1			Quarter 2			Annual average
2024Q3 to 2025Q2	308.501	308.640	309.046	309.358	308.998	309.067	311.172	312.460	313.250	314.243	314.839	315.945	311.293
2025Q3 to 2026Q2	316.349	317.306	318.139	^a	317.414	317.014	317.942	319.422	323.500	326.541	328.829	327.075	320.866
Annual Percentage Increase .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3.075%

Note:^aDue to the 2025 lapse in federal appropriations, BLS did not collect CPI data from October 1, 2025, through November 12, 2025. <https://www.bls.gov/cpi/additional-resources/2025-federal-government-shutdown-impact-cpi.htm>.

[FR Doc. 2026–20646 Filed 10–7–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510–27–P

NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

Institute of Museum and Library Services

Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests: IMLS Grants for Local History Notice of Funding Opportunity

AGENCY: Institute of Museum and Library Services, National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities.

ACTION: Notice, request for comments on this collection of information.

SUMMARY: The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), as part of its

continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a pre-clearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act. This program helps to ensure that requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. The purpose of this notice is to communicate the agency's intent to request clearance for a new IMLS grant program (the final name is to be determined) designed to support small history museums, small historical

societies, and small historic houses/sites that celebrate and preserve America's history and values, with an emphasis on amplifying the stories of their local communities. A copy of the proposed information collection request can be obtained by contacting the individual listed below in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the addressee section below on or before December 08, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to Sandra Narva, Lead Senior Grants Management Specialist, Office of General Counsel, ATTN: Grants Management, Institute of Museum and Library Services, 200 Constitution Ave. NW, Suite N–3627, Washington, DC 20210. Ms. Narva can be reached by telephone, 202–653–4634, or by email at snarva@imls.gov. Office

³Due to the 2025 lapse in federal appropriations, BLS did not collect CPI data from October 1, 2025,

through November 12, 2025. <https://www.bls.gov/cpi/additional-resources/2025-federal-government-shutdown-impact-cpi.htm>

[cpi/additional-resources/2025-federal-government-shutdown-impact-cpi.htm](https://www.bls.gov/cpi/additional-resources/2025-federal-government-shutdown-impact-cpi.htm)

hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., E.T., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Katherine Maas, Deputy Director, Office of Museum Services, Institute of Museum and Library Services, 200 Constitution Ave. NW, Suite N-3627, Washington, DC 20210. Ms. Maas can be reached by telephone, 202-653-4798, or by email at kmaas@imls.gov. Office hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., E.T., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: IMLS is particularly interested in public comments that help the agency to:

- Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- 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, e.g., permitting electronic submissions of responses.

I. Background

IMLS is the primary source of Federal support for the Nation's libraries and museums. The agency advances, supports, and empowers America's museums, libraries, and related organizations through grant making, research, and policy development. For more information about IMLS, visit www.imls.gov.

II. Current Actions

This action will seek clearance for a Notice of Funding Opportunity for an IMLS Grants for Local History program for three years. This grant program is being offered as a special initiative with funding from the Museums for America program.

The IMLS Grants for Local History program supports eligible small history museums, small historical societies, and small historic houses/sites in celebrating and preserving America's history and values, with an emphasis on amplifying the stories of their local communities.

The goal of the program is to amplify the stories of local communities through interpretation of their history or

conservation of objects related to their history and to celebrate their connections to the broader American story. This goal is met through the objectives of (1) serving the learning needs and interests of the community and (2) improving the stewardship of collections in small history museums, small historical societies, and small historic houses/sites.

Interpretation could happen through, for example, oral histories, genealogical research, lecture series, publications, living-history demonstrations, and special events such as reenactments or commemorations that relate local stories to wide-ranging American history.

Collections stewardship could happen through conservation treatment and rehousing of local history collections (for example, textiles, artwork, documents, archaeological material, military artifacts) that are connected to the broader American story.

Agency: Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Title: IMLS Grants for Local History Notice of Funding Opportunity.

OMB Control Number: NEW.

Agency Number: 3137.

Respondents/Affected Public: Small history museums, small historical societies, and small historic houses/sites.

Estimated Number of Annual

Respondents: 100.

Frequency of Response: Once per request.

Estimated Average Burden Hours per Response: 25.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 2,500.

Total Annual Cost Burden:

\$86,000.00.

Total Annual Federal Costs:

\$21,621.10.

Public Comments Invited: Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the agency's request to OMB for clearance of this information collection. This collection is authorized by 20 U.S.C. 9173, "Museum services activities."

Dated: October 6, 2026.

Suzanne Mbollo,

Grants Management Specialist, Institute of Museum and Library Services.

[FR Doc. 2026-20654 Filed 10-7-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7036-01-P

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Notice of Permit Applications Received Under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978

AGENCY: U.S. National Science Foundation.

ACTION: Notice of permit applications received.

SUMMARY: The U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF) is required to publish a notice of permit applications received to conduct activities regulated under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978. NSF has published regulations under the Antarctic Conservation Act in the Code of Federal Regulations. This is the required notice of permit applications received.

DATES: Interested parties are invited to submit written data, comments, or views with respect to this permit application by November 9, 2026. This application may be inspected by interested parties at the Permit Office, address below.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be addressed to Permit Office, Office of Polar Programs, U.S. National Science Foundation, 401 Dulany Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314 or ACApermits@nsf.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Andrew Titmus, ACA Permit Officer, at the above address, 703-292-4479.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The U.S. National Science Foundation, as directed by the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978 (Pub. L. 95-541, 16 U.S.C. 2401 *et seq.*), as amended by the Antarctic Science, Tourism and Conservation Act of 1996 (Pub. L. 104-227), has developed regulations (45 CFR parts 670 to 674) for the establishment of a permit system for various activities in Antarctica related to the designation of certain animals and certain geographic areas as requiring special protection, among other purposes.

Application Details

Permit Application: 2027-001

1. *Applicant:* Paul Ponganis, CMBB, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, UCSD, La Jolla, CA 92093-0204

Activity for Which Permit Is Requested: Take, Harmful Interference, Enter Antarctic Specially Protected Area (45 CFR 670). The applicant proposes continuing ongoing research examining the oxygen transport systems of emperor penguins (*Aptenodytes forsteri*) in Antarctica. The applicant proposes capturing up to 35 non-breeding or sub-adult penguins from the McMurdo Sound region or, if necessary, in Cape Washington (ASPA 173). If needed, the applicant will access ASPA 173 by fixed-wing aircraft in accordance with the ASPA management plan. Throughout the course of the physiology study, penguins will be kept captive on