

TOTAL ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED BURDEN HOURS—Continued

| Form name               | Number of respondents | Number of responses per respondent | Total responses | Average burden per response (in hours) | Total burden hours |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Background Form .....   | 44,600                | 1                                  | 44,600          | 0.42                                   | 18,732             |
| Prenatal Form .....     | 31,500                | 1                                  | 31,500          | 0.25                                   | 7,875              |
| Parent/Child Form ..... | 39,100                | 1                                  | 39,100          | 0.42                                   | 16,422             |
| Total .....             | 192,175               | .....                              | 192,175         | .....                                  | 56,115             |

**Note:** Total Burden Hours are rounded up to the nearest whole number.

**Maria G. Button,**

*Director, Executive Secretariat.*

[FR Doc. 2026–20867 Filed 10–9–26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4165–15–P**

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Announcing Solicitation of Written Comments To Inform the Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans, 2nd Edition Supplement: 2027 Steps and Muscle-Strengthening Guidance**

**AGENCY:** Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health, Office of the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announces the solicitation of public comments to inform the development of the *Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans*, 2nd edition Supplement: 2027 Steps and Muscle-Strengthening Guidance (2027 Steps and Muscle-Strengthening Guidance).

**DATES:** Written comments will be accepted through 11:59 p.m. E.T. on November 12, 2026.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments will be accepted via *regulations.gov* on docket HHS–OASH–2026–0463.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Alison Vaux-Bjerke, Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (ODPHP), Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health (OASH), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS); 1101 Wootton Parkway, Suite 420; Rockville, MD 20852; Email: [PhysicalActivityGuidelines@hhs.gov](mailto:PhysicalActivityGuidelines@hhs.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The *Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans* (Guidelines) provides science-based recommendations on how physical activity can help promote health and reduce the risk of chronic disease. The Guidelines serves as the

benchmark and primary, authoritative voice of the federal government for providing science-based guidance on physical activity, fitness, and health in the United States. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) released the first edition in 2008 and the second edition in 2018. The Guidelines and related reports are available at <https://odphp.health.gov/our-work/nutrition-physical-activity/physical-activity-guidelines/current-guidelines>. HHS is conducting this request for public comments under §§ 1703–1704 of the PHS Act.

HHS is working on supplementing the *Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans*, 2nd edition by adding new, science-based step count and muscle-strengthening activity guidance. Written comments from the public are invited that highlight existing high-quality, evidence-based reports, programs, or campaigns related to steps and/or muscle-strengthening physical activity and related positive health outcomes that can inform development of the 2027 Steps and Muscle-Strengthening Guidance.

**Written Public Comments:** Written comments on these two topics are encouraged from the public and will be accepted through 11:59 p.m. E.T. on November 12, 2026. Written public comments can be submitted via *regulations.gov* on docket number HHS–OASH–2026–0463. The Department does not make decisions on specific policy recommendations based on the number of comments for or against a topic, but on the scientific justification for the recommendation.

Individuals and organizations may submit more than one comment. Each comment should include the appropriate supporting documentation for scientific justification (*e.g.*, verifiable data sets, links to case studies, published research papers). If providing literature or other resources, HHS suggests including complete citations or abstracts and electronic links to full articles or reports, rather than attachments.

All comments must be received by 11:59 p.m. E.T. on November 12, 2026.

Comments will be reviewed by the team of federal experts supporting the Physical Activity Guidelines work.

**Katrina L. Piercy,**

*Deputy Director, Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion.*

[FR Doc. 2026–20833 Filed 10–9–26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4150–32–P**

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**National Institutes of Health**

**2025–2026 IACC Summary of Advances**

**AGENCY:** National Institutes of Health, HHS.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee (IACC) is preparing its Summary of Advances, a statutorily mandated report that highlights the most consequential autism research of the past year. The Committee is seeking suggested research articles to highlight for this report. On behalf of the IACC, the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) Office of Autism Research Coordination (OARC) is collecting research article suggestions from members of the public.

**DATES:** Responses to this notice are voluntary and the public comment period will be open from October 9, 2026, through October 23, 2026.

**ADDRESSES:** All comments must be submitted electronically via the web-based form at: <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/g/zvrk5fMKsw>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Specific questions about this Request for Public Comment should be directed to: Ms. Rebecca Martin by phone at 301–435–0886 or email at [iaccpublicinquiries@mail.nih.gov](mailto:iaccpublicinquiries@mail.nih.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The IACC <http://www.iacc.hhs.gov/> is a federal advisory committee composed of federal and public members that provides advice to the Secretary of Health and Human Services on autism. The

Committee is authorized under the Autism CARES Act of 2024, Public Law 118–180. The IACC is preparing its Summary of Advances, a statutorily mandated report that highlights the most consequential autism research of the past year. This edition will cover research published in 2025 and 2026. The Committee invites researchers, clinicians, autistic people, families, organizations, and other members of the public to suggest studies for its consideration.

**Submission Information:** The Committee seeks suggestions of which research articles to highlight for this report. Respondents may suggest up to five studies published between January 1, 2025, and the response deadline, in any of the following topic areas:

1. Foundational Science
  - Genetic and environmental factors
  - Biology of the brain and body
2. Population Understanding & Surveillance
  - Prevalence and population characterization
  - Prevalence data specific to profound autism and developmental regression
3. Identification & Early Trajectory
  - Early screening, diagnosis, and identification of co-occurring conditions
  - Developmental regression
4. Translation to Practice
  - Treatment
  - Interventions, including school- and community-based interventions
5. Services and Supports
  - Efficacy
  - Access

Nominated articles must be peer-reviewed and represent significant advances in autism research. The following types of articles are typically not included, although the IACC can discuss and decide whether the insights gained warrant inclusion:

- Editorials & opinion pieces
- Preliminary studies and/or studies of small sample size
- Literature reviews, systematic reviews
- Expert recommendations & reports from panels/taskforces/organizations/agencies
- Articles not solely/primarily focused on autism

Respondents may also briefly identify important gaps in current autism research (optional). Responses will be reviewed by the Committee alongside nominations from Committee members. Suggestions are advisory; the Committee will make final selections.

**Instructions:** All comments must be submitted through the web form at <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/g/>

zvrk5fMKsw. Individuals submitting comments will receive an onscreen confirmation acknowledging receipt of the comment, but commenters will not receive individualized responses or feedback from the IACC or OARC except in the cases of requests for technical assistance with the survey, etc.

A valid email address is required for submission, and only one submission per email address will be accepted. If duplicate submissions are received (*i.e.*, form letters or email campaigns), only one example of such a submission will be included in the final set of materials provided to the committee.

Comments are subject to redaction in accordance with federal policies and the IACC's public comment guidelines and privacy policy. To view the IACC's public comment guidelines and privacy policy, visit: <https://iacc.hhs.gov/meetings/public-comments/guidelines/>. All comments or summaries of comments received will be made publicly available on the IACC website <https://www.iacc.hhs.gov> within 90 days of the closing deadline for this notice. Email addresses associated with comments will not be included as part of the public disclosure. After the closing deadline, responses cannot be edited or withdrawn. No basis for claims against the U.S. Government shall arise as a result of a response to this request for information or from the Government's use of such information.

**Beth Tignor,**

*Designated Federal Officer, IACC, Office of the Director, National Institutes of Health.*

[FR Doc. 2026–20825 Filed 10–9–26; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4167–05–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### National Institutes of Health

#### National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences; Notice of Meeting

Pursuant to section 1009 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, notice is hereby given of a meeting of the Board of Scientific Counselors, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences.

The meeting will be partially open to the public as indicated below, with attendance limited to space available. Individuals who plan to attend as well as those who need special assistance, such as sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodation, must 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 (<http://videocast.nih.gov/>).

The meeting will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

**Name of Committee:** Board of Scientific Counselors, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (ESBSC).

**Date:** November 1–3, 2026.

**Closed:** November 1, 2026, 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

**Agenda:** BSC Discussions.

**Address:** NIEHS/National Institutes of Health, Building 101, Rodbell Auditorium, 111 T.W. Alexander Drive, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709.

**Meeting Format:** Virtual and In-Person.

**Open:** November 2, 2026, 8:00 a.m. to 10:40 a.m.

**Agenda:** Scientific Presentations.

**Address:** NIEHS/National Institutes of Health, Building 101, Rodbell Auditorium, 111 T.W. Alexander Drive.

**Meeting Format:** Virtual and In-Person.

**Closed:** November 2, 2026, 10:40 a.m. to 12:30 p.m..

**Agenda:** To review and evaluate with Investigators and Working Lunch.

**Address:** NIEHS/National Institutes of Health, Building 101, Rodbell Auditorium, 111 T.W. Alexander Drive, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709.

**Meeting Format:** Virtual and In-Person.

**Open:** November 2, 2026, 12:30 p.m. to 2:10 p.m.

**Agenda:** Scientific Presentations.

**Address:** NIEHS/National Institutes of Health, Building 101, Rodbell Auditorium, 111 T.W. Alexander Drive, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709.

**Meeting Format:** Virtual and In-Person.

**Closed:** November 2, 2026, 2:10 p.m. to 2:40 p.m.

**Agenda:** To review and evaluate sessions with Investigators.

**Address:** NIEHS/National Institutes of Health, Building 101, Rodbell Auditorium, 111 T.W. Alexander Drive, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709.

**Meeting Format:** Virtual and In-Person.

**Open:** November 2, 2026, 2:40 p.m. to 4:35 p.m.

**Agenda:** Poster Session.

**Address:** NIEHS/National Institutes of Health, Building 101, Rodbell Auditorium, 111 T.W. Alexander Drive, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709.

**Meeting Format:** Virtual and In-Person.

**Closed:** November 2, 2026, 4:35 p.m. to 6:15 p.m.

**Agenda:** To review and evaluate session with Investigators.