

2026 Current Fiscal Year Report: National Security Education Board

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1. Department or Agency	2. Fiscal Year
Department of Defense	2026
3. Committee or Subcommittee	3b. GSA Committee No.
National Security Education Board	424

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?	5. Current Charter	6. Expected Renewal Date	7. Expected Term Date
No	05/17/2024	05/17/2026	

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?	8b. Specific Termination Authority	8c. Actual Term Date
No	50 U.S.C. § 1903	

9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year	10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?	10b. Legislation Pending?
Continue	Not Applicable	Not Applicable

11. Establishment Authority Statutory (Congress Created)

12. Specific Establishment Authority	13. Effective Date	14. Committee Type	14c. Presidential?
50 U.S.C. § 1903	12/04/1991	Continuing	No

15. Description of Committee Non Scientific Program Advisory Board

16a. Total Number of Reports No Reports for this Fiscal Year

17a. Open 0 **17b. Closed** 0 **17c. Partially Closed** 0 **Other Activities** 0 **17d. Total** 0

Meetings and Dates

No Meetings

	Current FY	Next FY
18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00

18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18c. Administrative Costs (FRNs, contractor support, In-person/hybrid/virtual meetings)	\$0.00	\$0.00
18d. Other (all other funds not captured by any other cost category)	\$0.00	\$0.00
18e. Total Costs	\$0.00	\$0.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.00	0.00

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

The Board, under the provisions of 50 U.S.C. §1903, performs the following functions: (1) Develop criteria for awarding scholarships, fellowships, and grants under this chapter, including an order of priority in such awards that favors individuals expressing an interest in national security issues or pursuing a career in a national security position. (2) Provide for wide dissemination of information regarding the activities assisted under this chapter. (3) Establish qualifications for students desiring scholarships or fellowships, and institutions of higher education

desiring grants, under this chapter, including, in the case of students desiring a scholarship or fellowship, a requirement that the student have a demonstrated commitment to the study of the discipline for which the scholarship or fellowship is to be awarded. (4) After taking into account the annual analyses of trends in language, international, area, and counterproliferation studies under section 1906(b)(1) of this title, make recommendations to the Secretary regarding— (A) which countries are not emphasized in other United States study abroad programs, such as countries in which few United States students are studying and countries which are of importance to the national security interests of the United States, and are, therefore, critical countries for the purposes of section 1902(a)(1)(A) of this title; (B) which areas within the disciplines described in section 1902(a)(1)(B) of this title relating to the national security interests of the United States are areas of study in which United States students are deficient in learning and are, therefore, critical areas within those disciplines for the purposes of that section; (C) which areas within the disciplines described in section 1902(a)(1)(C) of this title are areas in which United States students, educators, and Government employees are deficient in learning and in which insubstantial numbers of United States institutions of higher education provide training and are, therefore, critical areas within those disciplines for the purposes of that section; (D) how students desiring scholarships or fellowships can be encouraged to work for an agency or office of the Federal Government involved in national security affairs or national security policy upon completion of their education; and (E) which foreign languages are critical to the national security interests of the United States for purposes of section 1902(a)(1)(D) of this title

(relating to grants for the National Flagship Language Initiative) and section 1902(a)(1)(E) of this title (relating to the scholarship program for advanced English language studies by heritage community citizens). (5) Encourage applications for fellowships under this chapter from graduate students having an educational background in any academic discipline, particularly in the areas of science or technology. (6) Provide the Secretary biennially with a list of scholarship recipients and fellowship recipients, including an assessment of their foreign area and language skills, who are available to work in a national security position. (7) Not later than 30 days after a scholarship or fellowship recipient completes the study or education for which assistance was provided under the program, provide the Secretary with a report fully describing the foreign area and language skills obtained by the recipient as a result of the assistance. (8) Review the administration of the program required under this chapter. (9) To the extent provided by the Secretary of Defense, oversee and coordinate the activities of the National Language Service Corps under section 1913 of this title, including— (A) assessing on a periodic basis whether the Corps is addressing the needs identified by the heads of departments and agencies of the Federal Government for personnel with skills in various foreign languages; (B) recommending plans for the Corps to address foreign language shortfalls and requirements of the departments and agencies of the Federal Government; (C) recommending effective ways to increase public awareness of the need for foreign languages skills and career paths in the Federal Government that use those skills; and (D) overseeing the Corps efforts to work with Executive agencies and State and Local governments to respond to interagency

plans and agreements to address overall foreign language shortfalls and to utilize personnel to address the various types of crises that warrant foreign language skills.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

The Board, under the provisions of 50 U.S.C. §1903, amended most recently in the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013, shall be composed of the following individuals or the representatives of such individuals: 1. The Secretary of Defense, who shall serve as the chairman of the Board. 2. The Secretary of Education. 3. The Secretary of State. 4. The Secretary of Commerce. 5. The Director of National Intelligence. 6. The Secretary of Energy. 7. The Secretary of Homeland Security. 8. The Chairperson of the National Endowment for the Humanities. 9. Six individuals appointed by the President who shall be experts in the fields of international, language, area, and counterproliferation studies education and who may not be officers or employees of the Federal Government. The Board Chair and the National Security Education Program (NSEP) rely on this statute for all 14 Board members. Federal members represent a broad spectrum of Federal agencies with significant national security responsibilities. Federal members are senior-level decision makers within such agencies. Presidentially-appointed members represent a broad constituency of members from higher education, non-profit and industry, all of whom are well-versed in the fields of international language, area, and counterproliferation studies education and none of whom are officers or employees of the Federal Government. The Board's composition ensures that DLNSEO/NSEP remain focused on

efforts that serve the expansive national security interests of the United States. DLNSEO/NSEP is a Department of Defense component, yet it has many additional federal beneficiaries who are represented on the Board. The Board helps build consensus that meets broad national needs, rather than the needs of a single agency. As established, the Board allows for cross-governmental and cross-sector interests to be represented.

20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?

The National Security Education Board meets 2-3 times annually to advise the Secretary of Defense on matters affecting NSEP. The meetings represent a valuable source of thought and recommendations that enhance the success and effectiveness of NSEP. Individual Board members represent valuable conduits for widely disseminating information about program activities throughout the federal government and higher education; thus, annual meetings are critical.

20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?

Federal statute (50 U.S.C. § 1903) requires the Secretary of Defense to establish the committee.

20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?

Meetings are not closed to the public unless the Department of Defense determines that items on the planned agenda meet the closed meeting provisions of 5 U.S.C. § 552b(c). Pursuant to DoD policy closed meetings can only be authorized by the DoD Sponsor (i.e., the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness), and only after consultation with the Office of the

Department of Defense General Counsel.

21. Remarks

Due to the Secretary of Defense's pause of all advisory committee operations effective March 7, 2025, the National Security Education Board did not hold any meetings in FY 2025. The FY24 FACA record did not include Board member Mr. Rafael Nevarez, Acting Director of International Affairs, U.S. Department of Education. Mr. Nevarez is being added retroactively to the FY25 record. Mr. Navarez had an appointment start date of January 1, 2024 and an appointment end date of May 1, 2025. The National Security Education Board provides valuable recommendations to the Secretary on the conduct of this unique program. The Board should remain, as constituted.

Designated Federal Officer

Samuel D. Eisen Director, Defense Language
National Security Education Office

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Abercrombie-Winstanley, Gina Kaye	03/22/2024	03/21/2028	Former Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer for Department of State	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Bleich, Jeffrey	03/22/2024	03/21/2028	Board Chair of Jeff Bleich Centre on Democracy and Disruptive Technologies at Flinders University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Brosius, Rory	03/22/2024	03/21/2028	Cicero-Group consulting, former Special Assistant to the President for Military Families	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Eikenberry, Karl	03/22/2024	03/21/2028	Senior Advisor to the United States Institute of Peace	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Emrich, Matt	12/01/2015	11/30/2027	Associate Director, Fraud Detection and National Security Directorate	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member
Kinkela, Claudia	06/01/2016	05/31/2027	National Endowment to the Humanities - Senior Analyst and International Coordinator	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member
Mendis, Patrick	03/22/2024	03/21/2028	Former American Diplomat and Military professor in NATO	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Siddique, M. Osman	03/22/2024	03/21/2028	Former U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Fiji Islands	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Tata, Anthony	07/18/2025	07/17/2027	Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 9

Narrative Description

The Defense Language and National Security Education Office/the National Security Education Program meets with its Board to gain feedback on what skills are required for the national security workforce. Additionally, the ASD(R) convenes meetings and implements guidance on hiring practices, internships, and clearances, as well as to assist in crafting policy and guidelines.

What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

Checked if
Applies

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Improvements to health or safety | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Trust in government | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Major policy changes | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Advance in scientific research | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Effective grant making | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Improved service delivery | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Increased customer satisfaction | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Other | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Outcome Comments

NA

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| None | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Unable to Determine | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Under \$100,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| \$100,000 - \$500,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| \$500,001 - \$1,000,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| \$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| \$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Over \$10,000,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Cost Savings Other | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Cost Savings Comments

The costs associated with the functioning of the Board are minimal. A majority of members are local and meetings are held in conjunction with other NSEP events, maximizing cross-fertilization of efforts and minimizing cost. Few alternatives exist to derive greater value, cost consciousness, and return on investment into the structure of the Board. No travel and logistic costs were incurred in FY25 since a board meeting was not held. The estimated annual personnel costs to the DoD remain 1 FTE.

What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

Number of Recommendations Comments

0 new recommendations made in FY25.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?

75%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

Best practices for superior language learning and increased Federal service compliance are being implemented by DLNSEO/NSEP.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?

25%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

Remaining recommendations require new legislation.

Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?

Yes No Not Applicable

Agency Feedback Comments

Written and verbal feedback provided. Feedback can be accessed in printed form of the 2024 National Security Education Program Annual Report or online at <https://www.dlnseo.mil/Reports/>.

What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?

Checked if Applies

- Reorganized Priorities
- Reallocated resources
- Issued new regulation
- Proposed legislation
- Approved grants or other payments
- Other

Action Comments

Based on Board feedback, NSEP has structured its programs to maximize award recipient placement into Federal service.

Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?

No

Grant Review Comments

The Board develops criteria for awarding scholarships, fellowships, and grants under this chapter, including an order of priority in such awards that favors individuals expressing an interest in national security issues or pursuing a career in a national security position.

How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?

Checked if Applies

- Contact DFO
- Online Agency Web Site
- Online Committee Web Site
- Online GSA FACA Web Site
- Publications
- Other

Access Comments

N/A