

2025 Current Fiscal Year Report: Board of Scientific Counselors, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health

Report Run Date: 07/05/2025 07:13:34 PM

| | | | |
|---|---|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Department or Agency | | 2. Fiscal Year | |
| Department of Health and Human Services | | 2025 | |
| 3. Committee or Subcommittee | | 3b. GSA Committee No. | |
| Board of Scientific Counselors, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health | | 202 | |
| 4. Is this New Fiscal Year? | 5. Current Charter | 6. Expected Renewal Date | 7. Expected Term Date |
| No | 02/03/2025 | 02/03/2027 | 03/31/2025 |
| 8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year? | 8b. Specific Termination Authority | | 8c. Actual Term Date |
| No | E. O. 14217 | | |
| 9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year | 10a. Legislation Req to Terminate? | | 10b. Legislation Pending? |
| Terminate | Not Applicable | | Not Applicable |
| 11. Establishment Authority Authorized by Law | | | |
| 12. Specific Establishment Authority | 13. Effective Date | 14. Committee Type | 14c. Presidential? |
| 42 U.S.C. 217a | 11/17/1972 | Continuing | No |
| 15. Description of Committee Scientific Technical Program Advisory Board | | | |
| 16a. Total Number of Reports | No Reports for this Fiscal Year | | |
| 17a. Open | 17b. Closed | 17c. Partially Closed | Other Activities |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 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?

NIOSH leadership identifies priority research and prevention issues that would benefit from the review and advice of the Board. Materials are prepared and/or presentations are made by key staff to ensure the Board is fully briefed on the issue at hand. The Board has provided valuable insights and recommendations on a wide variety

of topics over the years.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

NIOSH has benefited from the diverse points of view and interchange of ideas created by the composition of the Board. Members are knowledgeable in various disciplines and expertise is drawn from the public and private sectors, with members employed by universities, industries, organized labor, and professional organizations. Every effort is made to maintain a balanced number of women and men on the Board from varied ethnic backgrounds and geographical locations.

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

The committee was established in 1983. Board meetings are generally held one to two times per year, and working groups are held when necessary to support the function of the full Board. Board meetings are relevant to maintaining the quality and integrity of NIOSH programs. The Board annually provides guidance on the Institute's research activities related to developing and evaluating hypotheses, systematically documenting findings, and disseminating results. In FY24 the Board also provided guidance on the topic of Diversity Equity, and Inclusion activities.

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

NIOSH, as a research institute, benefits greatly from the Board of Scientific Counselors' review of its scientific programs and from collaboration with non-governmental partners in developing new health and safety research and implementing research results in the workplace. The NIOSH

mission of preventing workplace illness and injury depends greatly on the activities and actions taken by key non-governmental partners. The Board of Scientific Counselors facilitates the NIOSH mission by convening major stakeholders in workplace health and safety to provide expert advice on research priorities, needs, and gaps; tracking of illnesses, injuries, and exposures; methods and formats for disseminating research results; and prevention and partnership strategies. Timely issues for the Board are identified through ongoing dialogue with the Director, NIOSH, public meetings, and workgroups established to address specific topics. These activities help to ensure that NIOSH produces work of high scientific quality.

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

N/A

21. Remarks

No formal reports are required in the charter; the committee provides advice and recommendations through various means other than formal reports. The BSC, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, met on March 13, 2024, and the virtual meeting was open to the public. The BSC, NIOSH National Firefighter Registry Subcommittee met on August 22, 2024, and the hybrid (in-person and virtual) meeting was open to the public.

Designated Federal Officer

Hadley Rose Hickner Lead Public Health Analyst (Policy)

| Committee Members | Start | End | Occupation | Member Designation |
|-------------------|-------|-----|------------|--------------------|
|-------------------|-------|-----|------------|--------------------|

| | | | | |
|---------------------------|------------|------------|---|--|
| Caban-Martinez, Alberto | 08/10/2023 | 03/31/2025 | Associate Professor | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| DeGrasse, Enjoli | 01/01/2022 | 03/31/2025 | International Brotherhood of Teamsters | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| Francis, Ruth | 01/01/2022 | 03/31/2025 | American Nurses Association | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| Graber, Judith | 08/10/2023 | 03/31/2025 | Associate Professor | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| Horn, Gavin | 08/10/2023 | 03/31/2025 | Principal Research Engineer | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| Huang, Emily Yueng-hsiang | 08/15/2023 | 03/31/2025 | Associate Professor | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| Olszewski, Kimberley | 01/01/2021 | 03/31/2025 | Bloomsburg University | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| Patel, Ketki | 01/01/2022 | 03/31/2025 | Texas Department of State Health Services | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| Patel, Ketki | 04/05/2021 | 03/31/2025 | Senior Epidemiologist | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| Pieretti, Luis | 01/01/2022 | 03/31/2025 | The MEMIC Group | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| Pieretti, Luis | 03/19/2021 | 03/31/2025 | Associate Professor | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |

| | | | | |
|--|------------|------------|--|--|
| Quiros-Alcala, Lesliam | 08/14/2023 | 03/31/2025 | Assistant Professor | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| Tenney, Liliana | 08/22/2023 | 03/31/2025 | Director of Outreach & Programs | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| Fonseca, Manuel [National Firefighter Registry] | 01/01/2023 | 12/31/2025 | National Association of Hispanic Fire Fighters | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| Graber, Judith [National Firefighter Registry] | 08/10/2023 | 12/31/2026 | Associate Professor | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| Harbour, Thomas [National Firefighter Registry] | 01/01/2024 | 12/31/2026 | Harbour fire | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| Horn, Gavin [National Firefighter Registry] | 08/10/2023 | 12/31/2026 | Research Engineer | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| Lee, Sara [National Firefighter Registry] | 01/01/2023 | 12/31/2025 | National Volunteer Fire Council | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| Moffatt, Steven [National Firefighter Registry] | 01/01/2024 | 11/06/2025 | Safety Health Public Systems Ascension St. Vincent | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| Sasakura, Miyokos [National Firefighter Registry] | 01/01/2024 | 12/31/2026 | Industrial Hygenist | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| Simmons, Demond [National Firefighter Registry] | 01/01/2023 | 12/31/2025 | Oakland Fire Department | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| Stagnaro, Victor [National Firefighter Registry] | 01/01/2024 | 12/31/2026 | Natl Fallen Firefighters Foundation | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |

Number of Committee Members Listed: 22

Narrative Description

The Board provides advice and recommendations on programs that further all aspects of the NIOSH mission as outlined in the strategic plan for the Institute. These programs support: surveillance of occupational illnesses, injuries, and hazards; research to reduce morbidity, injuries, and mortality among workers; prevention through workplace evaluations, interventions, and recommendations; and information, training, and capacity-building to prevent occupational diseases and injuries.

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

| | Checked if Applies |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Improvements to health or safety | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Trust in government | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Major policy changes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Advance in scientific research | <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

Outcome Comments

The Board conducts expert review of scientific programs, some in response to a Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) measure for the agency. The Board also provides vital linkages of key stakeholders in occupational safety and health who utilize NIOSH products. The Board also helps NIOSH identify potential new partners for the conduct of research in workplace health and safety settings.

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

Most of the Board's recommendations are conceptual in nature and are aimed at program and policy development and maintaining the quality of research, surveillance, prevention, and information activities. The Board does not provide advice on the administrative or financial management of the Institute.

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

200

Number of Recommendations Comments

The NIOSH BSC made 11 recommendations in 2024. The Board made recommendations to the National Firefighter Registry for Cancer (NFR) on enrollment strategies through partnerships, expanding enrollment efforts to US territories, and establishing targets for enrollment. They encouraged the NFR to consider sharing data with firefighters and using a modular follow-up questionnaire. They also made several recommendations to NIOSH's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Office about DEI parameters and methods, sharing resources, policies, and scientific workforce diversity. The Board also recommended the Institute educate NIOSH researchers and provide peer support on measuring the impact of new knowledge.

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

64%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

The National Firefighter Registry for Cancer (NFR) has incorporated the advice from the BSC into enrollment and partnership strategies. The NFR also established a workgroup that is working on a modular approach to enrollment questionnaires. NIOSH's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Office implemented a variety of interventions with expanded

parameters for DEI in mind. NIOSH has shared resources to other departments in CDC and external partners as recommended by the Board. As NIOSH implements the current Evidence Capacity Building Plan, we are educating NIOSH researchers about implementation science and building a network among them to share best practices.

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

36%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

The remaining recommendations are under progress. For example, the National Firefighter Registry for Cancer (NFR) translated some information into Spanish and has reached out to fire and emergency services leadership in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands to explore providing more information and support to the firefighters in those territories. The NFR also developed a prototype of a data dashboard that is currently undergoing the internal clearance process to be published, allowing data sharing. NIOSH's DEI Office is working on incorporating the Board's recommendations on methods for measuring DEI and has had preliminary interaction with OSHA to include indicators in their reports. If funding becomes available, NIOSH will explore assessments recommended by the Board.

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

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

Agency Feedback Comments

NIOSH provides feedback during the public meetings of the Board through formal presentations by the NIOSH Director, and key staff who are knowledgeable about the program relevant to the Board's advice and recommendations. The formal presentations are followed by extensive discussion to elicit additional information and provide clarification. Occasional feedback may be provided directly from the NIOSH Director to the Board by post or email. At the March 2024 meeting, the Board received updates from the NIOSH Director, a presentation about the Institute's diversity, equity, and inclusion activities, an update from the National Firefighter Registry Subcommittee as well as a presentation on NIOSH's implementation science work.

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

Checked if Applies

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Reorganized Priorities | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Reallocated resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Issued new regulation | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Proposed legislation | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Approved grants or other payments | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Action Comments

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

No

Grant Review Comments

BSC, NIOSH is not a grant review committee.

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

Checked if Applies

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Contact DFO | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Online Agency Web Site | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Online Committee Web Site | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Online GSA FACA Web Site | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Publications | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Access Comments

N/A