

# 2026 Current Fiscal Year Report: National Science Advisory Board for Biosecurity

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<b>1. Department or Agency</b>	<b>2. Fiscal Year</b>
Department of Health and Human Services	2026

<b>3. Committee or Subcommittee</b>	<b>3b. GSA Committee No.</b>
National Science Advisory Board for Biosecurity	21482

<b>4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?</b>	<b>5. Current Charter</b>	<b>6. Expected Renewal Date</b>	<b>7. Expected Term Date</b>
No	04/07/2024	04/07/2026	

<b>8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?</b>	<b>8b. Specific Termination Authority</b>	<b>8c. Actual Term Date</b>
No		

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

**11. Establishment Authority** Statutory (Congress Created)

<b>12. Specific Establishment Authority</b>	<b>13. Effective Date</b>	<b>14. Committee Type</b>	<b>14c. Presidential?</b>
42 USC 283r, Section 4040 of the PHS, PAHPA PL 109-417, Section 205, 120 Stat. 2851	11/22/1962	Continuing	No

**15. Description of Committee** Scientific Technical Program Advisory Board

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

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

**Meetings and Dates**

No Meetings

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

**20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?**

The purpose of the National Science Advisory Board for Biosecurity (NSABB) is to provide technical advice, guidance, or recommendations, to relevant Federal departments and agencies related to biosafety and biosecurity oversight of

biomedical research, including — (1) oversight of federally-conducted or federally-supported dual use biomedical research, such as the review of policies or frameworks used to assess and appropriately manage safety and security risks associated with such research, taking into consideration national security concerns, the potential benefits of such research, considerations related to the research community, transparency, and public availability of information, and international research collaboration; and (2) pursuant to section 205 of the PAHPA, when requested by the Secretary of Health and Human Services (Secretary) (a) a core curriculum and training requirements for workers in maximum containment biological laboratories; and (b) periodic evaluations of maximum containment biological laboratory capacity nationwide and assessments of the future need for increased laboratory capacity.

**20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?**

In advising on the efficient and effective oversight of dual use life sciences research, the NSABB must consider both public health and national security needs and the needs of the research community. Because this requires a diverse range of expertise, the NSABB will consist of not more than 25 voting members who provide broad expertise in areas such as molecular biology/genomics, microbiology (bacteriology), microbiology (virology), clinical Infectious diseases/diagnostics, institutional and/or laboratory, biosafety and biosecurity, public health/epidemiology, health physicist/radiation safety, pharmaceutical production, veterinary medicine, plant health, food production, bioethics, national security, military biodefense programs

and military medicine, intelligence, biodefense, law and law enforcement, academia, scientific publishing, export controls, industry perspective and public perspective. In appointing these members, careful consideration is also given to geographic, gender, and race/ethnicity balance. In addition, nonvoting ex officio members represent HHS.

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

Meetings of the National Science Advisory Board for Biosecurity (NSABB) will be held approximately three times within a fiscal year and may be convened on an as-needed basis. The NSABB held 1 virtual meeting on November 21, 2024. There were no workgroup sessions convened this fiscal year. No new reports or recommendations generated in Fiscal Year 2025.

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

The NSABB is the only Federal advisory committee chartered to advise the Federal Government on the management and oversight of dual use research; a constantly evolving challenge with significant implications for national biodefense, biosafety and biosecurity, and maintenance of a strong U.S. bioeconomy. The NSABB brings together a unique and broad range of perspectives and expertise, including biomedical, plant, and animal research; biosecurity, biosafety, law enforcement, scientific publishing, biodefense, and intelligence.

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

N/A

## 21. Remarks

The committee did not produce any public reports this fiscal year. The NSABB Charter authorizes no more than 25 voting members and up to 20 Ex Officio members, for a maximum total of 45 committee members. Currently, the NSABB has 5 SGEs and 11 Ex Officio members serving.

Membership Updates: Five members rotated-off (Drs. Parker, Bernard, Denison, Grabenstein, and London) and there were no new members onboarded. This is why the Charter states 25 authorized potential members, but this ACR lists five active members. Chairperson - Ms. Rachel E. Levinson was reassigned as Chair this fiscal year, until June 14, 2026. Concluded Terms - The following NSABB members have completed their terms- Dr. Kenneth Bernard (concluded May 29, 2025), Dr. Mark Denison (concluded November 30, 2024), Dr. John D. Grabenstein (concluded November 30, 2024), Dr. Alex John London (concluded June 3, 2025). Reappointments - The following NSABB members have been reappointed until June 14, 2026 - Ms. Shannon Benjamin, Dr. Karmella Anne Haynes, and Dr. Syra S. Madad. Administrative Extensions - The following NSABB member terms have been administratively extended - Dr. Alex London, until June 3, 2025, Dr. Jacqueline Fletcher, until November 25, 2025 and Dr. Dennis Metzger, until June 7, 2026. Ex Officio Update: Reappointments - Dr. Wendi L. Kuhnert, Deputy Director for Laboratory Readiness and Response at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, has been reappointed as an Ex Officio member of the National Science Advisory Board for Biosecurity (NSABB), effective September 2, 2025. Previous service ended on 9/30/24. New Ex Officio Appointments - The following individuals were appointed as NSABB Ex Officios members: Arielle

D'Souza, Policy Advisor at the U.S. Department of Defense, appointed for the term 9/2/2025–9/1/2029, replacing William Beaver. Dr. Jeffery Karl Taubenberger, Acting Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIH), appointed for the term 9/2/2025–9/1/2029, replacing Dr. Jeanne Marrazzo. Dr. Boris Wawrik, Program Manager at the U.S. Department of Energy, appointed for the term 8/21/2025–8/20/2029, replacing Joseph R. Graber. The Designated Federal Officer and Committee Decision Maker positions are held by the same individual based on assigned duties within the IC. Per the Charter, NSABB will consist of not more than 25 voting members, including the Chair. Non-voting, ex officio members including at least one representative of each of the following: (i) The Department of Health and Human Services; (ii) The Department of Defense; (iii) The Department of Agriculture; (iv) The Department of Homeland Security; (v) The Department of Energy; (vi) The Department of State; (vii) The Office of Science and Technology Policy; (viii) The Office of the Director of National Intelligence. At this time, there are 6 voting members and 11 ex officio members. The number of ex officios could change as the Charter doesn't specify a maximum number for ex officio members.

### **Designated Federal Officer**

Caroline Evans Young Director, Division of Biosafety, Biosecurity, and Emerging Biotechnology Policy

<b>Committee Members</b>	<b>Start</b>	<b>End</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Member Designation</b>
Benjamin, Shannon	01/23/2020	06/14/2026	Associate Director, Ginkgo Bioworks, Inc.	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Brinsfield, Kathryn	08/21/2024	08/20/2028	Director of the National Counterproliferation and Biosecurity Center at the Office of the Director of National Intelligence	Ex Officio Member
D'Souza, Arielle	09/02/2025	09/01/2029	Policy Advisor, Department of Defense	Ex Officio Member
Fletcher, Jacqueline	01/21/2020	11/25/2025	Regents Professor Emerita, Oklahoma State University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Haynes, Karmella	10/24/2021	06/14/2026	Assistant Professor, Emory University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Howerton, Samuel	08/21/2024	08/20/2028	Chief Scientist, U.S. Department of Homeland Security	Ex Officio Member
Kozlovac, Joseph	08/21/2024	08/20/2028	Biological Safety Specialist, U.S. Department of Agriculture	Ex Officio Member
Kuhnert-Tallman, Wendi	09/02/2025	09/01/2029	Senior Advisor for Laboratory Science, Center for Disease Control and Prevention	Ex Officio Member
Limage, Julia	05/08/2024	12/31/2028	Director, Office of Strategy, Policy, and Requirements, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services	Ex Officio Member
Madad, Syra	10/24/2021	06/14/2026	Senior Director, Emergency Management New York City Hospital	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Metzger, Dennis	10/24/2021	06/07/2026	Distinguished Professor Emeritus and Theobald Alumni Chair, Albany Medical College	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Pillai, Segaran	01/14/2021	12/31/2028	Director, Office of the Commissioner, U.S. Food and Drug Administration	Ex Officio Member

Taubenberger, Jeffery	09/02/2025	09/01/2029	Acting Director, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases	Ex Officio Member
Wawrik, Boris	08/21/2025	08/20/2029	Program Manager, Department of Energy	Ex Officio Member
Weand, Kristen	08/21/2024	08/20/2028	Head of Strategy, U.S. Department of State	Ex Officio Member
Welby, Stephen	08/21/2024	08/20/2028	Deputy Director, National Security Office of Science and Technology Policy, The White House	Ex Officio Member

**Number of Committee Members Listed: 16**

### **Narrative Description**

The purpose of the National Science Advisory Board for Biosecurity (NSABB) is to provide advice, guidance, and leadership regarding biosecurity oversight of dual use research, defined as biological research with legitimate scientific purpose that may be misused to pose a threat to public health and/or national security. The NSABB will advise the Secretary, HHS, and the Director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). In addition, when requested by the Secretary, HHS, the NSABB will advise the heads of all Federal entities that conduct, support, or have an interest in life sciences research on the matters delineated in Section 205 of the Pandemic and All-Hazards and Preparedness Act. The NSABB advises on and recommends specific strategies for the efficient and effective oversight of federally conducted or supported dual use biological research, taking into consideration both national security concerns and the needs of the research community.

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

Checked if  
Applies

Improvements to health or safety



- Trust in government
- Major policy changes
- Advance in scientific research
- Effective grant making
- Improved service delivery
- Increased customer satisfaction
- Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements
- Other

**Outcome Comments**

The Committee advises on significant policy issues that have the potential to affect the oversight of all federally-funded life sciences research. In addition, the policies that are informed by its recommendations help ensure that the scientific community conducts and communicates its research in a responsible manner.

**What are the cost savings associated with this committee?**

Checked if Applies

- None
- Unable to Determine
- Under \$100,000
- \$100,000 - \$500,000
- \$500,001 - \$1,000,000
- \$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000
- \$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000
- Over \$10,000,000
- Cost Savings Other

**Cost Savings Comments**

This Committee provides advice, guidance, and leadership as stated in the narrative above. It can take many years for the impacts of these recommendations to come to fruition.

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

241

**Number of Recommendations Comments**

In Fiscal Year 2025, the NSABB held 1 virtual meeting on November 21, 2024, there were no workgroup sessions held. The NSABB produced no new reports nor were recommendations generated in FY2025.

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

0%

**% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments**

Due to the complexity of the recommendations made by this committee on policy and program areas, staff is unable to determine which recommendations have been fully or partially implemented solely in response to this committee's activities.

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

0%

**% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments**

Due to the large breadth and complexity of the recommendations made by this committee on policy and program areas, NIH staff is unable to determine which recommendations have been fully or partially implemented solely in response to this committee's activities.

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

Yes  No  Not Applicable

**Agency Feedback Comments**

Information is provided to the public at each meeting. The public can view information related to the Committee through the committee's official website.

**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 type="checkbox"/>            |
| Issued new regulation             | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Proposed legislation              | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Approved grants or other payments | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Other                             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

**Action Comments**

The NSABB will advise the Secretary, HHS, and the Director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). In addition, when requested by the Secretary, HHS, the NSABB will advise the heads of all Federal entities that conduct, support, or have an interest in life sciences research on the matters delineated in Section 205 of the Pandemic and All-Hazards and Preparedness Act.

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

No

**Grant Review Comments**

N/A

**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