2025 Current Fiscal Year Report: Proposal Review Panel for Research on Learning in Formal and Informal Settings

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1. Department or Agency	2. Fiscal Year
National Science Foundation	2025

3. Committee or Subcommittee	3b. GSA Committee No.
Proposal Review Panel for Research on Learning in Formal and Informal Settings	59

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?	5. Current Charter	6. Expected Renewal Date	7. Expected Term Date
No	06/28/2023	06/28/2025	

8a. Was Terminated During FiscalYear?	8b. Specific Termination Authority	8c. Actual Term Date
No		

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

11. Establishment Authority Agency Authority

12. Specific Establishment Authority	13. Effective Date	14. Commitee Type	14c. Presidential?
ADM IV-100	10/04/1990	Continuing	No

15. Description of Committee Grant Review Committee

16a. Total Number of Reports	No Reports for this FiscalYear

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. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)	$0.00	$0.00
18d. Total	$0.00	$0.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.00	0.00

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

Four to twelve panelists prepare written summaries and reviews. Each proposal is discussed by the entire panel and a panel summary is prepared. After careful reading of the proposals and extensive panel discussion, recommendations were given. Advice was given on the merit of special initiative proposals or applications submitted to NSF for financial support. Proposals funded were from the following programs: Advancing Informal STEM Learning (AISL), Information Technology Experiences for Students and Teachers (ITEST), Faculty Early

Career (CAREER), Discovery Research PreK-12 (DRK-12), and EHR Core Research (ECR).

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

Panel membership was balanced with educators, researchers, evaluators, scientists, mathematicians, and technologists. Based on their expertise, members are chosen as advisors for agency decisions that might not be as accurately assessed without said expertise. All recommendations for panelists were approved by the Division Director who ensures consideration is given to recruiting the best panelists.

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

Meetings are held in accordance with the program solicitation guidelines. All programs hold panel meetings once a year. The panels were separated into sub-panels based on discipline.

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

Outside expert advice on the merit and potential of proposals is an essential component of the division's funding decisions. The value of the committee is in its diverse makeup, both academically and professionally, creating a more discerning system for weighing the merits of proposals. Discussion by panelists helps Program Directors to discern possible conflicts-of-interests or other sources of bias, calibrate the reviews, and resolve differences of opinion among the panelists. Other sources do not allow for group analysis across disciplines.

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

To review proposals that included information of a proprietary or confidential nature, including technical information; financial data such as salaries; and personal information concerning individuals associated with the proposals.

21. Remarks

Designated Federal Officer

Evan K. Heit Division Director

Narrative Description

The NSF mission is set out in the NSF Act of 1950 authorizes and directs the Agency to initiate and support: basic scientific research and research fundamental to the engineering process; and science and engineering education programs at all levels and in all fields of science and engineering. The involvement of knowledgeable peers from outside the Foundation in the review of proposals is the keystone of NSF's proposal review system. Their judgments of the extent to which proposals address the merit review criteria are vital for informing NSF staff and influencing funding recommendations.

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
NA

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
The use of panelists to review proposals for the Agency is an invaluable asset. The cost of obtaining the expertise, insight, and information received by the Division using alternative methods, such as hiring the expertise as full or part-time employees, would be extremely high.

What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?
1,657

Number of Recommendations Comments
This is an ongoing committee. Therefore, the number of recommendations produced by the committee is for the fiscal year.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?
100%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments
The word implement is not applicable to grant review panels. All recommendations are considered by the agency.

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

Not applicable. Please see answer directly above.

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

Yes ✔   No ☐   Not Applicable ☐

Agency Feedback Comments

Although panelists may not receive direct feedback, each committee member may use the NSF FastLane, a public web-based program, which provides information on awards made by the agency to determine the outcome of proposals reviewed by the panel

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

NA

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

Yes

What is the estimated **Number** of grants reviewed for approval

What is the estimated **Number** of grants recommended for   1,657
approval   235

What is the estimated **Dollar Value** of grants recommended for approval

$222,054,235

Grant Review Comments

The panelists/advisory committee members provided information on the merit of the proposal, which includes an overall rating. The number of proposals above includes pre-proposals submitted to NSF for review. The pre-proposals are not included in the

number of "grants recommend" or "dollar value of grants" recommended for approval.

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