

2021 Current Fiscal Year Report: Proposal Review Panel for Graduate Education

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1. Department or Agency		2. Fiscal Year	
National Science Foundation		2021	
3. Committee or Subcommittee		3b. GSA Committee No.	
Proposal Review Panel for Graduate Education		57	
4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?	5. Current Charter	6. Expected Renewal Date	7. Expected Term Date
No	06/29/2020	06/29/2022	
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	No		Not Applicable
11. Establishment Authority	Agency Authority		
12. Specific Establishment Authority	13. Effective Date	14. Committee Type	14c. Presidential?
ADM IV-100	10/18/1990	Continuing	No
15. Description of Committee	Grant Review Committee		
16a. Total Number of Reports	No Reports for this FiscalYear		
17a. Open Meetings and Dates	17b. Closed Meetings and Dates	17c. Partially Closed Meetings and Dates	Other Activities
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?

The Proposal Review Panel reviews and evaluates applications and proposals submitted to the division in response to program solicitations. Types of items reviewed are: Integrative Graduate Education and Research Training proposals and Graduate Research Fellowships Applications. Panelists provide written recommendations on these proposals as a part of the selection process for awards. External advice is essential to NSF's selection process.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

The programs invite nominations of outstanding candidates from all fields of science and engineering. The membership of the panel reflects the discipline breadth of applicants.

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

The Panel meets in response to program solicitations. In FY 20, 91 panel meetings were required.

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

Panel review can provide judgments about the comparative merits within a group of proposals or within a single complex or multidisciplinary proposal. Panel discussion is more appropriate in cases such as the selection of graduate research traineeships than is ad hoc mail review.

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

To review proposals and/or Fellowship applications 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

None

Designated Federal Officer

Nirmala Kannankutty Acting Division Director, DGE

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?

591

Number of Recommendations Comments

The number of recommendations is for fiscal year 2020. This total does not include the Graduate Fellowship recommendations totaling 13,759.

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.

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 Fast Lane, 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

Not Applicable

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

Yes

What is the estimated Number of grants reviewed for approval	591
What is the estimated Number of grants recommended for approval	92
What is the estimated Dollar Value of grants recommended for approval	\$156,755,058

Grant Review Comments

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