

2012 Current Fiscal Year Report: National Technical Advisory Council

Report Run Date: 07/04/2025 01:36:41 AM

1. Department or Agency

Department of Education

2. Fiscal Year

2012

3. Committee or Subcommittee

National Technical Advisory
Council

3b. GSA Committee No.

34745

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

5. Current Charter	6. Expected Renewal Date	7. Expected Term Date
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No

06/30/2010

09/30/2012

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?

Yes

8b. Specific Termination Authority

Agency
Memorandum

8c. Actual Term Date

06/30/2012

9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year

Terminate

10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

No

10b. Legislation Pending?

11. Establishment Authority

Agency Authority

12. Specific Establishment Authority

Established by the Secretary
of Education and governed
by the provisions of FACA
(P.L. 92-463)

13. Effective Date	14. Committee Type	14c. Presidential?
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08/11/2008 Ad hoc

No

15. Description of Committee

Other Committee

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?

In order to ensure that the U.S. Department of Education (Department) is making sound technical decisions related to the approval of state-designed standards, assessment, and accountability systems, the NTAC shall advise the Secretary of Education (Secretary), the Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education (Assistant

Secretary), and others in the Department on the design and implementation of standards and assessment and accountability systems, including on systems that may be established with funding from the Race to the Top Assessment program. The NTAC shall provide guidance to help the Department ensure that the standards, assessment, and accountability components of state accountability and assessment systems are based on sound technical decisions. For example, the NTAC may advise the Department on issues related to ensuring that new assessment systems developed by the states adhere to the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) requirements, how to allow and encourage innovation in assessment development, and the timing and process for peer review of new assessments for states with approved assessment systems. The NTAC may also advise the Department on the implementation of the Race to the Top Assessment program, the use of benchmark assessments, or the design, implementation and review of accountability models (e.g., on the issue of incorporation of growth measures into those models).

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

The Council shall consist of no more than 16 members, selected by the Secretary, and shall consist of academicians, researchers, and national, state, and local policymakers. The Secretary will solicit recommendations for members from the public. The members shall be experts in assessment and accountability and at least one-third shall have experience working in or with state educational agencies or local educational agencies.

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

No meetings were held in FY 2012.

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

The Secretary established the NTAC as a FACA committee to allow the same group to be convened to review, comment, and provide advice related to state accountability and assessment systems.

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

N/A

21. Remarks

The Committee held no meetings during Fiscal Year 2012.

Designated Federal Officer

David Harmon Education Program Specialist

Narrative Description

The Council advised the Secretary of Education (Secretary) and the Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education (Assistant Secretary) on efforts to improve student academic achievement and quality of instruction which is both educationally and technically sound. The technical design and implementation of standards, assessment, and accountability systems must be consistent with statute and regulations. These systems constitute fundamental components of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA). Without rigorous standards, high-quality assessments, and transparent accountability systems, states are unable to measure whether they are meeting the goal of the ESEA: to close the achievement gaps.

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

Outcome Comments

N/A

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 Council provided guidance to the Department to ensure that the Department considers the right questions and the proper approach to these questions when reviewing any technical component of a state's accountability and assessment system.

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

3

Number of Recommendations Comments

The Council provided feedback to issues raised by the Department during Council meetings but will not provide formal recommendations. No group consensus or vote among Council members will be taken.

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 Council did not vote on issues or provide formal feedback, but the Department used the members' feedback to determine the course of action to follow when drafting guidance to states.

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

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

Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable ☒

Agency Feedback Comments

The Council did not function/meet in FY2012.

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 type="checkbox"/>

Action Comments

Based upon previous feedback of the Council, the Department has provided guidance to states regarding accountability and assessment systems, particularly regarding graduation rates, goals, and targets; secondary assessment systems; and assessments based on modified academic achievement standards.

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

No

Grant Review Comments

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 type="checkbox"/>
Publications	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Access Comments

N/A