

practices; hazardous substances and hazardous wastes; air quality and greenhouse gases; noise; geology, topography, and soils; water resources; socioeconomic; environmental justice; transportation and traffic; airspace; electromagnetic spectrum; utilities; and human health and safety.

The Draft EIS indicates that under Alternatives 1, 2, and 3, significant adverse impacts on land use (land tenure), cultural practices, and environmental justice could occur. Under the No Action Alternative, significant adverse impacts on biological resources, socioeconomic, and utilities could occur. The No Action Alternative could have significant beneficial impacts on land use, cultural practices, and environmental justice. To mitigate adverse impacts to land use, the Army would consider adding non-barbed wire fencing and signage to minimize encroachment and accidental or intentional trespass from adjacent non-U.S. Government-owned land. In consideration of adverse impacts to cultural practices and environmental justice, the Army, in consultation with Native Hawaiians and cultural practitioners, proposes to: (1) formalize a cultural access request process to enable Native Hawaiians and cultural practitioners to promote and preserve cultural practices, beliefs, and resources; and (2) explore options to provide unlimited access to specific locations. To mitigate adverse impacts on human health and safety, the Army would consider: (1) negotiating an agreement with the State to allow the Army to monitor for wildfires on the State-owned land that is not retained by the Army; and (2) continuing or renegotiating its Memorandum of Agreement with the Hawai'i County Fire Department to assist wildfire responders with wildfire suppression outside of PTA boundaries.

The No Action Alternative could have significant adverse impacts on biological resources, socioeconomic, and utilities; significant beneficial impacts for land use, cultural practices, and environmental justice; and less than significant impacts on all other resources.

The Army distributed the Draft EIS to: Native Hawaiian Organizations; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; and other stakeholders. The Draft EIS and informational materials are also available on the EIS website at: <https://home.army.mil/hawaii/index.php/PTAEIS>. The public may also review the Draft EIS and select materials at the following libraries:

1. Hawai'i State Library, Hawai'i Documents

Center, 478 S King Street, Honolulu, HI 96813

2. Hilo Public Library, 300 Waiuanuenue Avenue, Hilo, HI 96720
3. Kailua-Kona Public Library, 75-138 Hualalai Road, Kailua-Kona, HI 96740
4. Thelma Parker Memorial Public and School Library, 67-1209 Mamalahoa Highway, Kamuela, HI 96743

Native Hawaiian Organizations, Federal, State, and local agencies/officials, and other interested entities/individuals are encouraged to comment on the Draft EIS during the 45-day public comment period. All comments postmarked or received June 7, 2024 will be considered in the development of the Final EIS.

**James W. Satterwhite, Jr.,**

*U.S. Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2024-08403 Filed 4-18-24; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3711-02-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Office of the Secretary

#### Department of Defense Wage Committee (DoDWC); Notice of Federal Advisory Committee Meetings

**AGENCY:** Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness (USD(P&R)), Department of Defense (DoD).

**ACTION:** Notice of closed Federal Advisory Committee meetings.

**SUMMARY:** The DoD is publishing this notice to announce that the following Federal Advisory Committee meetings of the DoDWC will take place.

**DATES:** Tuesday, April 16, 2024, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and will be closed to the public. Tuesday, April 30, 2024, from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and will be closed to the public; Tuesday, May 14, 2024, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and will be closed to the public; Tuesday, May 28, 2024, from 10 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. and will be closed to the public; Tuesday, June 11, 2024, from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and will be closed to the public.

**ADDRESSES:** The closed meetings will be held by Microsoft Teams.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Karl Fendt, (571) 372-1618 (voice), [karl.h.fendt.civ@mail.mil](mailto:karl.h.fendt.civ@mail.mil). (email), 4800 Mark Center Drive, Suite 05G21, Alexandria, Virginia 22350 (mailing address). Any agenda updates can be found at the DoDWC's official website: <https://wageandsalary.dcpas.osd.mil/BWN/DODWC/>.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Due to circumstances beyond the control of the Designated Federal Officer (DFO) and the DoD, the DoDWC was unable to provide public notification required by

41 CFR 102-3.150(a) concerning its April 16, 2024 meeting. Accordingly, the Advisory Committee Management Officer for the DoD, pursuant to 41 CFR 102-3.150(b), waives the 15-calendar day notification requirement.

Due to circumstances beyond the control of the DFO and the DoD, the DoDWC was unable to provide public notification required by 41 CFR 102-3.150(a) concerning its April 30, 2024 meeting. Accordingly, the Advisory Committee Management Officer for the DoD, pursuant to 41 CFR 102-3.150(b), waives the 15-calendar day notification requirement.

These meetings are being held under the provisions of chapter 10 of title 5, United States Code (U.S.C.) (commonly known as the "Federal Advisory Committee Act" or "FACA"), 5 U.S.C. 552b(c) (commonly known as the "Government in the Sunshine Act"), and 41 CFR 102-3.140 and 102-3.150.

*Purpose of the Meeting:* The purpose of these meetings is to provide independent advice and recommendations on matters relating to the conduct of wage surveys and the establishment of wage schedules for all appropriated fund and non-appropriated fund areas of blue-collar employees within the DoD.

### Agendas

#### April 16, 2024

Opening Remarks by Chair, Mr. Eric Clayton, and DFO, Mr. Karl Fendt.

Reviewing survey results and/or survey specifications for the following Nonappropriated Fund areas:

1. Any items needing further clarification or action from the previous meeting.
2. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Onslow, North Carolina wage area (AC-097).
3. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Shelby, Tennessee wage area (AC-098).
4. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Christian, Kentucky/Montgomery, Tennessee wage area (AC-099).
5. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Charleston, South Carolina wage area (AC-120).
6. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the San Juan-Guaynabo, Puerto Rico wage area (AC-155).
7. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Sacramento, California wage area (AC-002).
8. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the San Joaquin, California wage area (AC-008).
9. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Bernalillo, New Mexico wage area (AC-019).

10. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Dona Ana, New Mexico wage area (AC-021).

11. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the El Paso, Texas wage area (AC-023).

12. Survey Specifications for the Frederick, Maryland wage area (AC-088).

13. Survey Specifications for the Washington, District of Columbia wage area (AC-124).

14. Survey Specifications for the Alexandria-Arlington-Fairfax, Virginia wage area (AC-125).

15. Survey Specifications for the Prince William, Virginia wage area (AC-126).

16. Survey Specifications for the Prince George's-Montgomery, Maryland wage area (AC-127).

17. Survey Specifications for the Charles-St. Mary's, Maryland wage area (AC-128).

18. Survey Specifications for the Anne Arundel, Maryland wage area (AC-147).

Reviewing survey results and/or survey specifications for the following Appropriated Fund areas:

19. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Salinas-Monterey, California wage area (AC-015).

20. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Southern Colorado wage area (AC-023).

21. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Lexington, Kentucky wage area (AC-058).

22. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Northern Mississippi wage area (AC-077).

23. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the New York, New York wage area (AC-094).

24. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Rochester, New York wage area (AC-096).

25. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Dayton, Ohio wage area (AC-107).

26. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Memphis, Tennessee wage area (AC-124).

27. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Nashville, Tennessee wage area (AC-125).

28. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Wyoming wage area (AC-150).

29. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Fresno, California wage area (AC-012).

30. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Sacramento, California wage area (AC-014).

31. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Stockton, California wage area (AC-020).

32. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Denver, Colorado wage area (AC-022).

33. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Miami, Florida wage area (AC-031).

34. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Louisville, Kentucky wage area (AC-059).

35. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Jackson, Mississippi wage area (AC-078).

36. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Meridian, Mississippi wage area (AC-079).

37. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Cincinnati, Ohio wage area (AC-104).

38. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Narragansett Bay, Rhode Island wage area (AC-118).

39. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Eastern Tennessee wage area (AC-123).

40. Survey Specifications for the Alaska wage area (AC-007).

41. Survey Specifications for the Hawaii wage area (AC-044).

42. Survey Specifications for the Central & Western Massachusetts wage area (AC-069).

43. Survey Specifications for the Southwestern Wisconsin wage area (AC-149).

44. Survey Specifications for the Central and Northern Maine wage area (AC-064).

45. Survey Specifications for the Montana wage area (AC-083).

46. Survey Specifications for the Asheville, North Carolina wage area (AC-098).

47. Survey Specifications for the Southwestern Oregon wage area (AC-113).

48. Survey Specifications for the Charleston, South Carolina wage area (AC-119).

49. Survey Specifications for the Austin, Texas wage area (AC-129).

50. Survey Specifications for the Corpus Christi, Texas wage area (AC-130).

51. Special Pay—Northern Mississippi Special Rates.

52. Special Pay—Fresno, California Special Rates.

53. Special Pay—Louisville, Kentucky Special Rates.

54. Special Pay—Stockton, California Special Rates.

55. Special Pay—Narragansett Bay, Rhode Island Special Rates.

56. Special Pay—Southeast Power Rate.

57. Any items needing further clarification from this agenda may be discussed during future scheduled meetings.

Closing Remarks by Chair, Mr. Eric Clayton.

*April 30, 2024*

Opening Remarks by Chair, Mr. Eric Clayton, and DFO, Mr. Karl Fendt.

Reviewing survey results and/or survey specifications for the following Nonappropriated Fund areas:

1. Any items needing further clarification or action from the previous meeting.

2. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Oklahoma, Oklahoma wage area (AC-052).

3. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Harrison, Mississippi wage area (AC-070).

4. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Hardin-Jefferson, Kentucky wage area (AC-096).

5. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Wayne, North Carolina wage area (AC-107).

6. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Cumberland, North Carolina wage area (AC-108).

7. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Richland, South Carolina wage area (AC-110).

8. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Wichita, Texas wage area (AC-122).

9. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Comanche, Oklahoma wage area (AC-123).

10. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Craven, North Carolina wage area (AC-164).

11. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Lauderdale, Mississippi wage area (AC-001).

12. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Lowndes, Mississippi wage area (AC-004).

13. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Rapides, Louisiana wage area (AC-024).

14. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Caddo-Bossier, Louisiana wage area (AC-025).

15. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Chatham, Georgia wage area (AC-037).

16. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Dougherty, Georgia wage area (AC-046).

17. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Lowndes, Georgia wage area (AC-047).

Reviewing survey results and/or survey specifications for the following Appropriated Fund areas:

18. Survey Specifications for the Cedar Rapids-Iowa City, Iowa wage area (AC-052).

19. Survey Specifications for the Madison, Wisconsin wage area (AC-147).

20. Any items needing further clarification from this agenda may be discussed during future scheduled meetings.

Closing Remarks by Chair, Mr. Eric Clayton.

May 14, 2024

Opening Remarks by Chair, Mr. Eric Clayton, and DFO, Mr. Karl Fendt.

Reviewing survey results and/or survey specifications for the following Nonappropriated Fund areas:

1. Any items needing further clarification or action from the previous meeting.

2. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Calhoun, Alabama wage area (AC-104).

3. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Madison, Alabama wage area (AC-105).

4. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Lake, Illinois wage area (AC-145).

5. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Douglas-Sarpy, Nevada wage area (AC-149).

6. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Leavenworth, Kansas/Jackson-Johnson, Missouri wage area (AC-151).

7. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the St. Clair, Illinois wage area (AC-157).

8. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Richmond, Georgia wage area (AC-035).

9. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Houston, Georgia wage area (AC-036).

10. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Pulaski, Arkansas wage area (AC-045).

11. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Montgomery, Alabama wage area (AC-048).

12. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Sedgwick, Kansas wage area (AC-078).

13. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Montgomery-Greene, Ohio wage area (AC-166).

14. Survey Specifications for the Los Angeles, California wage area (AC-130).

15. Survey Specifications for the Orange, California wage area (AC-131).

16. Survey Specifications for the Ventura, California wage area (AC-132).

17. Survey Specifications for the Riverside, California wage area (AC-133).

18. Survey Specifications for the San Bernardino, California wage area (AC-134).

19. Survey Specifications for the Santa Barbara, California wage area (AC-135).

20. Survey Specifications for the Guam wage area (AC-150).

Reviewing survey results and/or survey specifications for the following Appropriated Fund areas:

21. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Reno, Nevada wage area (AC-086).

22. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Syracuse-Utica-Rome, New York wage area (AC-097).

23. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the North Dakota wage area (AC-103).

24. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Houston-Galveston-Texas City, Texas wage area (AC-133).

25. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Northeastern Arizona wage area (AC-008).

26. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Phoenix, Arizona wage area (AC-009).

27. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Tucson, Arizona wage area (AC-010).

28. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota wage area (AC-075).

29. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Albany-Schenectady-Troy, New York wage area (AC-091).

30. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Northern New York wage area (AC-095).

31. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the West Virginia wage area (AC-146).

32. Survey Specifications for the Little Rock, Arkansas wage area (AC-011).

33. Survey Specifications for the Portland, Oregon wage area (AC-112).

34. Survey Specifications for the Wichita Falls, Texas-Southwestern Oregon wage area (AC-138).

35. Special Pay—Pacific Northwest Power Rate.

36. Any items needing further clarification from this agenda may be discussed during future scheduled meetings.

Closing Remarks by Chair, Mr. Eric Clayton.

May 28, 2024

Opening Remarks by Chair, Mr. Eric Clayton, and DFO, Mr. Karl Fendt.

Reviewing survey results and/or survey specifications for the following Appropriated Fund areas:

1. Any items needing further clarification or action from the previous meeting.

2. Survey Specifications for the Boston, Massachusetts wage area (AC-068).

3. Any items needing further clarification from this agenda may be discussed during future scheduled meetings.

Closing Remarks by Chair, Mr. Eric Clayton.

June 11, 2024

Opening Remarks by Chair, Mr. Eric Clayton, and DFO, Mr. Karl Fendt.

Reviewing survey results and/or survey specifications for the following Nonappropriated Fund areas:

1. Any items needing further clarification or action from the previous meeting.

2. Survey Specifications for the Maricopa, Arizona wage area (AC-012).

3. Survey Specifications for the Pima, Arizona wage area (AC-013).

4. Survey Specifications for the Yuma, Arizona wage area (AC-055).

5. Survey Specifications for the Kings-Queens, New York wage area (AC-091).

Reviewing survey results and/or survey specifications for the following Appropriated Fund areas:

6. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Anniston-Gadsden, Alabama wage area (AC-001).

7. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Huntsville, Alabama wage area (AC-004).

8. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Tampa-St. Petersburg, Florida wage area (AC-035).

9. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Lake Charles-Alexandria, Louisiana wage area (AC-060).

10. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the El Paso, Texas wage area (AC-132).

11. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the New Haven-Hartford, Connecticut wage area (AC-024).

12. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Albuquerque, New Mexico wage area (AC-089).

13. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Cleveland, Ohio wage area (AC-105).

14. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Texarkana, Texas wage area (AC-136).

15. Survey Specifications for the Los Angeles, California wage area (AC-013).

16. Survey Specifications for the Santa Barbara, California wage area (AC-019).

17. Survey Specifications for the New London, Connecticut wage area (AC-025).

18. Survey Specifications for the Panama City, Florida wage area (AC-033).

19. Survey Specifications for the Las Vegas, Nevada wage area (AC-085).

20. Survey Specifications for the Portsmouth, New Hampshire wage area (AC-087).

21. Any items needing further clarification from this agenda may be discussed during future scheduled meetings.

Closing Remarks by Chair, Mr. Eric Clayton.

*Meeting Accessibility:* Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(4), the DoD has determined that the meetings shall be closed to the public. The USD(P&R), in consultation with the DoD Office of General Counsel, has determined in writing that each of these meetings is likely to disclose trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential.

*Written Statements:* Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 1009(a)(3) and 41 CFR 102-3.140,

interested persons may submit written statements to the DFO for the DoDWC at any time. Written statements should be submitted to the DFO at the email or mailing address listed above in **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**. If statements pertain to a specific topic being discussed at a planned meeting, then these statements must be submitted no later than five (5) business days prior to the meeting in question. Written statements received after this date may not be provided to or considered by the DoDWC until its next meeting. The DFO will review all timely submitted written statements and provide copies to all the committee members before the meetings that are the subject of this notice.

Dated: April 15, 2024.

**Aaron T. Siegel,**

*Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.*

[FR Doc. 2024-08356 Filed 4-18-24; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6001-FR-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE DEFENSE

### Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers

#### **Withdrawal of the Notice of Intent To Prepare a Joint Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report for the Dredged Material Management Plan Feasibility Study, Los Angeles County, CA**

**AGENCY:** Army Corps of Engineers, Department of the Army, DoD.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent; withdrawal.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District, Planning Division is notifying interested parties that it has withdrawn the Notice of Intent (NOI) to develop a Joint Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report for the Dredged Material Management Plan Feasibility Study. The original NOI to prepare a Joint EIS/EIR was published in the **Federal Register** on February 13, 2003. The proposed Dredged Material Management Plan Feasibility Study was converted into a Dredged Material Management Framework on August 24, 2009. A Final EIS/EIR was never completed.

**DATES:** The notice of intent to prepare an EIS published in the **Federal Register** on February 13, 2003 (68 FR 7353), is withdrawn as of April 19, 2024.

**ADDRESSES:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District, Environmental Resources Branch, (CESPL-PDR), 915 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1109, Los Angeles, CA 90017-3409.

#### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Questions regarding the withdrawal of this NOI should be addressed to Mr. Larry Smith, 213-452-3876, or [.army.mil](mailto:.army.mil).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Draft EIS/EIR was distributed for public and agency review on February 10, 2009. The Dredged Material Management Framework was completed as an internal document in November 2022 after it was determined that the Study did not meet the programmatic definition of a Dredged Material Management Plan.

**David R. Hibner,**

*Programs Director, South Pacific Division.*

[FR Doc. 2024-08379 Filed 4-18-24; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3720-58-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### **Peer Review Opportunities With the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Elementary and Secondary Education (OESE); Office of English Language Acquisition (OELA); Office of Postsecondary Education (OPE); and Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS)**

**AGENCY:** Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, Office of English Language Acquisition, Office of Postsecondary Education, and Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, U.S. Department of Education.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Education (Department) announces opportunities for individuals to participate in its peer review process for competitive grant funding under the programs administered by OESE, OELA, OPE, and OSERS.

**DATES:** Requests to serve as a peer reviewer for fiscal year 2024 will be accepted on an ongoing basis, aligned with this year's grant competition schedule. Requests to serve as a peer reviewer should be submitted at least four weeks prior to the program's application deadline noted on the Department's website under "Forecast of Funding Opportunities" at [www2.ed.gov/fund/grant/find/edlite-forecast.html](http://www2.ed.gov/fund/grant/find/edlite-forecast.html). This notice highlights the specific needs of OESE, OELA, OPE, and OSERS.

**ADDRESSES:** An individual interested in serving as a peer reviewer must register and upload his or her resume in the Department's grants management system known as "G6" at [www.g6.gov](http://www.g6.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

**OESE:** Andrew Brake, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW, Room 4B168, Washington, DC 20202. Telephone: (202) 453-6136. Email: [andrew.brake@ed.gov](mailto:andrew.brake@ed.gov).

**OELA:** Francisco Javier López, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20202-5076. Telephone: (202) 558-4880. Email: [NPD2024@ed.gov](mailto:NPD2024@ed.gov).

**OPE:** Tonya Hardin, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW, 5th Floor, Washington, DC 20202. Telephone: (202) 453-7694. Email: [tonya.hardin@ed.gov](mailto:tonya.hardin@ed.gov).

**OSERS:** Kate Friday, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW, Room 4A-111, Potomac Center Plaza, Washington, DC 20202-5076. Telephone: (202) 987-1439. Email: [kate.friday@ed.gov](mailto:kate.friday@ed.gov).

If you are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability and wish to access telecommunications relay services, please dial 7-1-1.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The mission of the Department is to promote student achievement and preparation for global competitiveness by fostering educational excellence and ensuring equal access. The Department pursues its mission by funding grant programs that will improve access to high-quality educational opportunities and programs that pursue innovations in teaching and learning with a focus on underserved students. The Department also funds programs in other areas as authorized by statute. Grant funds are awarded to State educational agencies; local educational agencies (*i.e.*, school districts); State, local, or Tribal governments; nonprofit organizations; institutions of higher education; and other entities through a competitive process referred to as a grant competition.

Each year the Department convenes panels of external education professionals and practitioners to serve as peer reviewers.<sup>1</sup> Peer reviewers evaluate and score submitted applications against competition-specific criteria and announced priorities. Application scores are then used to inform the Secretary's funding decisions.

Executive Order 13985, Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government, directs Federal agencies to "assess whether

<sup>1</sup> Please note that the Institute of Education Sciences (IES) uses different peer review processes and procedures than those described in this notice. More information on the IES peer review process can be found at: [https://ies.ed.gov/director/sro/application\\_review.asp](https://ies.ed.gov/director/sro/application_review.asp). IES also administers its research grant competitions on a different timeline from other offices in the Department.