

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION**Agency Information Collection
Activities: Proposed Collection;
Comment Request****AGENCY:** National Science Foundation.**ACTION:** Submission for OMB review;
comment request.

SUMMARY: Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Pub. L. 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.), and as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, the National Science Foundation (NSF) is inviting the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on this proposed continuing information collection. This is the second notice for public comment; the first was published in the **Federal Register** at 67 FR 69573 and no comments were received. NSF is forwarding the proposed submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance simultaneously with the publication of this second notice.

DATES: Comments regarding these information collections are best assured of having their full effect if received by OMB within 30 days of publication in the **Federal Register**.

ADDRESSES: Written comments regarding (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of NSF, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of NSF's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; or (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology should be addressed to: Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs of OMB, Attention: Desk Officer for National Science Foundation, 725 17th Street, NW., Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503, and to Teresa R. Pierce, Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 295, Arlington, Virginia 22230 or send e-mail to tpierce@nsf.gov. Copies of the submission may be obtained by calling (703) 292-7555.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Teresa R. Pierce, NSF Reports Clearance Officer at (703) 292-7555 or send e-mail to tpierce@nsf.gov.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information

unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title of Collection: 2003 National Survey of College Graduates.

OMB Approval Number: 3145-0141.

Abstract: The National Survey of College Graduates (NSCG), formerly called the National Survey of Natural and Social Scientists and Engineers, has been conducted biennially since the 1970s. The 2003 NSCG will consist of a sample of individuals under the age of 76 with at least a bachelor's degree as of April 1, 2000, the day of Census 2000.

The 2003 NSCG will be the baseline survey for NSCG surveys for the rest of the decade. The purpose of this longitudinal study is to provide national estimates on the science and engineering workforce and changes in employment, education, and demographic characteristics. The study is one of three components of the Scientists and Engineers Statistical Data System (SESTAT), which produces national estimates of the size and characteristics of the nation's science and engineering population.

The National Science Foundation Act of 1950, as subsequently amended, includes a statutory charge to “* * * provide a central clearinghouse for the collection, interpretation, and analysis of data on scientific and engineering resources, and to provide a source of information for policy formulation by other agencies of the Federal Government.” The NSCG is designed to comply with these mandates by providing information on the supply and utilization of the nation's scientists and engineers. Collected data will be used to produce estimates of the characteristics of these individuals. They will also provide necessary input into the SESTAT labor force data system, which produces national estimates of the size and characteristics of the country's science and engineering population. The Foundation uses this information to prepare congressionally mandated reports such as *Women, Minorities and Persons with Disabilities in Science and Engineering* and *Science and Engineering Indicators*. A public release file of collected data, designed to protect respondent confidentiality, will be made available to researchers on CD-ROM and on the World Wide Web.

The Bureau of the Census, as in the past, will conduct the study for NSF.

Questionnaires will be mailed in October 2003 and nonrespondents to the mail questionnaire will be followed by computer-assisted interviewing. The survey will be collected in conformance with the Privacy Act of 1974 and the individual's response to the survey is voluntary. NSF will insure that all information collected will be kept strictly confidential and will be used only for research or statistical purposes, analyzing data, and preparing scientific reports and articles.

Expected Respondents: A sample of approximately 233,000 persons identified as having at least a bachelor's degree will receive the mail questionnaire. During the computer-assisted followup stage, the sample design uses a subsampling procedure similar to the one used on the American Community Survey as a cost efficient design strategy. The sample and subsample will be selected according to generally accepted probability sampling procedures.

Burden on the Public: The amount of time to complete the questionnaire may vary depending on an individual's circumstances; however, on average it will take approximately 25 minutes to complete the survey. NSF estimates that the total annual burden will be 73,649 hours during the year.

Dated: March 11, 2003.

Teresa R. Pierce,

Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation.

[FR Doc. 03-6224 Filed 3-14-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION**Business and Operations Advisory
Committee; Notice of Meeting**

In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, as amended), the National Science Foundation announces the following meeting:

Name: Business and Operations Advisory Committee (9556).

Date/Time: April 8, 2003; 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. (e.s.t.).

Place: National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Room 1235, Arlington, VA.

Type of Meeting: Open.

Contact Person: Mary Ann Birchett, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230 (703) 292-8100.

Purpose of Meeting: To provide advice concerning issues related to the oversight, integrity, development and enhancement of NSF's business operations.

Agenda: April 8, 2003.