

Exchange Street, Providence, RI 02903. The event will also be streamed live via Zoom videoconference for those not able to attend in person. Registration is not required. Details are available on NCD's event page at <https://ncd.gov/events/2023/upcoming-council-meeting>.

#### MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

**Day 1**—Following welcome remarks and introductions, Chairman Gallegos will host a fireside chat discussion with former Chair Sandra Parrino; then a brief break; followed by a town hall public comment session about housing concerns and opportunities; followed by a housing concerns panel presentation and questions from the Council. Following a lunch break, a town hall public comment session about transportation concerns and opportunities is followed by a transportation concerns panel presentation and questions from the Council; followed by a briefing on NCD's upcoming progress report Toward Economic Security, before adjourning.

**Day 2**—Welcome remarks and introductions are followed by the Chairman's report; Executive Committee report, Executive Director's report; policy updates; Council member report outs; a break; annual ethics training; and any old or new business, before adjourning.

**AGENDA:** The times provided below are approximations for when each agenda item is anticipated to be discussed (all times Eastern Standard Time):

#### Thursday, November 16, 2023

9:00–9:15 a.m.—Welcome and Call to Order  
 9:15–10:15 a.m.—Fireside Chat with Sandy Parrino  
 10:15–10:30 a.m.—BREAK  
 10:30–11:15 a.m.—Housing Concerns and Opportunities Town Hall  
 11:15 a.m.–12:15 p.m.—Housing Concerns and Opportunities Panel, Q&A  
 12:15–1:30 p.m.—LUNCH BREAK  
 1:30–2:15 p.m.—Transportation Concerns and Opportunities Town Hall  
 2:15–3:15 p.m.—Transportation Concerns and Opportunities Panel, Q&A  
 3:15–3:30 p.m.—BREAK  
 3:30–4:30 p.m.—Toward Economic Security progress report briefing and respondent panel  
 4:30 p.m.—Adjourn

#### Friday, November 17, 2023

10:00–10:05 a.m.—Welcome and Call to Order  
 10:05–10:15 a.m.—Chairman's Report

10:15–10:30 a.m.—Executive Committee Report  
 10:30–10:40 a.m.—Executive Director's Report  
 10:40–11:15 a.m.—Policy Updates  
 11:15–11:45 a.m.—Council Member report outs on community outreach/ input  
 11:45 a.m.–12:00 p.m.—BREAK  
 12:00–1:00 p.m.—Annual Ethics Training  
 1:00–1:15 p.m.—Old Business/New Business  
 1:15 p.m.—Adjourn

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Your participation during NCD's public comment period provides an opportunity for us to hear from you—individuals, businesses, providers, educators, parents and advocates. Your comments are important in bringing to the Council's attention and issues and priorities of the disability community, and help inform open research projects the Council has underway as well as the potential for future ones.

For the November 16 Council meeting, NCD will have two town hall format public comment sessions focused on housing concerns and opportunities, and transportation concerns and opportunities for people with disabilities. Commenters will be limited to three minutes each to accommodate as many comments as possible. Additional information on specifics of the topic is available on NCD's public comment page at <https://ncd.gov/public-comment>.

The Council will prioritize in-person commenters, but as time permits, will also receive public comment by video or audio over Zoom, and always accepts advance public comments via email. Due to the hybrid nature of the event, in-person presentations will be given priority.

To provide public comment during an NCD Council Meeting in any form (in-person or by Zoom), NCD now requires advanced registration by sending an email to [PublicComment@ncd.gov](mailto:PublicComment@ncd.gov) with the subject line "Public Comment" and your name, organization, state, and topic of comment included in the body of your email. Deadline for registration is November 14, 8:00 p.m. EST. Please indicate if you are providing the comment in-person, over Zoom, or only submitting via email. All individuals desiring to make public comment are strongly encouraged to read NCD's guidelines for public comment in advance of the meeting at: <https://ncd.gov/public-comment>.

While public comment can be submitted on any topic over email, comments during the meeting should be

specific to experiences with housing concerns and opportunities for people with disabilities.

**CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:** Nicholas Sabula, Public Affairs Specialist, NCD, 1331 F Street NW, Suite 850, Washington, DC 20004; 202–272–2004 (V), or [nsabula@ncd.gov](mailto:nsabula@ncd.gov).

**ACCOMMODATIONS:** ASL Interpreters will be provided in-room and included during the live streamed meeting, and CART has been arranged for this meeting and will be embedded into the Zoom platform as well as available via streamtext link. The web link to access CART (in English) is: <https://www.streamtext.net/player?event=NCD>.

If you require additional accommodations, please notify Stacey Brown by sending an email to [sbrown@ncd.gov](mailto:sbrown@ncd.gov) as soon as possible and no later than 24 hours prior to the meeting.

Due to last-minute confirmations or cancellations, NCD may substitute items without advance public notice.

Dated: September 25, 2023.

**Anne C. Sommers McIntosh,**  
*Executive Director.*

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**BILLING CODE 8421–02–P**

#### NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

**Agency Information Collection Activities: Comment Request; Awardee Reporting Requirements for the Established Program To Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) Research Infrastructure Improvement Programs**

**AGENCY:** National Science Foundation.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The National Science Foundation (NSF) is announcing plans to renew this collection. In accordance with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, we are providing opportunity for public comment on this action. After obtaining and considering public comment, NSF will prepare the submission requesting Office of Management and Budget (OMB) clearance of this collection for no longer than 3 years.

**DATES:** Written comments on this notice must be received by November 27, 2023 to be assured consideration. Comments received after that date will be considered to the extent practicable. Send comments to address below.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Suzanne H. Plimpton, Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation, 2415 Eisenhower Avenue, Suite W18200, Alexandria, Virginia 22314;

telephone (703) 292-7556; or send email to [spimpto@nsf.gov](mailto:spimpto@nsf.gov). Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339, which is accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year (including Federal holidays).

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Comments:* Comments are invited on (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (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.

*Title of Collection:* Awardee Reporting Requirements for the Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) Research Infrastructure Improvement Programs.

*OMB Number:* 3145-0243.

*Expiration Date of Approval:* February 29, 2024.

*Type of Request:* Intent to seek approval to renew an information collection.

*Proposed Project:* The mission of the National Science Foundation (NSF) is to promote the progress of science; to advance the national health, welfare, and prosperity; and to secure the national defense, while avoiding the undue concentration of research and education. In 1977, in response to congressional concern that NSF funding was overly concentrated geographically, a National Science Board task force analyzed the geographic distribution of NSF funds, which resulted in the creation of an NSF Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR). The American Innovation and Competitiveness Act (Pub. L. 114-329, Sec 103 D) effectively changed the program's name from "Experimental" to "Established" in FY 2016. Congress specified two objectives for the EPSCoR program in the National Science Foundation Authorization Act of 1988: (1) to assist States that historically have received relatively little Federal research and development funding; and (2) to assist States that

have demonstrated a commitment to develop their research bases and improve science and engineering research and education programs at their universities and colleges.

The EPSCoR Research Infrastructure Improvement (RII) Investment Strategies advance science and engineering capabilities in EPSCoR jurisdictions for discovery, innovation and overall knowledge-based prosperity. These projects build human, cyber, and physical infrastructure in EPSCoR jurisdictions, stimulating sustainable improvements in their Research & Development (R&D) capacity and competitiveness.

EPSCoR projects are unique in their scope and complexity; in their integration of individual researchers, institutions, and organizations; and in their role in developing the diverse, well-prepared, STEM-enabled workforce necessary to sustain research competitiveness and catalyze economic development. In addition, these projects are generally inter- or multi-disciplinary and involve effective jurisdictional and regional collaborations among academic, government, and private sector stakeholders that advance scientific research, promote innovation, and provide multiple societal benefits. They also broaden participation in science and engineering by engaging multiple institutions and organizations at all levels of research and education, and people within and among EPSCoR jurisdictions. These projects usually involve between 100 to 300 participants per year over the performance period, and the projects reach thousands more through their extensive STEM outreach activities. The American Innovation and Competitiveness Act of 2016, Section 103 (Pub. L. 114-329) requires NSF EPSCoR to submit annual reports to both Congress and OSTP that contain data detailing project progress and success (new investigators, broadening participation, dissemination of results, new workshops, outreach activities, proposals submitted and awarded, mentoring activities among faculty members, collaborations, researcher participating on the review process, etc.).

EPSCoR RII Track-1 and Track-2 projects are required to submit annual reports on progress and plans, which are used as a basis for performance review and determining the level of continued funding. To support this review and the management of EPSCoR RII projects, teams are required to develop a set of performance indicators for building sustainable infrastructure and capacity in terms of a strategic plan for the project; measure performance and revise

strategies as appropriate; report on the progress relative to the project's goals and milestones; and describe changes in strategies, if any, for submission annually to NSF. These indicators are both quantitative and descriptive and may include, for example, the characteristics of project personnel and students; aggregate demographics of participants; sources of financial support and in-kind support; expenditures by operational component; characteristics of industrial and/or other sector participation; research activities; workforce development activities; external engagement activities; patents and patent licenses; publications; degrees granted to students involved in project activities; and descriptions of significant advances and other outcomes of the EPSCoR project's efforts. Part of this reporting takes the form of several spreadsheets to capture specific information to demonstrate progress towards achieving the goals of the program. Such reporting requirements are included in the cooperative agreement which is binding between the awardee institution and NSF.

Each project's annual report addresses the following categories of activities: (1) research, (2) education, (3) workforce development, (4) partnerships and collaborations, (5) communication and dissemination, (6) sustainability, (7) diversity, (8) management, and (9) evaluation and assessment.

For each of the categories the report is required to describe overall objectives for the year; specific accomplishments, impacts, outputs and outcomes; problems or challenges the project has encountered in making progress towards goals; and anticipated problems in performance during the following year.

*Use of the Information:* NSF will use the information to continue its oversight of funded EPSCoR RII projects, and to evaluate the progress of the program.

The change would facilitate reporting better aligned with program goals and provides data as legislatively required for NSF EPSCoR.

*Estimate of Burden:* 100 hours per project for twenty-eight projects for a total of 2,800 hours.

*Respondents:* Non-profit institutions; federal government.

*Estimated Number of Responses per Report:* One.

Dated: September 25, 2023.

**Suzanne H. Plimpton,**  
Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation.

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