

NATIONAL SCIENCE BOARD (NSB)

\$4,470,000
+\$30,000/ 0.7%

The FY 2014 Request for the National Science Board is \$4.47 million, which is \$30,000 above the FY 2012 Enacted of \$4.44 million. The FY 2014 Budget Request will enable the Board to fulfill its policy-making responsibilities for NSF. This funding will allow the Board to continue its responsibilities as outlined in the National Science Foundation Act of 1950, as amended (42 U.S.C. 1863) and Public Law 86-209 (42 U.S.C. 1880 et seq.), including activities related to the review of major research facilities projects. These resources will also be used to develop and submit *Science and Engineering Indicators 2014* and related products to the President and Congress.

Office of the National Science Board

(Dollars in Millions)

	FY 2012 Actual	FY 2012 Enacted/ Annualized FY 2013 CR ¹	FY 2014 Request	Change over FY 2012 Enacted	
				Amount	Percent
Subtotal, NSB	\$4.37	\$4.44	\$4.47	\$0.03	0.7%
FY 2013 Adjustment ²		0.03			
Total, NSB	\$4.37	\$4.47	\$4.47	-	-
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	17	18	19	1	5.6%

Totals may not add due to rounding.

¹A full-year 2013 appropriation was not enacted at the time the budget was prepared. Therefore this account was operating under a continuing resolution (P.L. 112-175). The amounts shown for FY 2013 are placeholders and reflect an annualization of P.L. 112-175 at the account level.

²This budget line is included to adjust for an item specific to the FY 2013 continuing resolution: \$27,173 for the 0.612 percent increase provided by the continuing resolution.

Appropriations Language

For necessary expenses (including payment of salaries, authorized travel, hire of passenger motor vehicles, the rental of conference rooms in the District of Columbia, and the employment of experts and consultants under section 3109 of title 5, United States Code) involved in carrying out section 4 of the National Science Foundation Act of 1950, as amended (42 U.S.C 1863) and Public Law 86-209 (42 U.S.C. 1880 et seq.), ~~\$4,440,000~~:**\$4,470,000**: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$2,500 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses.

**National Science Board
FY 2014 Summary Statement**

(Dollars in Millions)

	Enacted/ Request	Expired	Total Resources	Obligations/ Estimates
FY 2012 Appropriation	\$4.44	-\$0.07	\$4.37	\$4.37
FY 2012 Enacted/Annualized FY 2013 CR ¹	4.47		4.47	4.47
FY 2014 Request	4.47		4.47	4.47
\$ Change from FY 2012 Enacted				0.03
% Change from FY 2012 Enacted				0.7%

Totals may not add due to rounding.

¹This line includes the adjustment for an item specific to the FY 2013 continuing resolution: \$27,173 for the 0.612 percent increase provided by the continuing resolution.

National Science Board in Context

The Board, established by the NSF Act of 1950, has dual responsibilities to: a) provide national science policy advice to the President and Congress; and b) establish policies for NSF. The Board is composed of 25 presidentially-appointed members, including the NSF Director, representing the broad U.S. science and engineering (S&E) community. Board Members, who serve 6-year terms on staggered appointments, are drawn from industry, academe, non-profit organizations and professional scientific societies, and represent the breadth of S&E disciplines supported by NSF. They are selected for their eminence in research, education, or public service.

The Board currently meets for five formally scheduled meetings a year and additional meetings as needed to review and approve major NSF awards and new programs, oversee and provide policy direction to NSF, and address significant science and engineering related national policy issues. It initiates and conducts studies and reports on a range of policy topics and reviews NSF's priorities both to ensure progress and consistency along the strategic direction set for NSF and to ensure balance among new investments and core programs.

Policy Responsibilities

Issues of importance to the science, engineering, and education communities in general and to the NSF in particular are often examined by the Board. Topics for exploration are determined through requests from Congress or the President or as identified by the Board in consultation with the science community and NSF management. Recent reports have examined topics such as merit review, mid-scale instrumentation, data policies, public research universities, science and engineering education, and the U.S. innovation system. Identification of Board items for study in FY 2014, in addition to the development and production of *Science and Engineering Indicators 2014* and its associated products, will be determined at a later date and is currently under discussion.

In addition to those special studies, the Board has several standing committees to assist with its responsibilities. The Committee on Audit and Oversight provides general supervision for the NSF Inspector General; oversight of major agency administrative processes and principal administrative systems; and review of the agency's GPRM Modernization Act (Government, Performance, and Results Act) requirements.

The Committee on Strategy and Budget (CSB) focuses on strategic planning and new investments for NSF; analyzes the Foundation's budget to ensure progress and consistency against strategic direction for the Foundation; and identifies strategic, typically long-term, issues that are critical to NSF's future. Within CSB, the Subcommittee on Facilities (SCF) provides guidance and review of the NSF-funded research equipment and facilities portfolio, including both Major Research Equipment and Facilities Construction (MREFC) account-funded and Research and Related Activities (R&RA) account-funded facilities.

The Committee on Education and Human Resources (CEH) focuses on policy direction and advice on major policy issues related to the NSF education, informal science, and training portfolio; and reviews proposals representing a significant expenditure of National Science Foundation resources and recommends actions for consideration by the Board. It also provides advice on major national policy issues in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education, human resource needs and employment, and human resource development for consideration by the Board.

The Committee on Science and Engineering Indicators (SEI) oversees the development, production, and recommends approval to the Board for release of the Board's biennial report, *Science and Engineering Indicators*, and other related products; and keeps the Board informed on trends and other data with significant policy implications identified during the production of *Indicators*. The Board's publication,

Science and Engineering Indicators (SEI), is a statutory responsibility. Over the past several years, the Board has heightened its efforts to expand the audience for Indicators, implementing enhancements such as the on-line *Digest of Key Science and Engineering Indicators* that encourage audiences outside the normal community of users to become familiar with the data resources in Indicators and to facilitate the use of Indicators data in policy decisions and analyses. Release of the 2014 edition of SEI to Congress is scheduled for January, 2014. The Board has indicated an interest in developing additional policy statements based on the SEI data to assist policymakers in their deliberations on science and technology issues.

The Board is responsible for direct review and approval of the Foundation's largest awards, and is responsible for the review and approval of MREFC projects at all stages of development, including budget planning, review of proposals and management effectiveness, and approval of awards. The Committee on Programs and Plans (CPP) provides guidance and advice on major policy issues related to the NSF research and related activities portfolio, reviews proposals representing a significant expenditure of agency resources, and makes recommendations, as appropriate, to the full Board for its consideration and action.

The Board's Executive Committee (EC) is required by the National Science Foundation Act of 1950, as amended (42 U.S.C. Section 1865). It consists of the NSF Director, who chairs the Committee, and four other elected members from the Board. The Board may delegate to the Executive Committee or to the Director or both such of the powers and functions granted to the Board by the NSF Act as it deems appropriate.

On-going activities of the Board include review and approval of the following:

- Large awards, MREFC projects, or proposal funding requests and other proposals as needed;
- NSF's Management Response to the Office of Inspector General (OIG) Semi-annual Reports to Congress;
- The Budget for OIG for submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB);
- The NSF Budget Submission, including the NSB Budget, for transmittal to OMB;
- The priority order for projects in the MREFC Account;
- Inclusion of any new project(s) in a request for funding under the MREFC Account; and
- The NSF Strategic Plan.

The Board also receives reviews of the following from NSF:

- Financial management reports for NSF;
- The operation of NSF's merit review system;
- NSF research infrastructure portfolio; and
- NSF human capital reports.

Office of the National Science Board
Personnel Compensation and Benefits and General Operating Expenses

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2012 Actual	FY 2012/ Enacted/ Annualized FY 2013 CR	FY 2014 Request	Change over FY 2012 Enacted	
				Amount	Percent
Personnel Compensation and Benefits	\$2,557	\$2,973	\$3,080	\$107	3.6%
Staff Development & Training	30	36	36	-	-
Advisory & Assistance Services	1,445	903	898	-5	-0.6%
Travel & Transportation of Persons	195	365	333	-32	-8.8%
Communications, Supplies and Equipment	140	160	120	-40	-25.0%
Representation Costs	3	3	3	-	-
Total, NSB	\$4,370	\$4,440	\$4,470	\$30	0.7%
Full-Time Equivalent	17	18	19	1	5.6%

Totals may not add due to rounding.

Personnel Compensation and Benefits

The Board's FY 2014 Budget Request supports a core of full-time policy, administrative, legal, and operations staff. About 70 percent of the 2014 Request is for Board member and staff salaries and benefits. The Board Office staff provides both the independent resources and capabilities for coordinating and implementing science and education policy analyses and development, and the operational support that is essential for the Board to fulfill its mission. The FY 2014 Request funds a 1.0 percent provisional pay raise effective January 2014.

Other Operating Expenses

NSB's Advisory and Assistance Services includes the resources needed to produce policy reports to include the Board's *Science and Engineering Indicators (SEI) 2014*, a statutory responsibility. Over the past several years, the Board has heightened its efforts to expand the audience for *Indicators*, including the development of companion reports. Release of the 2014 edition of *SEI* to Congress is scheduled for January, 2014.

Most of the Board's reports require expert analysis from organizations such as the Science and Technology Policy Institute (STPI). Another major expense in the Advisory and Assistance Services line is the continued enhancement and maintenance of an electronic architecture to search, identify, and retrieve relevant documents for reference and research purposes. This electronic records center houses substantive Board materials, such as discussions, decisions, and meeting minutes. Other costs within the Advisory and Assistance Services line are associated with the Open Government initiative including the webcasting and archiving of all open Board meetings, as well as transcription services, and report printing and dissemination.

NSB's Travel and Transportation of Persons account primarily covers Board member travel costs to NSF headquarters for four meetings, and to one off-site meeting, as well as travel for invited speakers and participants in Board activities. The FY 2014 Travel and Transportation budget of \$300,000 represents a reduction of \$53,000 (or -15 percent) from the actual FY 2010 baseline. This level of spending is consistent with NSF's proposal for travel reductions under OMB memo M-12-12, *Promoting Efficient Spending to Support Agency Operations*. The Communications, Supplies, and Equipment line funds the range of electronic purchases, upgrades and installations, such as copiers and computers.