

NATIONAL SCIENCE BOARD (NSB)**\$4,440,000**

The FY 2013 Request for the National Science Board is \$4.44 million, level with the FY 2012 Estimate of \$4.44 million. The FY 2013 Budget Request will enable the Board to fulfill its policy-making responsibilities for NSF. This funding will allow the Board to continue its responsibilities related to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) and the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010, and to perform activities related to the review of major research facilities projects. These resources will also be used to develop and submit to the President and Congress *Science and Engineering Indicators 2014* and related products.

NSB Funding

(Dollars in Millions)

	FY 2011 Actual	FY 2012 Estimate	FY 2013 Request	Change over FY 2012 Estimate	
				FY 2013 Request	FY 2012 Estimate
Personnel Compensation and Benefits	\$2.73	\$2.97	\$3.01	\$0.04	1.3%
Other Operating Expenses	1.74	1.47	1.43	-0.04	-2.7%
Total, NSB	\$4.47	\$4.44	\$4.44	-	-
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	18	18	18	-	-

Totals may not add due to rounding.

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: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$2,500 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses.

**National Science Board
FY 2013 Summary Statement**

(Dollars in Millions)

	Enacted/ Request	Rescission	Expired	Total Resources	Obligations Incurred/Est.
FY 2011 Appropriation	\$4.54	-\$0.01	-\$0.06	\$4.47	\$4.47
FY 2011 Estimate	4.44			4.44	4.44
FY 2013 Request	4.44			4.44	4.44
\$ Change from FY 2012 Estimate					-
% Change from FY 2012 Estimate					-

Totals may not add due to rounding.

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, Senate-confirmed 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 five times a year 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 consultation with the science community and NSF management. Recent reports have examined topics such as merit review, mid-scale instrumentation, cost sharing, science and engineering education, and the globalization of science and engineering research.

Currently, the Board is finalizing two studies critical to the functioning of the agency. The Board is developing a report on data policies to determine best practices for data collected through NSF-sponsored research so that they remain available to the broad science, engineering, and education communities. Another report studies the support structure for potentially transformative and interdisciplinary mid-scale research. Identification of Board items for study in FY 2013 will be determined at a later date.

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 Government, Performance, and Results Act (GPRA) 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)-funded facilities.

The Committee on Education and Human Resources (CEH) provides guidance 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. 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.

The Committee on Science and Engineering Indicators (SEI) offers guidance on content, organization, and presentation of data in 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 informal recommendations, as appropriate, to the full Board for its consideration and action. The Subcommittee on Polar Issues (SOPI), reporting to CPP, provides oversight, guidance, and advice on major policy and operational issues related to the NSF polar research portfolio.

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.

The Board expects to continue to be significantly engaged with assisting the agency in its responsibilities stemming from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010.

On-going activities of the Board include reviews of the following:

- NSF's Office of Inspector General (OIG) Semi-annual Reports to Congress and NSF management responses;
- The NSF Budget Submission for transmittal to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB);
- NSF's research infrastructure portfolio;
- NSF's annual Merit Review Report; and
- Large awards, MREFC projects, or proposal funding requests and other proposals as needed.

National Science Board
Personnel Compensation and Benefits and General Operating Expenses
(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2011 Actual	FY 2012 Estimate	FY 2013 Request	Change Over	
				FY 2012 Amount	Estimate Percent
Personnel Compensation and Benefits	\$2,727	\$2,973	\$3,014	\$41	1.4%
Staff Development & Training	29	36	36	-	-
Advisory & Assistance Services	1,160	903	877	-\$26	-2.9%
Travel & Transportation of Persons	418	365	350	-\$15	-4.1%
Communications, Supplies and Equipment	133	160	160	-	-
Representation Costs	3	3	3	-	-
Total, NSB	\$4,470	\$4,440	\$4,440	-	-
Full-Time Equivalent	18	18	18	-	-

Totals may not add due to rounding.

Personnel Compensation and Benefits

The Board’s FY 2013 Budget Request supports a small core of full-time policy, administrative, legal, and operations staff. About 67 percent of the 2013 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 2013 Request funds a 0.5 percent Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) effective January 2013.

Other Operating Expenses

NSB’s Advisory and Assistance Services includes the resources needed to produce policy reports. Most of these reports require expert analysis from organizations such as the agency’s dedicated Federally Funded Research and Development Center (FFRDC) and the Science and Technology Policy Institute (STPI). Another major expense in the Advisory and Assistance Services line is the development and implementation of an electronic architecture to search, identify, and retrieve relevant documents, in a common format, for use by stakeholders. This electronic records center houses substantive Board materials, such as discussions, decisions, and 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. The FY 2013 reduction of \$41,000 reflects savings to be achieved in response to Executive Order 13589, “Promoting Efficient Spending.”

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 Communications, Supplies, and Equipment line funds the range of electronic purchases, upgrades and installations, such as copiers and computers.