

**PROPOSAL REVIEW PANEL FOR SOCIAL, BEHAVIORAL AND ECONOMIC SCIENCES
NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION**

Advisory Committee Charter

- 1. Committee's Official Designation** Proposal Review Panel for Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences (the Committee) #1766
- 2. Authority** This committee is established in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended, 5 U.S.C., App., and the National Science Foundation Act of 1950, as amended, 42 U.S.C. §1861 et. seq.
- 3. Objective and Scope of Activities** To advise the National Science Foundation (NSF) on the merit of proposals requesting financial support of research and research-related activities. The Committee will review proposals submitted to NSF under the purview of the Directorate for Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences (SBE).
- 4. Description of Duties** The Committee will review and evaluate proposals, which may include site visits, and provide written recommendations on proposals as part of the selection process for awards. The Committee may evaluate and provide advice on the progress of awarded proposals.
- 5. Official to Whom the Committee Reports** The Committee reports to the Assistant Director, SBE.
- 6. Agency Responsible for Providing the Necessary Support** The National Science Foundation will provide all operating and staff support costs for the committee.
- 7. Estimated Annual Operating Costs and Staff Years** The estimated annual operating cost of this panel is about \$239,517 which includes about \$131,785 in staff support cost. Staff support is approximately 0.84 person-year.
- 8. Designated Federal Officer** A full-time or permanent part-time NSF employee will serve as the Designated Federal Officer (DFO). The DFO will approve or call the committee meetings, prepare and approve meeting agendas, attend committee meetings, and adjourn any meeting when the DFO determines adjournment to be in the public interest. The Assistant Director, SBE will serve as the Designated Federal Officer (DFO). Alternate DFOs may be appointed.
- 9. Estimated Number and Frequency of Meetings** There are approximately eight meetings a year.
- 10. Duration** It is expected that the Committee will continue indefinitely with renewals of the charter every two years as required under FACA.
- 11. Termination** The Committee is subject to biennial review and will terminate 2 years from the date the charter is filed, unless the charter is renewed in accordance with Section 14 of FACA.

12. Membership and Designation Membership consists of approximately 70 people. The number of these members attending each meeting is determined by the subject and number of proposals to be reviewed. Members are selected to achieve a balance of viewpoints and expertise in scientific areas and types of institutions encompassed by SBE activities. To the extent practicable, effort is made to achieve a diverse membership that includes individuals from underrepresented groups and different geographic regions.

It is anticipated that members will be comprised of Special Government Employees (SGEs) and Regular Government Employees (RGEs).

13. Recordkeeping The records of the Committee and any subcommittee(s) shall be handled in accordance with General Records Schedule 6.2 or other approved agency records disposition schedule. These records shall be available for public inspection and copying, subject to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, and 5 U.S.C. App. 2 § 10, as appropriate.

14. Certification This Committee is determined to be necessary and in the public interest.



Dr. Arthur Lubia
Assistant Director
Directorate for Social, Behavioral,
and Economic Sciences

**Date Filed with Congress:
June 28, 2019**

Membership Balance Plan

Proposal Review Panel for Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences

1. Name

Proposal Review Panel for Proposal Review Panel for Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences (the Committee) #1766

2. Authority

This committee is established in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended, 5 U.S.C., App. and the National Science Foundation Act of 1950, as amended, 42 U.S.C. §1861 et. seq.

3. Mission/Function

To advise the National Science Foundation (NSF) on the merit of proposals requesting financial support of research and research-related activities. The Committee will review proposals submitted to NSF under the purview of the Directorate for Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences (SBE).

The Committee will review and evaluate proposals, which may include site visits, and provide written recommendations on proposals as part of the selection process for awards. The Committee may evaluate and provide advice on the progress of awarded proposals.

4. Points of View

The subject and number of proposals to be reviewed determine the number of members attending each meeting. Members are selected on an ad hoc basis.

Primary considerations are:

- Special knowledge of the science and engineering subfields involved in the proposals to be reviewed to evaluate competence, intellectual merit, and utility of the proposed activity. Within reasonable limits, reviewers' fields of specialty should be complementary within a reviewer group.
- Broader or more generalized knowledge of the science and engineering subfields involved in the proposals to be reviewed to evaluate the broader impacts of the proposed activity. Reviewers with broad expertise are required for proposals involving substantial size or complexity, broad disciplinary or multidisciplinary content, or significant national or international implications.
- Broad knowledge of the infrastructure of the science and engineering enterprise, and its educational activities, to evaluate contributions to societal goals, scientific and engineering personnel, and distribution of resources to organizations and geographical areas.

Federal employee members will be designated as Regular Government Employees (RGEs) Individuals outside the Federal Government will be designated Special Government Employees (SGEs). The members will provide their own best independent judgment based on their individual expertise.

5. Other Balance Factors

To the extent practicable, other factors considered are:

- Qualified individuals reflecting small, medium, and large organizations, as well as public and private organizations
- Qualified individuals reflecting underrepresented groups, such as ethnic minorities, women, and individuals with disabilities
- Qualified individuals reflecting range of ages
- Qualified individuals reflecting different geographical areas

6. Candidate Identification Process

SBE staff will solicit suggestions for potential members from a wide range of sources, including but not limited to: NSF management, knowledgeable NSF program staff, other Federal agencies, and proposers.

Suggestions will be reviewed and potential candidates will be identified taking into consideration professional and personal qualifications, experience, and other balance factors. The best qualified candidates for each area will be identified. The resulting top candidates will be contacted for interest and availability.

7. Subcommittee Balance

Not Applicable

8. Other

There are currently no other known factors affecting the balance of the Committee.

9. Date Reviewed

This Membership Balance Plan was reviewed on 5/1/19



Dr. Arthur Lupia
Assistant Director
Directorate for Social, Behavioral,
and Economic Sciences