

*Location 18*

NASA Shared Services Center (NSSC), Building 5100, Stennis Space Center, MS 39529-6000.

**Appendix B***Standard Routine Uses—NASA*

The following routine uses of information contained in Systems of Records (SORs), subject to the Privacy Act of 1974, are standard for many NASA systems. They are cited by reference in the paragraph "Routine uses of records maintained in the system, including categories of users and the purpose of such uses" of the **Federal Register** Notice on those systems to which they apply.

*Standard Routine Use No. 1—Law Enforcement*

In the event this SOR indicates a violation or potential violation of law, whether civil, criminal, or regulatory in nature, and whether arising by general statute or particular program statute, or by regulation, rule or order issued pursuant thereto, the relevant records in the SOR may be referred, as a routine use, to the appropriate agency, whether Federal, State, local or foreign, charged with the responsibility of investigating or prosecuting such violation or charged with enforcing or implementing the statute, or rule, regulation or order issued pursuant thereto.

*Standard Routine Use No. 2—Disclosure When Requesting Information*

A record from this SOR may be disclosed as a "routine use" to a Federal, State, or local agency maintaining civil, criminal, or other relevant enforcement information or other pertinent information, such as current licenses, if necessary to obtain information relevant to an agency decision concerning the hiring or retention of an employee, the issuance of a security clearance, the letting of a contract, or the issuance of a license, grant, or other benefit.

*Standard Routine Use No. 3—Disclosure of Requested Information*

A record from this SOR may be disclosed to a Federal agency, in response to its request, in connection with the hiring or retention of an employee, the issuance of a security clearance, the reporting of an investigation of an employee, the letting of a contract, or the issuance of a license, grant, or other benefit by the requesting agency, to the extent that the information is relevant and necessary to the requesting agency's decision on the matter.

*Standard Routine Use No. 4—Disclosure to the Department of Justice for Use in Litigation*

A record from this SOR may be disclosed to the Department of Justice when (a) the Agency, or any component thereof; or (b) any employee of the Agency in his or her official capacity; or (c) any employee of the Agency in his or her individual capacity where the Department of Justice or the Agency has agreed to represent the employee; or (d) the United States, where the Agency determines that litigation is likely to affect the Agency or any of its components, is a party to litigation or has an interest in such litigation, and the use of such records by the Department of Justice or the Agency is deemed by the Agency to be relevant and necessary to the litigation provided, however, that in each case it has been determined that the disclosure is compatible with the purpose for which the records were collected.

*Standard Routine Use 5—Routine Use for Agency Disclosure in Litigation*

It shall be a routine use of the records in this SOR to disclose them in a proceeding before a court or adjudicative body before which the agency is authorized to appear, when: (a) The Agency, or any component thereof; or (b) any employee of the Agency in his or her official capacity; or (c) any employee of the Agency in his or her individual capacity where the Agency has agreed to represent the employee; or (d) the United States, where the Agency determines that litigation is likely to affect the Agency or any of its components, is a party to litigation or has an interest in such litigation, and the use of such records by the Agency is deemed to be relevant and necessary to the litigation, provided, however, that in each case, the Agency has determined that the disclosure is compatible with the purpose for which the records were collected.

*Standard Routine Use No. 6—Suspected or Confirmed Confidentiality Compromise*

A record from this SOR may be disclosed to appropriate agencies, entities, and persons when (1) NASA suspects or has confirmed that the security or confidentiality of information in the SOR has been compromised; (2) NASA has determined that as a result of the suspected or confirmed compromise there is a risk of harm to economic or property interests, identity theft or fraud, or harm to the security or integrity of this system or other systems or programs (whether

maintained by NASA or another agency or entity) that rely upon the compromised information; and (3) the disclosure made to such agencies, entities, and persons is reasonably necessary to assist in connection with NASA's efforts to respond to the suspected or confirmed compromise and prevent, minimize, or remedy such harm.

[FR Doc. E9-4079 Filed 2-25-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7510-13-P

**NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION****Notice of Intent To Extend an Information Collection**

**AGENCY:** National Science Foundation.

**ACTION:** Notice and Request for Comments.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the requirement of Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 for opportunity for public comment on proposed data collection projects, the National Science Foundation (NSF) will publish periodic summaries of proposed projects.

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 to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

**DATES:** Written comments on this notice must be received by April 27, 2009 to be assured of consideration. Comments received after that date will be considered to the extent practicable.

*For Additional Information or Comments:* Contact Suzanne H. Plimpton, Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 295, Arlington, Virginia 22230; telephone (703) 292-7556; or send e-mail to [splimpto@nsf.gov](mailto:splimpto@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 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday. You also may obtain a copy of the data collection instrument and instructions from Ms. Plimpton.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title of Collection:* Request for Proposals.

*OMB Approval Number:* 3145-0080.

*Expiration Date of Approval:* June 30, 2009.

*Type of Request:* Intent to seek approval to extend an information collection for three years.

*Proposed Project:* The Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR) Subpart 15.2—"Solicitation and Receipt of Proposals and Information" prescribes policies and procedures for preparing and issuing Requests for Proposals. The FAR System has been developed in accordance with the requirement of the Office of Federal Procurement Policy Act of 1974, as amended. The NSF Act of 1950, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 1870, Sec. II, states that NSF has the authority to:

(c) Enter into contracts or other arrangements, or modifications thereof, for the carrying on, by organizations or individuals in the United States and foreign countries, including other government agencies of the United States and of foreign countries, of such scientific or engineering activities as the Foundation deems necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act, and, at the request of the Secretary of Defense, specific scientific or engineering activities in connection with matters relating to international cooperation or national security, and, when deemed appropriate by the Foundation, such contracts or other arrangements or modifications thereof, may be entered into without legal consideration, without performance or other bonds and without regard to section 5 of title 41, U.S.C.

*Use of the Information:* Request for Proposals (RFP) is used to competitively solicit proposals in response to NSF need for services. Impact will be on those individuals or organizations who elect to submit proposals in response to the RFP. Information gathered will be evaluated in light of NSF procurement requirements to determine who will be awarded a contract.

*Estimate of Burden:* The Foundation estimates that, on average, 558 hours per respondent will be required to complete the RFP.

*Respondents:* Individuals; business or other for-profit; not-for-profit institutions; Federal government; state, local, or tribal governments.

*Estimated Number of Responses:* 75.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:* 41,850 hours.

Dated: February 20, 2009.

**Suzanne H. Plimpton,**

*Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation.*

[FR Doc. E9-4072 Filed 2-25-09; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7555-01-P**

## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

### Responsible Conduct of Research

**AGENCY:** National Science Foundation (NSF).

**ACTION:** Request for public comment on requirement for students and postdoctoral researchers involved in NSF proposals to be educated in the responsible and ethical conduct of research (RCR).

**SUMMARY:** The National Science Foundation (NSF) is soliciting public comment on the agency's proposed implementation of Section 7009 of the America Creating Opportunities to Meaningfully Promote Excellence in Technology, Education, and Science (COMPETES) Act (42 U.S.C. 1862o-1). This section of the Act requires that "each institution that applies for financial assistance from the Foundation for science and engineering research or education describe in its grant proposal a plan to provide appropriate training and oversight in the responsible and ethical conduct of research to undergraduate students, graduate students, and postdoctoral researchers participating in the proposed research project."

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Ethical and responsible conduct of research is critical for excellence, as well as public trust, in science and engineering. Consequently, education in the responsible and ethical conduct of research is considered essential in the preparation of future scientists and engineers. The COMPETES Act focuses public attention on the importance of the national research community's enduring commitment and broader efforts to provide RCR training as an integral part of the preparation and long-term professional development of current and future generations of scientists and engineers.

A wide array of information exists to help inform RCR training. For example, many professional societies as well as governmental licensing authorities for professional scientists and engineers have adopted policies or best practices that might be usefully considered. In addition, research is illuminating existing practices surrounding ethical issues, and providing an evaluation of pedagogical innovations in ethics

education. A recent NSF-funded workshop entitled *Ethics Education: What's Been Learned? What Should be Done?* was held by the National Academies of Science & Engineering. Information about the workshop, as well as additional resources, are available at: <http://www.nae.edu/nae/enethicscen.nsf/weblinks/NKAL-7LHM86?OpenDocument>. A brief notice about the workshop's main themes is forthcoming in *The Bridge*, Volume 39, Number 1—Spring 2009, which will be available online in mid-March at: <http://www.nae.edu/nae/bridgecom.nsf?OpenDatabase>. NSF is adding "the responsible and ethical conduct of research" as a Representative Activity in the listing of Broader Impacts Representative Activities available electronically at <http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/gpg/broaderimpacts.pdf>.

NSF is committed to continue its funding of research in this important area through programs such as *Ethics Education in Science and Engineering* ([http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\\_summ.jsp?pims\\_id=13338&org=NSF&sel\\_org=NSF&from=fund](http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=13338&org=NSF&sel_org=NSF&from=fund)) and to promote the development and implementation of effective practices through its education and training programs. The agency will also continue to explore other mechanisms to support the academic community's efforts in providing training in the responsible and ethical conduct of research.

*Proposed Implementation Plan:* Effective October 1, 2009, NSF will require that at the time of proposal submission to NSF, a proposing institution's Authorized Organizational Representative must certify that the institution has a plan to provide appropriate training and oversight in the responsible and ethical conduct of research to undergraduates, graduate students, and postdoctoral researchers who will be supported by NSF to conduct research. While training plans are not required to be included in proposals submitted, institutions are advised that they are subject to review upon request. NSF will modify its standard award conditions to clearly stipulate that institutions are responsible for verifying that undergraduate students, graduate students, and postdoctoral researchers supported by NSF to conduct research have received RCR training.

In addition, NSF will support the development of an online digital library containing research findings, pedagogical materials, and promising practices regarding the ethical and responsible conduct of research in science and engineering. The