

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 respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

DATES: Written comments should be received by June 4, 2002 to be assured of consideration. Comments received after that date would be considered to the extent practicable.

ADDRESSES: Written comments regarding the information collection and requests for copies of the proposed information collection request should be addressed to Suzanne Plimpton, Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Rm. 295, Arlington, VA 22230, or by e-mail to splimpto@nsf.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Suzanne Plimpton on (703) 292-7556 or send email to 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.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title of Collection: Quantitative Evaluation for the National Science Foundation's Centers for Learning and Teaching.

OMB Control No.: 3145-(new).
Expiration Date of Approval: Not applicable.

1. Abstract

This document has been prepared to support the clearance of data collection instruments to be used in the evaluation of the National Science Foundation's (NSF) Centers for Learning and Teaching (CLT). The CLT program calls for a systematic approach to the development and enhancement of the instructional workforce (kindergarten through graduate school) where professionals are educated in an environment of research and practice. For science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) educators, a Center will provide opportunities to enhance content knowledge, develop teaching strategies that lead to improved

student learning, facilitate the implementation of high quality instructional materials and information technology, and develop skills in using various strategies for assessing student learning. For graduate students, post-doctoral students, and interns, a Center will provide study and research opportunities with the goal of improving learning, teaching, and assessment across the educational continuum.

CLT centers are funded as Elementary, Secondary, and Informal Education (ESIE) Centers, or Higher Education Centers. The goals of the ESIE Centers include (1) Increasing the numbers of K-12 STEM educators in both formal and informal settings who have current content knowledge, implement standards-based instruction, and use information technology as an aid to learning; (2) rebuilding and diversifying the human resource base that forms the national infrastructure for STEM, including basic and advanced education for graduate and post-doctoral students who will specialize in STEM education; and (3) providing substantive opportunities for research into the nature of learning, teaching, and educational reform. The goals of the Higher Education Centers address (1) increasing the numbers of STEM faculty who implement effective teaching practice and assessment; (2) providing professional development for graduate and post-doctoral student in STEM disciplines to develop their skills as educators and to develop graduate programs in STEM education in disciplinary departments; and (3) providing substantive opportunities for research into the nature of learning, teaching, and educational reform in higher education.

This study addresses the following research questions: In what ways and to what extent are CLTs reflecting the models proposed? To what extent are the CLT centers meeting the goals of the CLT program? What is the value-added of creating CLTs for the achievement of the desired educational outcomes? To what extent does the portfolio of CLT activities appropriately meet national STEM education needs?

The data to address these questions will be gathered via surveys of the following groups: CLT faculty; CLT graduate students; CLT postdoctoral participants; CLT project directors; representatives of IHE partners; and participating K-12 teachers. All the surveys will be sample surveys with the exception of the project director survey, which will be the population. The evaluation surveys will build on the

annual data collected from projects for the purpose of GPRA.

In addition to the surveys, a number of small site-specific studies will be conducted to examine the outcomes of various Center activities (e.g., new teacher preparation programs, new courses and curricula, professional development for faculty and K-12 teachers). Meta analysis techniques will be employed to calculate effect sizes across similar studies.

2. Expected Respondents

The expected respondents are: CLT faculty; CLT graduate students; CLT postdoctoral participants; CLT project directors; representatives of IHE partners; and participating K-12 teachers.

3. Burden on the Public

The total estimate for this collection is 500 burden hours for a maximum of 1200 participants assuming an 80-100% response rate. The average annual reporting burden is 30 minutes per respondent. The burden on the public is negligible; the study is limited to project participants that have received funding from the NSF CLT program.

Dated: April 1, 2002.

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

[FR Doc. 02-8248 Filed 4-4-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Agency Information Collection Activities: Comment Request

AGENCY: National Science Foundation.
ACTION: Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request.

SUMMARY: The National Science Foundation (NSF) has submitted the following information collection requirement to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. This is the second notice; the first notice was published at 67 FR 4762 and no comments were received. Comments regarding (a) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (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 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 should be addressed to: Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs of OMB, Attention: Desk Officer for National Science Foundation, 725—17th Street, NW, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503, and to Suzanne H. Plimpton, Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 295, Arlington, Virginia 22230 or send email to splimpto@nsf.gov. Comments regarding these information collections are best assured of having their full effect if received within 30 days of this notification. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling 703-292-7556.

NSF may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title of Collection: Survey of Graduate Students and Postdoctorates in Science and Engineering.

OMB Approval Number: 3145-0062.

Expiration Date of Approval: September 30, 2002.

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

Proposed Project

Graduate students in science, engineering, and health fields in U.S. colleges and universities, by source and mechanism of support and by demographic characteristics. An electronic/mail survey, the Survey of Graduate Students and Postdoctorates in Science and Engineering originated in 1966 and has been conducted annually since 1972. The survey is the academic graduate enrollment component of the NSF statistical program that seeks to “provide a central clearinghouse for the collection, interpretation, and analysis of data on the availability of, and the current and projected need for, scientific and technical resources in the United States, and to provide a source of information for policy formulation by other agencies of the Federal government” as mandated in the National Science Foundation Act of 1950.

The proposed project will continue the current survey cycle for three to five years. The annual Fall surveys for 2002 through 2006 will survey the universe of approximately 725 reporting units at approximately 600 institutions offering accredited graduate programs in science, engineering, or health. The survey has provided continuity of statistics on graduate school enrollment and support for graduate students in all science & engineering (S&E) and health fields, with separate data requested on

demographic characteristics (race/ethnicity and gender by full-time and part-time enrollment status). Statistics from the survey are published in NSF’s annual publication series Graduate Students and Postdoctorates in Science and Engineering, in NSF publications Science and Engineering Indicators, Women, Minorities, and Persons with Disabilities in Science and Engineering, and are available electronically on the World Wide Web.

The survey will be sent primarily to the administrators at the Institutional Research Offices. To minimize burden, NSF instituted a Web-based survey in 1998 through which institutions can enter data directly or upload preformatted files. The Web-based survey includes a complete program for editing and trend checking and allows institutions to receive their previous year’s data for comparison. Respondents will be encouraged to participate in this Web-based survey should they so wish. Traditional paper questionnaires will also be available, with editing and trend checking performed as part of the survey processing. Overall burden is expected to be reduced from 2002 to 2004 due to expanded use by institutions of the Web-based data collection system.

In Fall 2000, the survey achieved a total response rate of 99.4 percent for institutions and 99.0 percent for departments.

Estimate of Burden

Burden estimates are as follows:

	Total No. of institutions	Departments	Burden hours
Fiscal year:			
1998	722	11,718	1.83
1999	720	11,833	2.53
2000	717	11,899	2.42

Respondents: Individuals.

Estimated Number of Responses: 11,899 (from the 2000 collection).

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 28,796 hours (from the 2000 collection).

Frequency of Responses: Annually.

Dated: April 1, 2002.

Suzanne H. Plimpton,

Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation.

[FR Doc. 02-8247 Filed 4-4-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Advisory Committee for Geosciences; Notice of Meeting

In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, as amended), the National Science Foundation announces the following meeting:

Name: Advisory Committee for Geosciences (1755).

Dates: April 24-26, 2002.

Time: 10:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 24, 2002. 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Thursday, April 25, 2002. 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Friday, April 26, 2002.

Place: National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 1235 Arlington, VA 22230.

Type of Meeting: Open.

Contact Person: Dr. Thomas Spence, Directorate for Geosciences, National Science Foundation, Suite 705, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, Virginia 22230, Phone 703-292-8500.

Minutes: May be obtained from the contact person listed above.

Purpose of Meeting: To provide advice, recommendations, and oversight concerning support for research, education, and human resources development in the geosciences.