

**§ 1862n-8. Evaluations****(a) Education****(1) In general**

The Director, through the Research, Evaluation and Communication Division of the Education and Human Resources Directorate of the Foundation, shall evaluate the effectiveness of all undergraduate science, mathematics, engineering, or technology education activities supported by the Foundation in increasing the number and quality of students, including individuals identified in section 1885a or 1885b of this title studying toward and completing associate's or baccalaureate degrees in science, mathematics, engineering, and technology. In conducting the evaluation, the Director shall consider information on—

(A) the number of students enrolled in undergraduate science, mathematics, engineering, and technology programs;

(B) student academic achievement, including quantifiable measurements of students' mastery of content and skills;

(C) persistence to degree completion, including students who transfer from science, mathematics, engineering, and technology programs to programs in other academic disciplines; and

(D) placement during the first year after degree completion in post-graduate education or career pathways.

**(2) Assessment benchmarks and tools**

The Director, through the Research, Evaluation and Communication Division of the Education and Human Resources Directorate of the Foundation, shall establish a common set of assessment benchmarks and tools, and shall enable every Foundation-sponsored project to incorporate the use of these benchmarks and tools in their project-based assessment activities.

**(3) Reports to Congress**

Not later than 3 years after December 19, 2002, and once every 3 years thereafter, the Director shall transmit to the Committee on Science of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate a report containing the results of evaluations under paragraph (1).

**(b) Awards**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the Director shall annually evaluate a random sample of grants, contracts, or other awards made pursuant to this Act.

**(c) Dissemination**

The Director shall—

(1) provide for the dissemination of the results of the evaluations conducted pursuant to this section to the public; and

(2) provide notice to the public that such evaluations are available.

(Pub. L. 107-368, §19, Dec. 19, 2002, 116 Stat. 3063.)

## REFERENCES IN TEXT

This Act, referred to in subsec. (b), is Pub. L. 107-368, Dec. 19, 2002, 116 Stat. 3034, known as the National

Science Foundation Authorization Act of 2002. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title of 2002 Amendment note set out under section 1861 of this title and Tables.

## CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the National Science Foundation Authorization Act of 2002, and not as part of the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 which comprises this chapter.

## CHANGE OF NAME

Committee on Science of House of Representatives changed to Committee on Science and Technology of House of Representatives by House Resolution No. 6, One Hundred Tenth Congress, Jan. 5, 2007. Committee on Science and Technology of House of Representatives changed to Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of House of Representatives by House Resolution No. 5, One Hundred Twelfth Congress, Jan. 5, 2011.

## DEFINITIONS

For definitions of terms used in this section, see section 4 of Pub. L. 107-368, set out as a note under section 1862n of this title.

**§ 1862n-9. Astronomy and Astrophysics Advisory Committee****(a) Establishment**

The Foundation, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and the Department of Energy shall jointly establish an Astronomy and Astrophysics Advisory Committee (in this section referred to as the "Advisory Committee").

**(b) Duties**

The Advisory Committee shall—

(1) assess, and make recommendations regarding, the coordination of astronomy and astrophysics programs of the Foundation, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and the Department of Energy;

(2) assess, and make recommendations regarding, the status of the activities of the Foundation, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and the Department of Energy as they relate to the recommendations contained in the National Research Council's 2001 report entitled "Astronomy and Astrophysics in the New Millennium", and the recommendations contained in subsequent National Research Council reports of a similar nature; and

(3) not later than March 15 of each year, transmit a report to the Director, the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the Secretary of Energy, the Committee on Science of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate on the Advisory Committee's findings and recommendations under paragraphs (1) and (2).

**(c) Membership**

The Advisory Committee shall consist of 13 members, none of whom shall be a Federal employee, including—

(1) 4 members selected by the Director;

(2) 4 members selected by the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration;

(3) 3 members selected by the Secretary of Energy; and

(4) 2 members selected by the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy.

**(d) Selection process**

Initial selections under subsection (c) shall be made within 3 months after December 19, 2002. Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as provided in subsection (c).

**(e) Chairperson**

The Advisory Committee shall select a chairperson from among its members.

**(f) Coordination**

The Advisory Committee shall coordinate with other Federal advisory committees that advise Federal agencies that engage in related research activities.

**(g) Compensation**

The members of the Advisory Committee shall serve without compensation, but shall receive travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in accordance with sections 5702 and 5703 of title 5.

**(h) Meetings**

The Advisory Committee shall convene, in person or by electronic means, at least 4 times a year.

**(i) Quorum**

A majority of the members serving on the Advisory Committee shall constitute a quorum for purposes of conducting the business of the Advisory Committee.

**(j) Duration**

Section 14 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act shall not apply to the Advisory Committee.

(Pub. L. 107-368, §23, Dec. 19, 2002, 116 Stat. 3065; Pub. L. 108-423, §5(a), Nov. 30, 2004, 118 Stat. 2402.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 14 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, referred to in subsec. (j), is section 14 of Pub. L. 92-463, which is set out in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the National Science Foundation Authorization Act of 2002, and not as part of the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 which comprises this chapter.

AMENDMENTS

2004—Subsecs. (a), (b)(1), (2). Pub. L. 108-423, §5(a)(1), substituted “, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and the Department of Energy” for “and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration”.

Subsec. (b)(3). Pub. L. 108-423, §5(a)(2), substituted “Administration, the Secretary of Energy,” for “Administration, and”.

Subsec. (c)(1), (2). Pub. L. 108-423, §5(a)(3)(A), substituted “4” for “5”.

Subsec. (c)(3), (4). Pub. L. 108-423, §5(a)(3)(B)-(D), added par. (3) and redesignated former par. (3) as (4) and substituted “2” for “3”.

Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 108-423, §5(a)(4), substituted “other Federal advisory committees that advise Federal agencies that engage in related research activities” for “the advisory bodies of other Federal agencies, such as the Department of Energy, which may engage in related research activities”.

CHANGE OF NAME

Committee on Science of House of Representatives changed to Committee on Science and Technology of House of Representatives by House Resolution No. 6, One Hundred Tenth Congress, Jan. 5, 2007. Committee on Science and Technology of House of Representatives changed to Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of House of Representatives by House Resolution No. 5, One Hundred Twelfth Congress, Jan. 5, 2011.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2004 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 108-423, §5(b), Nov. 30, 2004, 118 Stat. 2402, provided that: “The amendments made by subsection (a) [amending this section] take effect on March 15, 2005.”

DEFINITIONS

For definitions of terms used in this section, see section 4 of Pub. L. 107-368, set out as a note under section 1862n of this title.

**§ 1862n-10. Minority-serving institutions undergraduate program**

**(a) In general**

The Director is authorized to establish a new program to award grants on a competitive, merit-reviewed basis to Hispanic-serving institutions, Alaska Native-serving institutions, Native Hawaiian-serving institutions, and other institutions of higher education serving a substantial number of minority students to enhance the quality of undergraduate science, mathematics, and engineering education at such institutions and to increase the retention and graduation rates of students pursuing associate’s or baccalaureate degrees in science, mathematics, engineering, or technology.

**(b) Program components**

Grants awarded under this section shall support—

- (1) activities to improve courses and curriculum in science, mathematics, and engineering;
- (2) faculty development;
- (3) stipends for undergraduate students participating in research; and
- (4) other activities consistent with subsection (a), as determined by the Director.

**(c) Program coordination**

This program shall be coordinated with and in addition to the ongoing Historically Black Colleges and Universities Undergraduate Program and the Tribal Colleges and Universities Program.

**(d) Instrumentation**

Funding for instrumentation is an allowed use of grants awarded under this section and under the ongoing Historically Black Colleges and Universities Undergraduate Program and the Tribal Colleges and Universities Program.

(Pub. L. 107-368, §24, Dec. 19, 2002, 116 Stat. 3066.)

CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the National Science Foundation Authorization Act of 2002, and not as part of the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 which comprises this chapter.

DEFINITIONS

For definitions of terms used in this section, see section 4 of Pub. L. 107-368, set out as a note under section 1862n of this title.