or are affected by artificial intelligence, considers consistent with the purposes described in section 9411(a) of this title.

(4) Duration

(A) Initial periods

An award of financial assistance under paragraph (1) shall be awarded for an initial period of 5 years.

(B) Extension

An established Institute may apply for, and the agency head may grant, extended funding for periods of 5 years on a merit-reviewed basis using the merit review criteria of the sponsoring agency.

(5) Application for financial assistance

A person seeking financial assistance under paragraph (1) shall submit to an agency head an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the agency head may require.

(6) Competitive, merit review

In awarding financial assistance under paragraph (1), the agency head shall—

(A) use a competitive, merit review process that includes peer review by a diverse group of individuals with relevant expertise from both the private and public sectors; and

(B) ensure the focus areas of the Institute do not substantially and unnecessarily duplicate the efforts of any other Institute.

(7) Collaboration

(A) In general

In awarding financial assistance under paragraph (1), an agency head may collaborate with Federal departments and agencies whose missions contribute to or are affected by artificial intelligence systems.

(B) Coordinating network

The Director of the National Science Foundation shall establish a network of Institutes receiving financial assistance under this subsection, to be known as the ''Artificial Intelligence Leadership Network'', to coordinate cross-cutting research and other activities carried out by the Institutes.

(8) Limitation

No funds authorized in this subchapter shall be awarded to Institutes outside of the United States. All awardees and subawardees for such Institute shall be based in the United States, in addition to any other eligibility criteria as established by each agency head.

(Pub. L. 116–283, div. E, title LII, §5201, Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 4534.)

SUBCHAPTER III—DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES

§ 9441. Stakeholder outreach

In carrying out the activities under section 278h–1 of this title as amended by title III of this Act,[1] the Director shall—

(1) solicit input from university researchers, private sector experts, relevant Federal agencies, Federal laboratories, State, Tribal, and local governments, civil society groups, and other relevant stakeholders;

(2) solicit input from experts in relevant fields of social science, technology ethics, and law; and

(3) provide opportunity for public comment on guidelines and best practices developed as part of the Initiative, as appropriate.

(Pub. L. 116–283, div. E, title LIII, §5302, Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 4539.)

§ 9442. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Artificial Intelligence Center

(a) In general

The Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (hereafter referred to as ''the Administrator'') shall establish,[1] a Center for Artificial Intelligence (hereafter referred to as ''the Center'').

(b) Center goals

The goals of the Center shall be to—

(1) coordinate and facilitate the scientific and technological efforts related to artificial intelligence across the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; and

(2) expand external partnerships, and build workforce proficiency to effectively transition artificial intelligence research and applications to operations.

(c) Comprehensive program

Through the Center, the Administrator shall implement a comprehensive program to improve the use of artificial intelligence systems across the agency in support of the mission of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

(d) Center priorities

The priorities of the Center shall be to—

(1) coordinate and facilitate artificial intelligence research and innovation, tools, systems, and capabilities across the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration;

(2) establish data standards and develop and maintain a central repository for agency-wide artificial intelligence applications;

(3) accelerate the transition of artificial intelligence research to applications in support

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[1] See References in Text note below.

[1] So in original. The comma probably should not appear.