

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.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 5301 of this division, referred to in subsec. (b)(3)(A), means section 5301 of div. E of Pub. L. 116-283, Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 4536.

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.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 278h-1 of this title as amended by title III of this Act, referred to in text, probably means section 278h-1 of this title as added by title LIII of Pub. L. 116-283, div. E, Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 4536.

§ 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

¹ See References in Text note below.

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

of the mission of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration;

(4) develop and conduct training for the workforce of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration related to artificial intelligence research and application of artificial intelligence for such agency;

(5) facilitate partnerships between the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and other public sector organizations, private sector organizations, and institutions of higher education for research, personnel exchange, and workforce development with respect to artificial intelligence systems; and

(6) make data of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration accessible, available, and ready for artificial intelligence applications.

(e) Stakeholder engagement

In carrying out the activities authorized in this section, the Administrator shall—

(1) collaborate with a diverse set of stakeholders including private sector entities and institutions of higher education;

(2) leverage the collective body of research on artificial intelligence and machine learning; and

(3) engage with relevant Federal agencies, research communities, and potential users of data and methods made available through the Center.

(f) Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator to carry out this section \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2021.

(g) Protection of national security interests

(1) In general

Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the Administrator, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense as appropriate, may withhold models or data used by the Center if the Administrator determines doing so to be necessary to protect the national security interests of the United States.

(2) Rule of construction

Nothing in this section shall be construed to supersede any other provision of law governing the protection of the national security interests of the United States.

(Pub. L. 116-283, div. E, title LIII, § 5303, Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 4539.)

SUBCHAPTER IV—NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES

§ 9451. Artificial intelligence research and education

(a) In general

the¹ Director of the National Science Foundation shall fund research and education activities in artificial intelligence systems and related fields, including competitive awards or grants to

institutions of higher education or eligible non-profit organizations (or consortia thereof).

(b) Uses of funds

In carrying out the activities under subsection (a), the Director of the National Science Foundation shall—

(1) support research, including interdisciplinary research, on artificial intelligence systems and related areas, including fields and research areas that will contribute to the development and deployment of trustworthy artificial intelligence systems, and fields and research areas that address the application of artificial intelligence systems to scientific discovery and societal challenges;

(2) use the existing programs of the National Science Foundation, in collaboration with other Federal departments and agencies, as appropriate to—

(A) improve the teaching and learning of topics related to artificial intelligence systems in K-12 education and postsecondary educational programs, including workforce training and career and technical education programs, undergraduate and graduate education programs, and in informal settings; and

(B) increase participation in artificial intelligence related fields, including by individuals identified in sections 1885a and 1885b of title 42;

(3) support partnerships among institutions of higher education, Federal laboratories, non-profit organizations, State, local, and Tribal governments, industry, and potential users of artificial intelligence systems that facilitate collaborative research, personnel exchanges, and workforce development and identify emerging research needs with respect to artificial intelligence systems;

(4) ensure adequate access to research and education infrastructure with respect to artificial intelligence systems, which may include the development of new computing resources and partnership with the private sector for the provision of cloud-based computing services;

(5) conduct prize competitions, as appropriate, pursuant to section 3719 of this title;

(6) coordinate research efforts funded through existing programs across the directorates of the National Science Foundation;

(7) provide guidance on data sharing by grantees to public and private sector organizations consistent with the standards and guidelines developed under section 278h-1(e) of this title (as added by section 5301 of this division); and

(8) evaluate opportunities for international collaboration with strategic allies on artificial intelligence research and development.

(c) Engineering support

In general, the Director shall permit applicants to include in their proposed budgets funding for software engineering support to assist with the proposed research.

(d) Ethics

(1) Sense of Congress

It is the sense of Congress that—

¹ So in original.