

Appendix A: Survey Instrument

2022 NSF Merit Review Panelist Survey

Thank you for your willingness to provide feedback on your recent experiences as a proposal review panelist for the National Science Foundation (NSF). The results of this survey will help NSF understand how to improve the panelist experience.

This survey should take about 5 minutes to complete. **All responses will be kept confidential** and only aggregate findings will be reported. Your participation is voluntary and your decision to participate or not to participate will not adversely affect your status as a reviewer.

OMB Number: 3145-0215

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Paperwork Burden Statement [Pop-up footer rather than on screen to reduce front matter text.]

This information is collected under the authority of the National Science Foundation Act of 1950, as amended. According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 3145-0215. The time required to complete this voluntary information collection is estimated to average 5 minutes, including the time to review instructions, and complete and review responses. If you have any comments or concerns about the contents or the status of your individual submission of this questionnaire, e-mail MeritReviewSurvey@nsf.gov.

1. In total, approximately how many NSF panels have you participated in as either an in-person or remote panelist?

In-person panelists participate in the panel discussion at a common physical location, most often at NSF.

Remote panelists participate in the panel discussion in different geographic locations using virtual meeting technology, telephone, or videoconference.

- 1 (1)
- 2 to 5 (2)
- 6 to 10 (3)
- More than 10 (4)
- I have not participated in an NSF panel (5)

[IF Q1=5, GO TO THANK YOU SCREEN]

2. Have you participated in a remote panel since January 1, 2021?

- Yes (1)
- No (2)

[If Q2=2, GO THANK YOU screen]

3. Thinking of all the NSF panels in which you have ever participated, in which type of panel role have you served?

- I have only served as a remote panelist (1)
 - I have served as both an in-person and remote panelist (2)
4. Thinking about your most recent experience as a **remote panelist for the [insert Program name] program**, how would you rate your overall satisfaction with the NSF panel review process?
- Extremely satisfied (1)
 - Somewhat satisfied (2)
 - Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied (3)
 - Somewhat dissatisfied (4)
 - Extremely dissatisfied (5)
5. Thinking about your most recent experience as a **remote panelist for the [insert Program name] program**, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?
- [Response options: 1) Strongly agree, 2) agree, 3) neither agree nor disagree, 4) disagree, 5) strongly disagree]
- a) I had the information and instructions necessary to participate effectively in the panel.
 - b) The time required to review proposals in advance of the panel was reasonable.
 - c) The duration of the panel meeting was reasonable.
 - d) My perspective was valued by my fellow panelists.
 - e) The panel discussion was substantive and of high quality.
 - f) The panel summaries captured the most important elements of the panel discussions.
 - g) The panel discussion and summary focused on specified review criteria, including intellectual merit, broader impacts, and any solicitation-specific review criteria, of the proposed ideas.
 - h) The NSF staff members were helpful.
 - i) The interpersonal interactions among panelists were constructive.
 - j) I was able to network with other researchers during the panel meeting.
 - k) Participating in a panel helped me better understand NSF's merit review process.
 - l) I was able to balance panel service with my necessary personal obligations.
 - m) I was able to balance panel service with my necessary professional obligations.
6. [If Q3=2] You previously answered that you have served as both an in-person and remote panelist. Based on your last experience as an **in-person panelist**, rate your agreement with the following:
- [Strongly agree, agree, neither agree nor disagree, disagree, strongly disagree]

- a) I had the information and instructions necessary to participate effectively in the panel.
- b) The time required to review proposals in advance of the panel was reasonable.
- c) The duration of the panel meeting was reasonable.
- d) My perspective was valued by my fellow panelists.
- e) The panel discussion was substantive and of high quality.
- f) The panel summaries captured the most important elements of the panel discussions.
- g) The panel discussion and summary focused on specified review criteria, including intellectual merit, broader impacts, and any solicitation-specific review criteria, of the proposed ideas.
- h) The NSF staff members were helpful.
- i) The interpersonal interactions among panelists were constructive.
- j) I was able to network with other researchers during the panel meeting.
- k) Participating in a panel helped me better understand NSF's merit review process.
- l) I was able to balance panel service with my necessary personal obligations.
- m) I was able to balance panel service with my necessary professional obligations.

7. How likely are you to accept an invitation to participate as a remote panelist in the future?

- Very likely (1)
- Likely (2)
- Not sure (3)
- Unlikely (4)
- Very unlikely (5)

[IF Q7 = 1, 2, or 3 SKIP TO Q10]

8. What are the reasons that you are unlikely to accept an invitation to participate as a remote panelist in the future? [open-ended]

9. How likely are you to accept an invitation to participate as an in-person panelist in the future?

- Very likely (1)
- Likely (2)
- Not sure (3)
- Unlikely (4)
- Very unlikely (5)

[IF Q9 = 1, 2, or 3, SKIP TO THANK YOU SCREEN]

10. What are the reasons that you are unlikely to accept an invitation to participate as an in-person panelist in the future? [open-ended text box]

[THANK YOU]

You have reached the end of the survey. Thank you for participation!