

Request for Approval under the “Generic Clearance for the Collection of Routine Customer Feedback” (OMB Control Number: 3145-0215)

TITLE OF INFORMATION COLLECTION: NSF PI Experience Survey

PURPOSE: NSF seeks information on principal investigators’ (PI) experiences writing and submitting proposals to the Division of Chemistry (CHE) between September 1, 2022, and August 31, 2023. Beginning September 1, 2022, CHE’s piloting the removal of deadlines for proposal submissions to three CHE programs: Chemistry of Life Processes; Chemical Structure, Dynamics, and Mechanisms-A; and Chemical Theory, Models and Computational Methods programs.¹ Proposals directed to all other CHE programs will be submitted according to the traditional annual deadline, September 1–30, 2022. NSF is interested in understanding PIs experiences preparing and submitting research proposals under traditional deadline submissions and no deadline submissions.

DESCRIPTION OF RESPONDENTS: Principal investigators submitting proposals to CHE between September 1, 2022 and August 31, 2023.

TYPE OF COLLECTION: (Check one)

☐ Customer Comment Card/Complaint Form
☐ Usability Testing (e.g., Website or Software)
☐ Focus Group

☒ Customer Satisfaction Survey
☐ Small Discussion Group
☐ Other: _____

CERTIFICATION:

I certify the following to be true:

1. The collection is voluntary.
2. The collection is low-burden for respondents and low-cost for the Federal Government.
3. The collection is non-controversial and does not raise issues of concern to other federal agencies.
4. The results are not intended to be disseminated to the public.
5. Information gathered will not be used for the purpose of substantially informing influential policy decisions.
6. The collection is targeted to the solicitation of opinions from respondents who have experience with the program or may have experience with the program in the future.

Name: Suzanne H. Plimpton, NSF Reports Clearance Officer

To assist review, please provide answers to the following question:

Personally Identifiable Information:

1. Is personally identifiable information (PII) collected? ☒ Yes ☐ No

¹ National Science Foundation. (2022). Division of Chemistry: Disciplinary Research Programs: No Deadline Pilot (CHE-DRP-NDP). Retrieved from https://www.nsf.gov/news/news_summ.jsp?cntn_id=305502&org=CHE.

2. If Yes, is the information that will be collected included in records that are subject to the Privacy Act of 1974? ☒ Yes ☐ No
3. If Applicable, has a System or Records Notice been published? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Gifts or Payments:

Is an incentive (e.g., money or reimbursement of expenses, token of appreciation) provided to participants? ☐ Yes ☒ No

BURDEN HOURS

Category of Respondent	No. of Respondents	Participation Time	Burden
Principal Investigators submitting to CHE	2,450	0.20 hrs.	490 hrs.
Totals	2,450	0.20 hrs.	490 hrs.

FEDERAL COST: The estimated annual cost to the Federal government is \$86,000

If you are conducting a focus group, survey, or plan to employ statistical methods, please provide answers to the following questions:

The selection of your targeted respondents

1. Do you have a customer list or something similar that defines the universe of potential respondents and do you have a sampling plan for selecting from this universe?
☒ Yes ☐ No

If the answer is yes, please provide a description of both below (or attach the sampling plan)?

This will be a census of all active principal investigators who submitted proposals to the Division of Chemistry between September 1, 2022, and August 31, 2023.

If the answer is no, please provide a description of how you plan to identify your potential group of respondents and how you will select them?

Administration of the Instrument

1. How will you collect the information? (Check all that apply)
 - ☒ Web-based or other forms of Social Media
 - ☐ Telephone
 - ☐ In-person
 - ☐ Mail
 - ☐ Other, Explain

2. Will interviewers or facilitators be used? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Please make sure that all instruments, instructions, and scripts are submitted with the request.