



National Science Foundation • Office of Inspector General
2415 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, Virginia 22314

April 9, 2020

Dr. Kelvin K. Droegemeier
Acting Director
National Science Foundation

Dear Dr. Droegemeier:

I am writing pursuant to the *Improper Payments Elimination and Recovery Act of 2010* (IPERA), which requires Offices of Inspectors General to determine agency compliance with the Act. We determined that the National Science Foundation (NSF) met the IPERA requirements for FY 2019.

According to Office of Management and Budget guidance, an agency is required to meet six specific requirements to comply with IPERA, as applicable. We note NSF's compliance with those requirements in the following table:

OMB M-18-20 Requirements for Payment Integrity Improvement	NSF Complied?
1) Published an AFR or PAR for the most recent fiscal year and posted that report and any accompanying materials required by OMB on the agency website	Yes
2) Conducted a program specific risk assessment for each program or activity that conforms with the Section 3321 note of Title 31 U.S.C. (if required)	N/A
3) Published improper payment estimates for all programs and activities identified as susceptible to significant improper payments under its risk assessment (if required)	N/A
4) Published programmatic corrective action plans in the AFR or PAR (if required)	N/A
5) Published, and is meeting, annual reduction targets for each program assessed to be at risk and estimated for improper payments (if required and applicable)	N/A
6) Reported a gross improper payment rate of less than 10 percent for each program and activity for which an improper payment estimate was obtained and published in the AFR or PAR	N/A

IPERA requires agencies to perform a risk assessment at least once every 3 years for programs deemed to be at low risk for significant improper payments. Since NSF's FY 2018 IPERA risk assessment found that the agency was not susceptible to significant improper payments, NSF was not required to perform a risk assessment or to report its improper payment estimates or gross

improper payment rate in FY 2019. NSF's next risk assessment will be completed in FY 2021. We confirmed that NSF is achieving its milestones towards the completion of the FY 2021 risk assessment.

We confirmed that NSF published an AFR for the most recent fiscal year and posted the report and any required accompanying materials on the agency website (<https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2020/nsf20002/pdf/nsf20002.pdf>).

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact me at (703) 292-7011; alternatively, you may contact Lisa Vonder Haar, Chief of Staff, at (703) 292-2989.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Allison Lerner".

Allison Lerner
Inspector General

cc:
Teresa Grancorvitz