

Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) and MPS Advisory Committee



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What is FACA

- **Federal Advisory Committee Act**
- Enacted in 1972
- Congress formally recognized the merits of seeking advice and assistance of US citizens
- “assure that advisory committees:
 - ♦ Provide advice that is relevant, objective, and open to the public;
 - ♦ Act promptly to complete their work; and
 - ♦ Comply with reasonable cost controls and record keeping requirements.”



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Open access to committee meetings

- Under FACA federal agencies sponsoring advisory committees must:
 - ♦ Arrange meetings that are reasonably accessible
 - ♦ Publish notice of meetings in the *Federal Register*,
 - ♦ Open advisory committee meetings to the public
 - ♦ Make available records and minutes for public inspection, subject to the Freedom of Information Act
 - ♦ Maintain records of expenditures.



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FACA and MPSAC meetings

- The Advisory Committee for the Directorate for Mathematical and Physical Sciences (MPSAC) is a FACA meeting
- **MPSAC is a public meeting**
- **All documents and meeting minutes are publicly** available at: <http://www.nsf.gov/mps/advisory.jsp>
- MPSAC members are special federal government employees while performing their role as members of this advisory committee



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MPSAC NSF Team

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More information about FACA

- ➔ Available at:
www.gsa.gov/faca

FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MANAGEMENT

- Overview
- Advice and Guidance
- Legislation and Regulations
- Performance Measurement
- FACA Shared Management System
- Finding Information on FACA Committees

Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) Management Overview

The Committee Management Secretariat provides the following services to the groups it supports:

- **Brochure** - describing procedures for establishing and managing a federal advisory committee
- **Training** - two days of instruction from the subject matter experts working in the FACA community
- **Annual Comprehensive Review Process** required by FACA
- **Consultations**
 - To ensure that the committees comply with FACA
 - Interpretations of the other federal open meeting laws
- **Advice and Guidance** - on establishing and managing federal advisory committees.

Background

The Federal Advisory Committee Act was enacted in 1972 to ensure that advice by the various advisory committees formed over the years is objective and accessible to the public. The Act formalized a process for establishing, operating, overseeing, and terminating these advisory bodies and created the Committee Management Secretariat to monitor compliance with the Act.

CONTACTS

- Committee Management Secretariat
- [View Contact Details](#)

RELATED GSA TOPICS

- [FACA Shared Management System](#)



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