

System Name:

Science and Technology Centers (STC) Database.

System Location(s):

Office of Integrative Activities, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230.

Categories of Individuals Covered by the System:

Individuals participating in NSF funded Science and Technology Center (STC) Activities.

Categories of Records in the System:

Records vary by year. From FY90 until FY98, the records may include name, institution, social security number, gender, ethnicity, year of highest degree, citizenship, areas of research, type of financial support and other related information. These STC databases may also include the results of follow-up surveys of STC Center participants. The records will be used to help evaluate the STC Center's achievement of program goals. Evaluation may include follow-up surveys of STC Center participants. The results of evaluations will be statistical and will not identify individual participants.

Beginning with FY98, covered records include only faculty names associated with type of financial support. Other program records from FY98 forward are not part of this system of records because they include no individual names or identifiers. These records report only the number of STC participants by STC Center categorized as faculty, postdoctoral fellows, graduate students, undergraduate students, visiting scientists, support staff (scientific, technical, and administrative), and precollege students and teachers. These records include data on gender, disability status, citizenship, ethnicity/race, areas of research, shared experimental facilities, type of financial support, and other related information. Because these data are collected without individual name or other identifier, it cannot be so retrieved and are not part of this system.

Authority for Maintenance of the System:

42 U.S.C. 3101; 42 U.S.C. 1870.

Purpose(s):

Information from this system may be used to enable NSF to identify research areas under STC Center awards and determine the level of support for STC Center personnel and STC Center research; to help evaluate the STC Center's achievement of program goals, such as enhancement

of skills; to report periodically, in statistical form only, on the participation of men and women by ethnicity, disability, discipline, and citizenry; and to enable NSF to monitor the effectiveness of NSF-sponsored STC Centers for management evaluation and for reporting to the Administration and Congress, especially under the Government Performance and Results Act, 5 U.S.C. 306 and 39 U.S.C. 2801-2805.

Routine Uses of Records Maintained in the System, Including Categories of Users and the Purposes of such Uses:

1. An STC Center and its authorized personnel may have access to data submitted by that Center for the purpose of administration and for other uses consistent with the purpose above.
2. Disclosure may be made to a congressional office from the record of an individual in response to an inquiry from the congressional office made at the request of that individual.
3. Information from the system may be disclosed to contractors, grantees, volunteers, experts, advisors, and other individuals who perform a service to or work on or under a contract, grant, cooperative agreement, advisory committee, committee of visitors, or other arrangement with or for the Federal government, as necessary to carry out their duties in pursuit of the purposes described above. The contractors are subject to the provisions of the Privacy Act.
4. Information from the system may be merged with other computer files in order to carry out statistical studies or assist with program management, evaluation, and reporting. Disclosure may be made for this purpose to NSF contractors and collaborating researchers, other Government agencies, and qualified research institutions and their staffs. The results of such studies, evaluations, or reports are statistical in nature and do not identify individuals.
5. Information from the system may be disclosed to the Department of Justice or the Office of Management and Budget for the purpose of obtaining advice on the application of the Freedom of Information Act or Privacy Act to the records.
6. Information from the system may be given to another Federal agency, a court, or a party in litigation before a court or in an administrative proceeding being conducted by a Federal agency when the Government is a party to the judicial or administrative proceeding.
7. Information from the system may be given to the Department of Justice, to the extent disclosure is compatible with the purpose for which the record was collected and is relevant and necessary to litigation or anticipated litigation, in which one of the following is a party or has an interest: (a) NSF or any of its components; (b) an NSF employee in his/her official capacity; (c) an NSF employee in his/her individual capacity when the Department of Justice is representing or considering representing the employee; or (d) the United States, when NSF determines that litigation is likely to affect the Agency.
8. Records from this system may be disclosed to representatives of the General Services Administration and the National Archives and Records Administration who are conducting records management inspections under the authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906.

Policies and Practice for Storing, Retrieving, Accessing, Retaining, and Disposing of Records in the System:

Storage:

Some of the records are stored electronically and some are stored in paper format in file folders.

Retrievability:

By the STC Center and then alphabetically by individual.

Safeguards:

Building is locked during non-business hours. Records at NSF are kept in rooms that are locked during non-business hours. Records maintained in electronic form are password protected.

Retention and Disposal:

The file for each STC Center is cumulative and maintained indefinitely pending adoption of an approved records retention schedule.

System Manager(s) and Address(es):

Director, Office of Integrative Activities, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230.

Notification Procedure:

The NSF Privacy Act Officer should be contacted in accordance with procedures set forth at 45 CFR part 613.

Record Access Procedures:

See "Notification Procedure" above.

Contesting Record Procedures:

See "Notification Procedure" above.

Record Source Categories:

Science and Technology Centers.

Exemptions Claimed for the System:

None.