
issues. For more information contact our office.

General Facts About Our Office

Established on February 10, 1989, in compliance with the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.), as amended.

Organizationally and operationally independent from NSF.

Headed by the Inspector General, who reports directly to the National Science Board and Congress.

Remedies and Recommendation

Investigations may result in:

- Civil action
- Criminal action
- Administrative action
- Misconduct recommendations
- Audit referrals

Audits may result in:

- Questioned or disallowed costs,
- Recommendations which improve the auditee's compliance with NSF and federal regulations,
- Recommendations which identify ways to improve efficiency, or
- Referral to investigations

How to Contact Us

Internet

oig.nsf.gov

Telephone

703 292-7100

OIG Anonymous Hotline

1-800-428-2189

Fax

703 292-9158/9159

Write

National Science Foundation
Office of Inspector General
4201 Wilson Boulevard
Arlington, VA 22230

E-mail Hotline

oig@nsf.gov

Report any possible research misconduct, fraud, waste, abuse, or mismanagement associated with NSF programs and operations to our office.

An Overview of the



***National Science
Foundation's
Office of Inspector General***

What is the National Science Foundation?

The National Science Foundation (NSF) is an independent U.S. government agency responsible for promoting science and engineering through programs that invest approximately \$5.0 billion per year in almost 20,000 research and education projects in science and engineering.

What is an Office of Inspector General?

Each federal agency has an independent Office of Inspector General (OIG) charged with conducting objective audits, investigations and inspections and evaluations, as well as preventing and detecting fraud, waste and abuse. Through investigation of those who abuse the public trust or defraud government programs, the Offices of Investigations and Audits work to enforce standards of honesty and integrity in NSF programs and operations.

Close working relationships with NSF and its awardees help us focus our efforts and facilitate our proactive educational efforts.

What does our office do?

I. Our Office of Audit Efforts

We conduct:

- Audits and program reviews relating to NSF programs and operations.
- Financial and compliance audits of NSF and awardees.
- Reviews of NSF's financial, administrative, and programmatic operations.
- Audits of NSF's financial statements.
- Reviews of NSF's electronic data processing systems.

II. Our Office of Investigation Efforts

We investigate possible wrongdoing involving organizations or individuals that receive awards from, conduct business with, or work for NSF. We conduct:

- Criminal/Civil Investigations
- Administrative Investigations—these include allegations of research misconduct in science and engineering

III. Our Office Outreach Efforts

Our outreach efforts build partnerships within the agency, other federal agencies, NSF awardees, and the scientific and engineering communities. These partnerships assist us in resolving audit and investigation matters effectively and promoting education on research misconduct and award administration issues.

Outreach to NSF

Individual staff from our office act as liaisons to the NSF directorates and offices. Liaisons promote information about our office and develop substantive knowledge about NSF program areas so that we can better assist NSF in achieving its goals.

Outreach to Funded Community

We offer interactive case-study based seminars about research misconduct and other investigation and audit issues for principal investigators and administrators, and students. We participate in national and regional meetings to acquaint professional society members on current topics, such as process-related audit and ethical