



# NPA 4-STEP PROCESS OF FIGHTING OMB RULEMAKING

GUIDANCE FOR COMMENT  
ON OFFICE OF  
MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET  
(OMB) PROPOSED CHANGES  
TO REGULATIONS  
GOVERNING FEDERAL  
RESEARCH GRANTS (2 CFR  
PART 200) IN FOUR STEPS

## Background

The White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has **proposed** significant changes in how federal grants are administered across the science and research community. (Learn more [here](#), [here](#), or [here](#).)

The NPA **opposes** this action, along with its allies, and suggests that you exercise your rights by taking the **four steps detailed below**. Note: You do **not** have to be a citizen or permanent resident to do so.

1. **Contact your Congressional delegation** to urge them to oppose this rule
  2. Submit a comment **directly to OMB**
  3. **Share** the impact of federal funding on your work with NPA
  4. Share these instructions with your peers and across all your networks
- 

## Step 1. Contact your Congressional delegation.

Submit an **online letter to your Congressional delegation** asking them to oppose the OMB proposed rule. Sample message text is below. You do not need to be a citizen or permanent resident to contact your delegation.

1. *Insert your institution and research area in the letter below where instructed*
2. *Modify the message text to make it more personal to you and your research. (If you are not a researcher, feel free to modify the letter while still expressing your concern for researchers.)*
3. *Share the letter with your Congressional delegation [here](#) via our allies at AGU. Use the box on the right side of the contact [webpage](#) to fill in the required information. Cut and paste your personalized letter below in the field marked "Message."*

### MESSAGE TEXT:

I am a postdoctoral researcher at **[INSERT NAME OF YOUR INSTITUTION]**, writing in my personal capacity as your constituent. I am deeply concerned about the proposed rule by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), "**Regulation for Federal Financial Assistance**," which would make transformative changes to federal grantmaking (2 CFR Part 200).

My work in **[INSERT YOUR RESEARCH AREA]** – along with that of my 70,000 postdoctoral peers across academia, industry, and beyond – is imperative to advancing the health, welfare, economy, safety, and leadership of the U.S. Merit-based, peer-reviewed, federal grants are critical to the success of my work.



# NPA 4-STEP PROCESS OF FIGHTING OMB RULEMAKING

GUIDANCE FOR COMMENT  
ON OFFICE OF  
MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET  
(OMB) PROPOSED CHANGES  
TO REGULATIONS  
GOVERNING FEDERAL  
RESEARCH GRANTS (2 CFR  
PART 200) IN FOUR STEPS

The proposed rule:

1. Centralizes federal funding authority in a budget office, reducing the important discretion and authority of research experts at agencies who work with postdoctoral researchers like me every day, and creating a bottleneck
2. Interferes with my research by introducing opaque decision-making and red tape, while restricting my ability to share research findings through journals, societies and conferences of peers and mentors – as researchers have done for centuries to accelerate success
3. Restricts my ability to seek legitimate international collaboration that could advance my work
4. Increases overhead costs associated with my research
5. Creates new powers of suspension and termination over my research within a federal budget office, with no ability for me to appeal

I also object to the codification of the current administration's anti-DEI views into federal regulations and its impact on research. The policies of one administration should not determine the process or substance of creative, innovative research solving our society's largest problems.

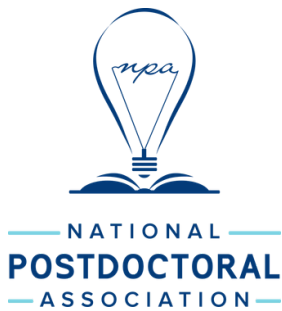
I urge you to support apolitical, clear, merit-based, peer-reviewed, and streamlined federal funding for science and research across all disciplines. Please contact OMB to oppose this rule, and take action in Congress to stop this attack on research.

---

## Step 2. Submit a formal comment to OMB.

Personalize the below with your own voice and experiences, and submit it as a **formal comment** directly to OMB.

1. *Open a new document.*
2. *Copy the below COMMENT TEXT and add information to the letter below. **You MUST personalize it with your own language for it to count.***
  - a. *Letters that are cut and pasted from form comments from NPA or other organizations without your personalization will be disregarded.*
  - b. *Be as specific as possible about your work and the impact of these proposed changes.*
  - c. *If you are not a researcher, feel free to modify the letter while still expressing your concern for researchers.*
  - d. *Tips to take your letter to the next level are [here](#).*
3. *Cut and paste your personalized comment via [the Federal Register](#) page by clicking on the green box on the right side of the page ["Submit a Public Comment."]*
4. *Comments are due **July 13, 2026**.*



# NPA 4-STEP PROCESS OF FIGHTING OMB RULEMAKING

GUIDANCE FOR COMMENT  
ON OFFICE OF  
MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET  
(OMB) PROPOSED CHANGES  
TO REGULATIONS  
GOVERNING FEDERAL  
RESEARCH GRANTS (2 CFR  
PART 200) IN FOUR STEPS

## COMMENT TEXT:

"I am a postdoctoral researcher at **[INSERT NAME OF YOUR INSTITUTION]**, writing in my personal capacity. I strongly oppose the proposed rule by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), "**Regulation for Federal Financial Assistance**," which would make transformative changes to federal grantmaking (2 CFR Part 200).

My work in **[INSERT YOUR RESEARCH AREA]** – along with that of my 70,000 postdoctoral peers across academia, industry, and beyond – is imperative to advancing the health, welfare, economy, safety, and leadership of the U.S. Merit-based, peer-reviewed, federal grants are critical to the success of my work.

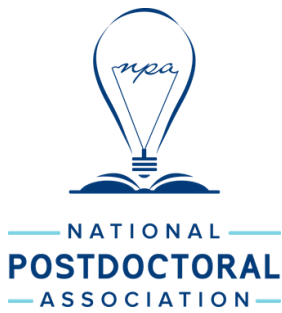
I oppose this proposed rule for several reasons below.

**[PICK ONES THAT ARE IMPORTANT TO YOU. WRITE IN YOUR OWN VOICE and ADD EXAMPLES OF HOW THIS WOULD INJURE YOUR WORK. PUT THEM IN THE ORDER THAT SHOWS YOUR CONCERNS AND INCLUDE THE SECTION REFERENCE NUMBERS LISTED.]**

1. Centralizes federal funding authority in a budget office, reducing the important discretion and authority of research experts at agencies who work with postdoctoral researchers like me every day, and creating a bottleneck (§ 200.205(b))
2. Interferes with my research by introducing opaque decision-making and red tape, while restricting my ability to share research findings through journals, societies, and conferences of peers and mentors – as researchers have done for centuries to accelerate success (§ 200.454(a),(b)), § 200.432(b), § 200.461, § 200.421)
3. Restricts my ability to seek legitimate international collaboration that could advance my work (§ 200.202, § 200.220)
4. Increases overhead costs associated with my research (§ 200.332(i) (with §§ 200.331(c), 200.332(h)))
5. Creates new powers of suspension and termination over my research within a budget office, with no ability for me to appeal (§§ 200.340–200.343)
6. Codifies the current administration's anti-DEI views into federal regulations and its impact on research (§ 200.300(b))

The policies of one administration should not determine the process or substance of creative, innovative research solving our society's largest problems. I support apolitical, clear, merit-based, peer-reviewed and streamlined federal funding for science and research across all disciplines and therefore strongly oppose this rule."

---



# NPA 4-STEP PROCESS OF FIGHTING OMB RULEMAKING

GUIDANCE FOR COMMENT  
ON OFFICE OF  
MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET  
(OMB) PROPOSED CHANGES  
TO REGULATIONS  
GOVERNING FEDERAL  
RESEARCH GRANTS (2 CFR  
PART 200) IN FOUR STEPS

## Step 3. Tell NPA about your work and how important federal funding is to you.

Complete this [short survey](#) to allow NPA to share experiences from across the postdoc community as we advocate for you and your peers.

---

## Step 4. Share this with your peers, and beyond.

Reach out to postdocs and others across the science and research enterprise, inside and outside your home institution, and share these instructions with them so more voices can be heard. In fact, share with anyone who cares about the future of federal funding, even beyond science and research.