National Postdoctoral Association (NPA)
June 12, 2026

Guidance for comment on Office of Management and Budget (OMB) proposed changes to regulations governing federal research grants (2 CFR Part 200) in three 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. The NPA opposes this action along with allies and suggests you exercise your rights by taking **three steps detailed below**:

1. Contact your Congressional delegation to urge them to oppose this rule (you do not have to be a citizen or permanent resident to do so)
2. Submit a comment directly to OMB
3. Share this information with your peers and across your networks

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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 below letter where instructed*
2. *Modify 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 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.

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, different text and submit it as a formal comment directly to OMB.

1. *Add information to the below letter.* ***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. *If you are not a researcher, feel free to modify the letter while still expressing your concern for researchers.*
    c. *Tips to take your letter to the next level are here.*
2. *Submit 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."]*
3. *All comments are due by* ***July 13, 2026.***

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.

The proposed rule: [**INCLUDE AND PRIORITIZE THE CONCERNS BELOW THAT ARE MOST IMPORTANT TO YOU]**

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 budget office with no ability for me to appeal
6. Codifies 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 support apolitical, clear, merit-based, peer-reviewed and streamlined federal funding for science and research across all disciplines and therefore strongly oppose this rule.

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3. Share this information with your peers.
Reach out to postdocs and others across the science and research enterprise within and outside your home institution.