

Federal Register – December 2024

[Request for Comments on NSF's Proposed Intellectual Property Options, 89 Federal Register 101641, December 16, 2024](#)

NOTICE: The U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF) seeks public comments to inform the experimental implementation of new intellectual property (IP) provisions to be used in public-private partnerships, particularly those advancing research and development, that include co-funding by private partners. NSF is committed to fostering innovation and promoting the translation of research into practical applications. To enhance the effectiveness of public-private partnerships, NSF seeks to implement a set of options for IP provisions that provide greater flexibility and balance the interests of both academia and industry. Recent engagements, including the 2023 NSF-Industry Partnership Summit and subsequent listening sessions, have highlighted the need for optional IP strategies that can adapt to the unique requirements of various funded projects. NSF intends to incorporate these IP options into partnership agreements involving industry and/or non-profit organizations for funding opportunities whose funded awards may result in the generation of IP.

COMMENTS DUE: January 24, 2025

[Request for Comment on the National Cyber Incident Response Plan Update, 89 Federal Register 101614, December 16, 2024](#)

NOTICE: CISA has released a draft of the National Cyber Incident Response Plan (NCIRP) Update for public comment. CISA invites cybersecurity and incident response stakeholders from across public and private sectors or other interested parties to review the draft update document and provide comments, relevant information, and feedback.

COMMENTS DUE: January 24, 2025

[Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Small Business Innovation Research Program Data Rights \(DFARS Case 2019-D043\), 89 Federal Register 103338, December 18, 2024](#)

FINAL RULE: DoD is issuing a final rule amending the Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) to implement the data rights portions of the Small Business Innovation Research Program and Small Business Technology Transfer Program Policy Directives.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 17, 2025

[Transportation for Individuals With Disabilities; Adoption of Accessibility Standards for Pedestrian Facilities in the Public Right-of-Way, 89 Federal Register 102800, December 18, 2024](#)

FINAL RULE: The Department of Transportation (DOT or the Department) is amending its Americans with Disabilities Act regulations to adopt, without modification, the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board's Accessibility Guidelines for Pedestrian Facilities in the Public Right-of-Way (PROWAG) as DOT's regulatory standards for new construction and alterations of transit stops in the public right-of-way.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 17, 2025

[Modernizing H-1B Requirements, Providing Flexibility in the F-1 Program, and Program Improvements Affecting Other Nonimmigrant Workers, 89 Federal Register 103054, December 18, 2024](#)

FINAL RULE: The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is issuing this final rule to modernize and improve the efficiency of the H-1B program, add benefits and flexibilities, and improve integrity measures. These provisions mainly amend the regulations governing H-1B specialty occupation workers, although some of the provisions narrowly impact other nonimmigrant classifications, including: H-2, H-3, F-1, L-1, O, P, Q-1, R-1, E-3, and TN.

<p>Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities Receiving Federal Financial Assistance: Sex-Related Eligibility Criteria for Male and Female Athletic Teams; Withdrawal, 89 Federal Register 104936, December 26, 2024</p>	<p>EFFECTIVE DATE: January 17, 2025</p> <p>PROPOSED RULE WITHDRAWAL: The U.S. Department of Education (Department) is withdrawing the notice of proposed rulemaking entitled “Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities Receiving Federal Financial Assistance: Sex-Related Eligibility Criteria for Male and Female Athletic Teams” published in the Federal Register on April 13, 2023. The proposed rule would have amended the regulations implementing Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX).</p> <p>EFFECTIVE DATE: December 20, 2024</p>
<p>Termination of Rulemaking Process for Program Integrity and Institutional Quality: State Authorization, Cash Management, Accreditation and Related Issues, 89 Federal Register 104937, December 26, 2024</p>	<p>TERMINATION OF NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING PROCESS: The U.S. Department of Education (Department) announces the termination of the negotiated rulemaking process for three Program Integrity and Institutional Quality issues that were undertaken as part of a larger negotiated rulemaking process for Federal programs authorized under title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA): State Authorization, Cash Management, Accreditation and Related Issues (Accreditation).</p> <p>EFFECTIVE DATE: December 20, 2024</p>
<p>Student Debt Relief Based on Hardship for the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program (Direct Loans), the Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program, the Federal Perkins Loan (Perkins) Program, and the Health Education Assistance Loan (HEAL) Program; Withdrawal, 89 Federal Register 104934, December 26, 2024</p>	<p>PROPOSED RULE WITHDRAWAL: The U.S. Department of Education (Department) is withdrawing a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) that, under the Secretary's authority to waive repayment of a loan provided by the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA), proposed to specify the Secretary's authority to waive all or part of any student loan debts owed to the Department based on the Secretary's determination that a borrower has experienced or is experiencing hardship related to such a loan.</p> <p>EFFECTIVE DATE: December 20, 2024</p>
<p>CFPB Supervisory Highlights: Special Edition Student Lending, 89 Federal Register 105013, December 26, 2024</p>	<p>NOTICE: The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB or Bureau) is issuing its thirty sixth edition of <i>Supervisory Highlights</i>. The findings in this edition of <i>Supervisory Highlights</i> focus significant findings across the entire student loan market and cover select examinations that were generally completed in 2024.</p>
<p>Federal Acquisition Regulation: Prohibition on Unmanned Aircraft Systems From Covered Foreign Entities, 89 Federal Register 106364, December 30, 2024</p>	<p>INTERIM RULE: DoD, GSA, and NASA issued an interim rule on November 12, 2024, amending the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) to implement a prohibition on the procurement and operation of unmanned aircraft systems manufactured or assembled by an American Security Drone Act-covered foreign entity. The deadline for submitting comments is being extended from January 13, 2025, to January 27, 2025, to provide additional time for interested parties to provide comments on the proposed rule. The effective date of this rule is not being changed and remains November 12, 2024.</p> <p>COMMENTS DUE: January 27, 2025</p>
<p>Accepted Means of Compliance for Small Unmanned Aircraft Category 2 and Category 3 Operations Over Human Beings (FAA); Virginia Tech Mid-Atlantic Aviation</p>	<p>RULE: This document announces the acceptance of a means of compliance with FAA regulations for small unmanned aircraft (sUA) Category 2 and Category 3 operations over human beings. The Administrator finds that VT MAAP's “Operation of Small</p>

<p>Partnership (VT MAAP), 89 Federal Register 106307, December 30, 2024</p>	<p>Unmanned Aircraft Systems Over People,” version 2.1, dated August 9, 2024, provides an acceptable means, but not the only means, of showing compliance with FAA regulations. EFFECTIVE DATE: December 30, 2024</p>
<p>Final Scientific Integrity Policy of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 89 Federal Register 106526, December 30, 2024</p>	<p>NOTICE OF FINAL POLICY: The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is publishing its Scientific Integrity Policy to increase access to and raise awareness of the Policy. EFFECTIVE DATE: October 16, 2024</p>
<p>Update to the Health Resources and Services Administration-Supported Women's Preventive Services Guidelines, 89 Federal Register 106522, December 30, 2024</p>	<p>NOTICE: The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) published a Federal Register Notice on October 22, 2024, with proposed updates to the HRSA-supported Women's Preventive Services Guidelines (Guidelines). After consideration of public comment, HRSA has accepted the recommendations as revised and detailed in this notice. Under applicable law, non-grandfathered group health plans and health insurance issuers offering non-grandfathered group and individual health insurance coverage must include coverage, without cost sharing, for certain preventive services, including those provided for in the HRSA-supported Guidelines. The Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and the Treasury have previously issued regulations describing how group health plans and health insurance issuers apply the coverage requirements. Please see https://www.hrsa.gov/womens-guidelines for additional information.</p>
<p>Financial Value Transparency and Gainful Employment: Earnings Thresholds for Calculation Year 2024, 89 Federal Register 107130, December 31, 2024</p>	<p>NOTICE: The Secretary announces the annual earnings thresholds used to calculate the earnings premium (EP) measure as part of the Financial Value Transparency and Gainful Employment (FVT/GE) regulations. The earnings thresholds published in this notice apply to EP measure results for calculation year 2024</p>

Virginia Register – December 2024

<p>6VAC20-20. Rules Relating to Compulsory Minimum Training Standards for Law-Enforcement Officers (amending 6VAC20-20-21, 6VAC20-20-40), Volume 41, Issue 8, Virginia Register of Regulations, December 2, 2024</p>	<p>PROPOSED REGULATION: Substantial changes and improvements will be made and applied to the performance outcomes, training objectives, testing criteria, and lesson plan guides in each individual category of training. The proposed amendments include enhanced training in community policing, verbal de-escalation, implicit bias, duty to intervene, conflict resolution skills with a concentration on individuals with mental illness, historical events that have influenced citizen and police relationships, and the establishment of a new category of training, Officer Wellness. The proposed amendments improve and update language, in addition to amending the existing number of field training hours required for new law-enforcement officers in Virginia, as recommended by the Law-Enforcement Curriculum Review Committee and the subject matter experts that the department has continued to work with on this project. Additionally, as recommended by law-enforcement personnel throughout the state in multiple meetings conducted by the department soliciting input, this action will also increase the time required for the completion of training from 12 months to 18 months from the law-</p>
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	<p>enforcement officer's date of hire, benefiting all agencies and departments throughout the Commonwealth.</p> <p>COMMENTS DUE: December 20, 2024</p>
<p>22VAC40-890. Human Subject Research Regulations (amending 22VAC40-890-10 through 22VAC40-890-90), Volume 41, Issue 10, Virginia Register of Regulations, December 30, 2024</p>	<p>FAST-TRACK REGULATION: The amendments are needed to (i) provide congruence of language between § 63.2-218 Code of Virginia and the regulation; (ii) ensure that the provisions contained in the Code of Virginia for the health, safety, and welfare of citizens are aligned with those provisions in the regulation; and (iii) prevent any confusion in the execution of the regulations as they relate to statute.</p> <p>EFFECTIVE DATE: February 13, 2025</p>
<p>18VAC90-27, Regulations for Nursing Education Programs, Volume 41, Issue 10, Virginia Register of Regulations, December 30, 2024</p>	<p>NOTICE OF INTENDED REGULATORY ACTION: the Board of Nursing intends to consider amending 18VAC90-27, Regulations for Nursing Education Programs. The board conducted a periodic review of the regulation and held a regulatory advisory panel of stakeholders to identify needed changes in the nursing education regulation. The purpose of the proposed action is to make the changes recommended by the regulatory advisory panel, including (i) updating terminology for nurse education programs; (ii) streamlining and reorganizing requirements for faculty; (iii) clarifying the duties of faculty and staff positions; (iv) eliminating duplicative requirements; (v) eliminating overly prescriptive yet vague requirements concerning the physical environment of the nursing education program; (vi) updating curriculum requirements to reflect comments received by the board and further promote readiness for entry to practice; (vii) making general changes to reflect the use of telehealth in the provision of modern health care and the use of simulation in clinical training; (viii) updating the clinical practice of students, including supervision requirements; (ix) updating requirements regarding recordkeeping and documentation; and (x) making other clarifying changes.</p> <p>COMMENTS DUE: January 29, 2025</p>