



# WASHINGTON UPDATE

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December 1, 2015 Volume 34, Issue 22

*Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, this is an abbreviated edition of the COSSA Washington Update. We will be back on Tuesday, December 15 for our last issue of the year.*

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### **Deadline for Comments on Common Rule NPRM Extended**

The Department of Health and Human Services has [announced](#) that it will extend the period for public comment on the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) for the Federal Policy for the Protection of Human Subjects (otherwise known as the Common Rule) by 30 days. The new deadline is January 6, 2016. A summary of the major changes to the regulations proposed in the NPRM is available [here](#).

## **FEDERAL AGENCY & ADMINISTRATION NEWS**

### **BEA Releases State-Level Consumer Spending Data**

For the first time, the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) will begin regularly releasing [official statistics detailing consumer spending by state](#). The data will include total consumer spending in each state, breakouts of consumer spending in specific categories and sectors, and per-capita consumer spending from 1997 through 2014. BEA began releasing prototype estimates in 2014; previously, only national consumer-spending data was available.

### **NIH Issues Notice Clarifying its Health Economics Research**

## Priorities

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) issued a [Guide Notice](#) on November 25, to "clarify NIH policy related to funding health economics research," in an effort to delineate NIH's "priority areas of health economics research as well as reach aims that generally fall outside of the NIH mission."

[Read on](#) for more details.

## NIH Issues Funding Opportunity to Support the PMI Cohort Program Direct Volunteer Pilot Studies

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) is seeking proposals for pilot studies and "the needed information technology support for the development of the Direct Volunteer component of the Precision Medicine Initiative (PMI) Cohort Program." The agency plans to build a "national research cohort of one million or more volunteers who are engaged as partners in a longitudinal, long-term effort to identify the molecular, environmental and behavioral factors that contribute to diverse diseases, to facilitate the development and testing of novel therapies and prevention approaches, and to pioneer mHealth [mobile health] strategies for improving the efficacy of health care." To that end, NIH released a series of funding opportunities announcements (FOAs) related to PMI and the implementation of the PMI Cohort Program along with two funding opportunities associated with "Other Transaction awards" to facilitate the development of a pilot program designed "to inform the creation of the direct volunteer enrollment component of the cohort" and an accompanying communication infrastructure "vital to conveying the importance of this research effort."

[Read on](#) for more details.

## COSSA MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

### COSSA Members Respond to OBSSR Strategic Plan

Several COSSA member organizations responded to the recent National Institutes of Health (NIH) Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR) Request for Information (RFI) regarding its 2016-2020 Strategic Plan (see Update, [November 3, 2015](#)). In addition to stressing the challenges and opportunities for the behavioral sciences, the groups emphasize the need for continued leadership by OBSSR within NIH and the federal government. [Read on](#) for highlights from the comments submitted by the American Educational Research Association (AERA), American Psychological Association (APA), the Population Association of America/Association of Population Centers (PAA/APC), and the Society of Behavioral Medicine (SBM).

## EVENTS CALENDAR

- [American Economic Association Annual Meeting](#), San Francisco, CA, January 3-5, 2016
- [Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting](#), New York, NY, January 6-9, 2016
- [American Historical Association Annual Meeting](#), Atlanta, GA, January 7-10, 2016
- [Linguistic Society of America Annual Meeting](#), Washington, DC, January 7-10, 2016
- [Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting](#), San Juan, PR, January 7-9, 2016
- [Society for Social Work and Research Annual Conference](#), Washington, DC, January 13-17, 2016

- [Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention](#), San Diego, CA, January 28-30, 2016
- [American Psychosomatic Society Annual Scientific Meeting](#), Denver, CO, March 9-12, 2016
- [COSSA Annual Meeting & Social and Behavioral Science Advocacy Day](#), Washington, DC, March 15-16, 2016
- [Southwestern Social Science Association Annual Meeting](#), Las Vegas, NV, March 22-27, 2016
- [Midwest Sociological Society Annual Meeting](#), Chicago, IL, March 23-26, 2016
- [Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting](#), San Francisco, CA, March 28-April 2, 2016
- [Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Meeting](#), Denver, CO, March 29-April 2, 2016
- [Society of Behavioral Medicine Annual Meeting](#), Washington, DC, March 20-April 2, 2016
- [Population Association of America Annual Meeting](#), Washington, DC, March 31-April 2, 2016
- [Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference](#), Seattle, WA, March 31-April 3, 2016
- [Society for Research on Adolescence Biennial Meeting](#), Baltimore, MD, March 31-April 2, 2016

A list of COSSA members' annual meetings and other events can be found on the COSSA [webpage](#).

COSSA members who have an upcoming event they would like to see listed in the Events Calendar and on our website should send an email to [jmilton@coossa.org](mailto:jmilton@coossa.org).

**Save the date!**  
**COSSA's 2016 Annual Meeting will take place on March 15 & 16.**

## Consortium of Social Science Associations Members

### Governing Members

American Anthropological Association  
 American Association for Public Opinion Research  
 American Economic Association  
 American Educational Research Association  
 American Historical Association  
 American Political Science Association  
 American Psychological Association  
 American Society of Criminology  
 American Sociological Association  
 American Statistical Association  
 Association of American Geographers  
 Association of American Law Schools  
 Law and Society Association  
 Linguistic Society of America  
 Midwest Political Science Association  
 National Communication Association  
 Population Association of America  
 Society for Personality and Social Psychology  
 Society for Research in Child Development

### Membership Organizations

Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences  
 American Evaluation Association  
 American Psychosomatic Society  
 Association for Asian Studies  
 Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies  
 Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management

### Colleges and Universities

Arizona State University  
 Boston University  
 Brown University  
 Carnegie Mellon University  
 Clark University  
 Columbia University  
 Cornell University  
 Duke University  
 Fielding Graduate University  
 George Mason University  
 Georgetown University  
 Harvard University  
 Indiana University  
 John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY  
 Johns Hopkins University  
 Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
 Michigan State University  
 New York University  
 Northwestern University  
 Pennsylvania State University  
 Princeton University  
 Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey  
 Stanford University  
 Stony Brook University, SUNY  
 Texas A&M University  
 The George Washington University  
 The Ohio State University

Association of Academic Survey Research Organizations  
Association of Research Libraries  
Council on Social Work Education  
Economic History Association  
History of Science Society  
Midwest Sociological Society  
National Association of Social Workers  
North American Regional Science Council  
Rural Sociological Society  
Social Science History Association  
Society for Research on Adolescence  
Society for Social Work and Research  
Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues  
Society of Behavioral Medicine  
Southern Political Science Association  
Southern Sociological Society  
Southwestern Social Science Association

### Centers and Institutes

American Academy of Arts and Sciences  
American Academy of Political and Social Science  
American Council of Learned Societies  
American Institutes for Research  
Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences  
Cornell Institute for Social and Economic Research  
Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan  
Institute for Social Science Research,  
University of Massachusetts, Amherst  
Institute for Women's Policy Research  
NORC at the University of Chicago  
Owens Institute for Behavioral Research, University of Georgia  
Population Reference Bureau  
RTI International  
Social Science Research Council  
Vera Institute of Justice

University of California, Berkeley  
University of California, Irvine  
University of California, Los Angeles  
University of California, San Diego  
University of California, Santa Barbara  
University of Chicago  
University of Colorado, Boulder  
University of Illinois  
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University of Michigan  
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Yale University

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*The Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA) is a nonprofit advocacy organization working to promote sustainable federal funding for social and behavioral science research and federal policies that positively impact the conduct of research.*

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