

NSF Race/Ethnicity guidelines:

In October 1997, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) announced new government-wide standards for the collection of data on race and ethnicity that became effective 1 January 2003 (https://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/fedreg_1997standards/). OMB specified the following categories and definitions of racial and ethnic groups:

URM

- **Black or African American:** A person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa.
- **American Indian or Alaska Native:** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America) and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment.
- **Hispanic or Latino:** A person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.
- **Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander:** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific islands.

non-URM

- **Asian:** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent; for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam.
- **White:** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or North Africa.

Respondents can also select one or more racial designations, and those who do are classified under "more than one race."

The Department of Education published final guidance in the Federal Register on 19 October 2007 (72 Fed. Reg. 59267) to transition to the new OMB standards for reporting race and ethnicity. Previously, the Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) had identified mutually exclusive racial and ethnic groups as white, black, Hispanic, Asian or Pacific Islander, and American Indian or Alaska Native. In 2008, NCES changed race and ethnicity reporting for degree completion data and for enrollment data. For the degree completion data, reporting in the new categories became mandatory for the 2011-12 data collection (i.e., 2011 data). For the fall enrollment data, reporting in the new categories became mandatory for the 2010-11 data collection (i.e., 2010 data).