AT A GLANCE

Performance Audit of the National Science Foundation's Information Security Program for FY 2022

Report No. 23-2-001
November 4, 2022

AUDIT OBJECTIVE

The National Science Foundation Office of Inspector General engaged Kearney & Company, P.C. (Kearney) to conduct a performance audit of NSF's Information Security Program for fiscal year 2022, as required by the *Federal Information Security Modernization Act of 2014* (FISMA, Pub. L. No. 113-283). The audit, which was conducted in accordance with the performance audit standards established by *Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards* (GAGAS), included an assessment of the corrective actions taken by NSF in response to the prior-year FISMA audit.

AUDIT RESULTS

Kearney found that NSF's security controls were effective in five of the nine FISMA metric domains and that NSF's Information Security Program was effective for FY 2022 in accordance with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's *FY 2022 Inspector General FISMA Reporting Metrics*. Kearney determined that NSF is in the process of implementing corrective actions to address the five findings identified in the FY 2021 FISMA independent evaluation. In addition, Kearney identified one new finding for FY 2022 that NSF is in the process of correcting. Kearney is responsible for the Performance Audit and the conclusions expressed in the report. NSF OIG does not express any opinion on the conclusions presented in Kearney's audit report.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The auditors included one new and five modified repeat findings in the report with associated recommendations for NSF to address weaknesses in information technology security controls.

AGENCY RESPONSE

NSF agreed with all of the findings in the report and plans to incorporate information gained and lessons learned from the review to continue making improvements in its information security program.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT US AT OIGPUBLICAFFAIRS@NSF.GOV.