

	AGENCY NAME											
Scientific Integrity Policies	CDC	DHS	DOD	DOE	DOI	DOS	EPA	NASA	NIH	NOAA	NSF	USDA
Overall organization and user-friendliness	Fair	Good	Fair	Fair	Good	Very Good	Good	Fair	Very Good	Very Good/Good	Fair	Good
What the policy governs	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Very Good	Good	Fair	Fair	Good	Very Good	Fair	Very Good
Research misconduct	Fair	Addressed in Separate Policy	Addressed in Separate Policy	N/A	Very Good	N/A	Good	Good	Very Good	Very Good	Addressed in Separate Policy	Good
Conflict of interest	Good	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Very Good	Fair	Fair	Fair
Political interference	Fair	Very Good	Fair	Good	Fair	Very Good	Good	Fair	N/A	Very Good	Fair	Good
Threats and intimidation	N/A	N/A	N/A	Fair	N/A	N/A	Good	N/A	N/A	Very Good	N/A	N/A
Use of science in agency decision-making	N/A	Very Good	Good	N/A	Fair	Very Good	Very Good	Fair	Very Good	Good	N/A	Very Good
Science communication	Fair	Very Good	Good	Good	Fair	Good	Good	Fair	Very Good	Good	Good	Good
Timeliness of communications	Fair	N/A	Addressed in Separate Policy	Good	Good	N/A	Good	N/A	Good	Good	N/A	N/A
Social media communications	Addressed in Separate Policy	N/A	N/A	Very Good	Addressed in Separate Policy	Addressed in Separate Policy	Addressed in Separate Policy	N/A	Addressed in Separate Policy	Fair	Addressed in Separate Policy	Fair
Testifying before Congress	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Fair	N/A	N/A	Fair	N/A	N/A
Right of scientists to review and correct agency communications	N/A	N/A	N/A	Very Good	N/A	N/A**	Very Good	N/A	N/A	Good	N/A	N/A
Publishing and lecturing	Very Good	Very Good	Good	Good	N/A	Good	Good	Good	Very Good	Good	Good	Fair
Scientific societies	Very Good	Very Good	Good	Good	Very Good	Good	Good	Good	N/A	Good	Good	Fair
Opinion statements	N/A	N/A	Addressed in Separate Policy	Very Good/Good	N/A	Good	Very Good	Fair	Fair	Good	N/A	Good
Hiring practices	Good	Fair	Fair	Fair	N/A	Fair	Fair	Fair	Addressed in Separate Policy	Fair	Fair	Fair
Federal Advisory Committees	Good	Fair	Good	Fair	N/A	Addressed in Separate Policy	Very Good	Very Good	Very Good	Very Good	Very Good	Very Good
Whistleblower protections	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Fair	Fair	Fair
Who the policy governs	Fair	Fair	Good	Fair	Very Good	Very Good	Good	Fair	Fair	Good	Good	Good
Complaint investigation procedure	Good*	Good	N/A	N/A	Very Good	N/A	Fair*	Good*	Good*	Very Good	Good*	Very Good
Who can make a complaint	Fair	Very Good	N/A	N/A	Very Good	N/A	Good	Fair	N/A	Very Good	N/A	Very Good
Rights of complainant and respondent	Fair	Fair	N/A	N/A	Good	N/A	Fair	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Very Good
Adjudication process	Fair	Fair	N/A	N/A	Fair	N/A	N/A	Fair	Good	Very Good	Good	Very Good
Are remedies for breach of scientific integrity listed? [Y/N]	Yes	No	No	No	No	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Representative cases published? [Y/N]	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

KEY TO RANKINGS

Very Good:

The policy addresses the topic comprehensively, and the language is tailored to the agency and its scientific work.

Good:

The policy uses more than basic language on the topic. It is tailored to the agency and its scientific work, but it may not cover every issue.

Fair:

The policy addresses this topic only with token or basic language, with little or no tailoring to the agency and its scientific work.

N/A (Not Addressed): The policy is silent on this topic.

Addressed in a Separate Policy:

The agency does not cover the topic in its scientific integrity policy or mention that a separate policy addresses it. However, the agency has a policy that deals with the subject.



Brought to you by
the Climate Science
Legal Defense Fund
bit.ly/sci-integrity

The ratings in the first category of the chart apply to the overall organization of the policy and how well-organized and user-friendly it is: very good and user-friendly; good and somewhat user-friendly; and fair and not user-friendly.

Note: A grade of very good/good applies to some categories. In these cases, the provision is generally comprehensive and applicable to the work of the agency in question. But it falls short in a few areas, which prevent it from receiving a rating of “very good.”

*These agency policies do not specify procedures for investigating scientific integrity complaints. For this guide, we evaluated the procedures for research misconduct since these provide the closest analog to how the agency might handle a scientific integrity complaint.

** While the right of DOS scientists to review agency communications is N/A (not addressed), the policy does provide federal scientists at other agencies the opportunity to review DOS documents that reference their work.