



NATIONAL ASSESSMENT OF EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS

BUSINESS POLICY TASK FORCE

A Call to the Business Community for Nominations

The National Assessment Governing Board is seeking members of the business community to serve on its new Business Policy Task Force. The task force will provide input to the Board in setting policy for the National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP) and for outreach to the business community.

The task force will be composed of business leaders representing industry sectors across the nation. It will help the Governing Board ensure that NAEP continues to be an important resource on student achievement for the business community, educators, policymakers, and the general public.

NAEP, also referred to as The Nation's Report Card™, is a nationally representative measure of achievement in core subjects over time at grades 4, 8, and 12. Funded by Congress since 1969, NAEP compares performance among states, urban districts, public and private schools, and student demographic groups and informs the public about elementary and secondary student achievement.

What Is the National Assessment Governing Board?

The Governing Board is an independent, bipartisan organization created by Congress in 1988 to set policy for NAEP. The Board's 26 members are appointed by the U.S. Secretary of Education and include governors, state legislators, local and state officials, educators and researchers, business representatives, and members of the general public.

The Governing Board oversees NAEP, identifies subjects to be tested, determines test content, sets performance standards called achievement levels for each assessment, approves test questions, and releases NAEP results in The Nation's Report Card. The Board also works to improve the reporting of results to make sure they are communicated effectively to a wide range of the American public.

Why Establish a NAEP Business Policy Task Force?

Human resources are key to the nation's economic development and competitiveness. That is why business has been a major force in education reform, particularly since *A Nation at Risk* raised concerns about the quality of our public schools when it was published 25 years ago. Reforms have focused on K–12 education broadly and, more recently, on how high school performance relates to postsecondary education and workforce readiness.

To address these issues, the Governing Board is implementing recommendations from a panel of business, military, and postsecondary education leaders to ensure that the 12th grade NAEP measures student preparedness for education and training after high school.

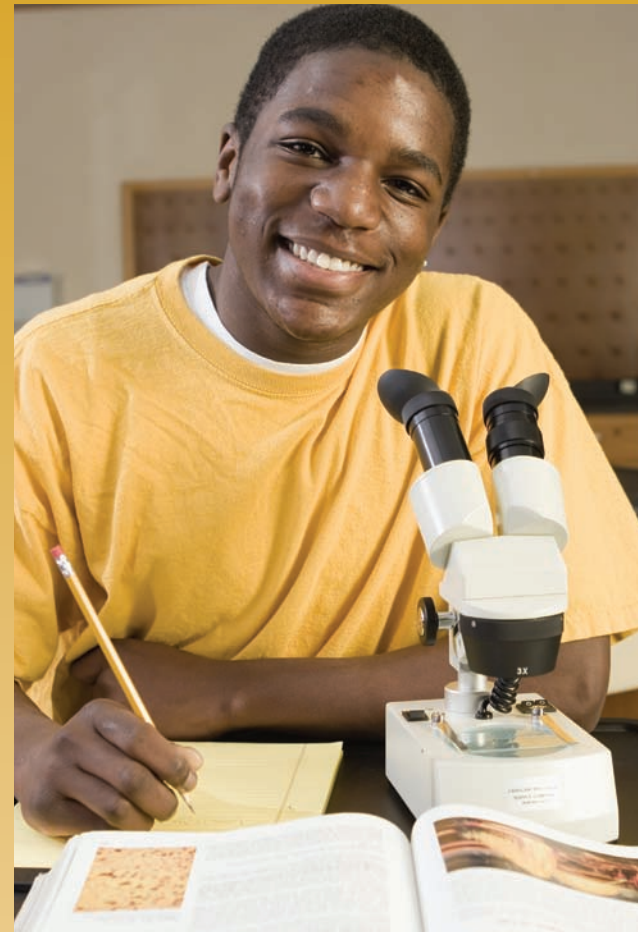
As increased attention is drawn to NAEP as a measure of student achievement, the involvement of the business community in the Governing Board's policy deliberations is crucial. Likewise, because the student achievement information NAEP produces is useful to business, it is important to improve the Governing Board's outreach to the business community.



What Are Potential Topics?

The Business Policy Task Force will:

- Assist in determining, from the business perspective, the most useful information for assessing the achievement of students at grades 4, 8, and 12.
- Help define 12th grade student preparedness as it relates to postsecondary education and training for work.
- Identify the types of tests used for entry-level jobs and job training programs and the related reading and mathematics requirements.
- Assist in determining the most effective methods to communicate and package NAEP results to the business community.
- Provide input to help the Governing Board transition to a computer-based testing system efficiently and cost effectively.



What Is the Commitment?

There will be an initial one-year commitment, with the possibility of an extension upon the mutual agreement of the Governing Board and task force members. Task force members will meet in person twice a year for a full day. In addition, the task force will hold meetings periodically via teleconference or other technology (not to exceed four times per year). Members will receive an agenda and materials at least one week prior to all meetings and will be expected to be prepared on the identified meeting topics.

The task force will consist of 12 to 15 high-level members of the business community. They will be knowledgeable about human resources and work force needs, engaged in education issues, and willing to “roll up their sleeves” to prepare for and participate in the discussions. The Board will draw on the expertise and involvement of these members to gather input and feedback to help it set policies for and improve NAEP. There will be no provision for alternates.

The Governing Board will pay for travel, lodging, and meal expenses associated with participation on the task force, consistent with federal government guidelines and regulations.

Make a Nomination*

There are two requirements for making a nomination:

- a nominating letter explaining the candidate’s experience addressing education issues
- a full resume.

Please send these materials via mail, email, or fax by December 15, 2008, to:

Ray Fields

Assistant Director for Policy and Research
National Assessment Governing Board
800 North Capitol Street, NW, Suite 825
Washington, DC 20002-4233

Email: Ray.Fields@ed.gov

Fax: 202-357-6945; Phone: 202-357-0395

**For more information, please see the back cover of this brochure and visit our web site: WWW.NAGB.ORG*

November 12, 2008



Dear Colleague:

The National Assessment Governing Board is establishing a NAEP Business Policy Task Force.
We invite you to nominate potential candidates.

The purpose of the Task Force is to provide—from a business perspective—input and feedback to the National Assessment Governing Board on policy and projects of the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), the only nationally representative, continuing measure of student achievement at grades 4, 8, and 12. The Task Force will also assist the Board in expanding outreach to the business community.

The Task Force will consist of 12 to 15 business leaders from across the nation and across various sectors of industry. The members should be knowledgeable about human resources, currently engaged in education issues, and willing to “roll up their sleeves” to prepare for and participate in the discussions. The overall composition will reflect regional, racial, ethnic and gender diversity.

The initial commitment is for one year, with the possibility of extension upon the mutual agreement of the Governing Board and Task Force members. During the initial year, there will be two one-day in-person meetings and up to four meetings by teleconference or other technology. Task Force members will be reimbursed for travel, lodging and meals, but will not receive an honorarium.

Please provide the following information for each individual being nominated:

- **Nominating letter.** This letter should describe the candidate’s experience in addressing education issues and qualifications as they relate to the factors described above.
- **Full resume.** A full resume is necessary to evaluate a candidate’s qualifications. Please note that a short biographical sketch is not sufficient for this purpose.

Nominations should be received by December 15, 2008 and may be submitted via mail, email, or fax to:

Ray Fields
Assistant Director for Policy and Research
National Assessment Governing Board
800 North Capitol Street, NW, Suite 825
Washington, DC 20002-4233
Email: Ray.Fields@ed.gov
Fax: 202-357-6945; Phone : 202-357-0395

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact Ray Fields and visit our web site (WWW.NAGB.ORG). Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Crovo".

Mary Crovo
Interim Executive Director
National Assessment Governing Board