**NSF CISE REU Sites and Supplements Evaluation**

**Proposed Crosswalk: Survey Race Categories 🡪 OMB Race Category Guidelines**

OMB feedback on a prior survey project submitted by our team for review provided guidelines on the collection of race data. Specifically, OMB noted the following:

*While it might be desirable to have highly detailed race and ethnicity data, the number of categories should be kept to a manageable size, as determined by statistical concerns and data needs. The primary statistical concern is sample size. For small subpopulations, there may be too few people to generate statistically robust estimates (i.e., the uncertainty about such estimates will be so large as to render them of little value in making policy decisions). In addition, when there are too few people in a subgroup, the estimates cannot be made public (i.e., disseminated) without a major risk to the privacy of the survey subject and confidentiality of their data.*

*You may add sub-categories as long as these can be aggregated to one of the standard categories.*

CERP proposes to collect race data using the categories shown in Table 1 below in order to enhance accuracy in responding. These categories will be aggregated into the OMB standard categories shown in the second column of the table. In all cases, no data about a particular respondent subgroup will be disseminated when small subgroup numbers risk compromising the privacy of those respondents.

**Table 1. Crosswalk of Survey Race Data to OMB Race Roll-Ups**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Survey Race Category** | **OMB Race Roll-Up Category** |
| African American/African/Black | Black or African American |
| American Indian/Alaska Native | American Indian or Alaska Native |
| Arab/Middle Eastern | White |
| Caucasian/European/White | White |
| East Asian (e.g., Chinese, Japanese, Korean) | Asian |
| Southeast Asian (e.g., Cambodian, Vietnamese, Hmong, Filipino) | Asian |
| South Asian (e.g., Indian, Pakistani, Nepalese, Sri Lankan) | Asian |
| Other Asian | Asian |
| Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander | Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander |