

## **Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 Report on Conferences Sponsored by the Department of Commerce**

### **Background**

The Department of Commerce is committed, within current budget constraints, to enabling Commerce employees to participate in official conferences as required to meet the mission to support American businesses, create jobs, and strengthen the economy. In FY 2017, in accordance with Office of Management and Budget Memorandum M-17-08, Amending OMB Memorandum M-12-12, Promoting Efficient Spending to Support Agency Operations, the Department continued to focus its efforts on oversight of expenses related to Federally-sponsored and Federally-hosted conferences to ensure that all conference expenses were appropriate, necessary, and managed in a prudent manner while acting as good stewards of taxpayer dollars and ensuring that our policy meets all Office of Management and Budget mandates and Federal Travel Regulations.

### **Conference Activity**

Office of Management and Budget Memorandum M-17-08, Amending OMB Memorandum M-12-12, Promoting Efficient Spending to Support Agency Operations requires that by January 31 of each year, the agency shall report on conference expenses on a dedicated place on their official website that describes all agency-sponsored conferences from the previous fiscal year where the net expenses for the agency associated with the conference were in excess of \$100,000 and in addition, for any instances where the net expenses for an agency-sponsored conference exceeded \$500,000, the website shall include the agency designated official's rationale and approval.

In FY 2021, the Department of Commerce did not sponsor any conferences, where the actual net costs exceeded \$100,000.