General review process.

1. **Peer Review**
   - Two external reviewers assigned to each proposal provide feedback on proposals.

2. **Initial Program Staff Review, Deliberation & Decision-Making**
   - Program staff review every proposal and accompanying reviewer feedback, to select semi-finalists.

3. **Semi-Finalists Stage**
   - Program staff collectively review, deliberate, and select awardees or finalists.

4. **Expert Panel Review & Decision-Making (Some Programs)**
   - Panel reads all finalist materials and reviews. Deliberates and recommends portfolio of funded projects.

All eligible submissions receive peer review feedback.
The vast majority of Spencer research grants are field initiated, meaning that we count on scholars to bring to us their most pressing questions and opportunities.

A rigorous peer review is central both to our decision-making process and to our investment in the field of education research. High-quality feedback serves to build the collective capacity of the field.

Program staff invite a diversity of education scholars (e.g., career stages, geography, race/ethnic and gender demographics, institutional types, etc.) to participate as review panelists for each grant program. Please volunteer to be an external reviewer if you are interested!

Based on feedback from external reviewers, Spencer staff engage in a collective deliberation process to decide which proposals will be advanced to the semi-finalist stage for the grant cycle.

Program staff collectively review and discuss semi-finalist proposals. Depending on the grant program, the staff will decide which submissions will be selected for awards or advanced for final review by an expert panel.

For some grant programs, Spencer staff select a finalist group of proposals for evaluation by a select panel of reviewers who represent a diversity of disciplines, methods, and demographic backgrounds. These expert panels read all finalist materials and external reviews, engage in a collective deliberation process, and recommend a portfolio of funded projects.

Information on the NAEd/Spencer Fellowship Programs can be found on the NAEd website: https://naeducation.org/fellowships/. Information on the Spencer Journalism Fellowship Program can be found on the Columbia Journalism School website: https://journalism.columbia.edu/spencer-education-fellowship.