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Dr. Joan Ferrini-Mundy is the acting chief operating officer of the National Science Foundation (NSF). Since 2011, she served as the NSF assistant director for Education and Human Resources (EHR). Additionally at NSF, Ferrini-Mundy was the inaugural division director of the Division of Research on Learning in Formal and Informal Settings in EHR.

Ferrini-Mundy served as an ex officio member of the U.S. Presidents's National Mathematics Advisory Panel and co-chaired its Instructional Practices Task Group (2007-2008). She was also a member of the Mathematics Expert Group of the Programme for International Student Assessment (2009-2012).

Ferrini-Mundy has co-chaired the White House National Science and Technology Council's Federal Coordination in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Education Task Force. Prior to coming to NSF, she was a University Distinguished Professor of Mathematics Education at Michigan State University.

Ferrini-Mundy holds a Ph.D. in mathematics education from the Department of Mathematics of The University of New Hampshire. She was elected a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (2011) and a member of the Executive Committee of the Association of Women in Mathematics (2013-2016). She began her career as a high school mathematics teacher. Her research interests are in calculus learning, mathematics teacher knowledge and K-12 science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education policy.
