Sponsored Program Administrators Meeting

Happy New Year!
January 15, 2020
Paper Proposal Submissions

- Paper submissions are all submissions that do not require electronic submission by SPS and are submitted by the PI/Department Administrator.

- The full and final proposal *must* be sent to SPS.

- Changes to any part of the application (with the exception of minor changes to science) *must* be reviewed and approved by SPS *prior* to submission.
Fringe Benefits

• New Rates **effective July 1, 2020**
• Rates approved by DHHS but no agreement yet

**Note updated budget justification language:**

“The fringe benefit rates used in the proposal budget are based on the rates approved by the Department of Health and Human Services. An estimated cost escalation has been included in the out years per University budgeting guidance.”

Post-Award Reminders

• Financial reports and closeout deadlines are hard deadlines. Please work with Post-Award to get resolve issues related to closeout timely. Post-Award is working at completing closeout reviews more timely.

• **Reminder!** Make sure full paper proposal was submitted to SPS pre-award. This will hold up account set-up!

• **Reminder!** Review edocs carefully before approving (don’t forget to review object codes too)

• Equipment Allocation Reminders:
  • Must be documented and reasonable
  • Cannot be based on $ when splitting between two sponsored projects
Post-Award Reminders

Sabbatical Leaves
• Inform SPS if PI has active awards
• Make sure the plan for awards is addressed *prior* to sabbatical leave

Faculty Separation
• When faculty are leaving UConn, inform SPS immediately if they have active awards (regardless of whether or not the grant is transferring)
• Transfers take a long time!

*In both these scenarios advance notice (prior to change) to SPS is vital!*
NSF Audit Update – Transaction Testing Done!

- UConn has been provided a list of the findings and questioned costs.

- UConn may negotiate some of the questioned costs during the audit resolution phase. If we are unable to have these questioned costs removed, they will have to be moved to a non-sponsored accounts.

- SPS will reach out to the impacted PIs and administrators over the next few months.
NSF audit finding of not using the negotiated rate in place at time of award not what was proposed

Example (made up dates and rates):

• **December 2019**: Proposal submitted with rate of 61% per current rate agreement
• **July 2020**: Award received and current rate changed to 63%
• **Old Process**: Award set up at 61%
• **New Process**: Award set up at 63%
Transition to New Process:

- Award will be set up with F&A rate effective at the time award is received
  - Current awards will not be impacted
  - Rebudget will be required at time of award if project is impacted

F&A rate changes will be calculated by the expenses through 6/30 of the impacted change year

- *This year only*, OVPR will calculate the impact to direct costs (if any) and will return this to the PI
- Awards already adjusted to 61% will have the return completed by April 30th. All other awards will be completed by June 30th.
Quiz Bowl
Next SPA and Questions

Have a question or topic you would like covered at the SPA Meetings?
Email brenda.lowther@uchc.edu

February 19, 2020               Dodd Center
March 18, 2020                  Dodd Center
April 15, 2020                  Dodd Center
May 20, 2020                    Dodd Center

All meetings are 10:30 am to 12:00 pm