Sponsored Program Administrators Meeting

Join us, if you dare!

October 21, 2020
• F&A on Projects of $50K or Less
• Use of Hypertext in NIH Grant Applications
• Cost Sharing Reminders and Clarifications
• NIH Virtual Seminar
• Expenditures on Sponsored Awards – Guidance
• Pay on Federal Grants in June 2020 – PI Verification
• Proposal Process – Under Development
• Jeopardy!
To allow for more buying power on small sponsored projects and to help foster smaller awards which may lead to additional funding, F&A on new awards received after October 1, 2017 with total costs of $50,000 or less, will be reduced to 20% or the difference between the full F&A rate and 20% will be distributed to the investigators F&A account.

This program has been extended through September 30, 2023

Please see OVPR website for more information and FAQS
Reminder: NIH Policy on Use of Hypertext in NIH Grant Applications

The use of hypertext (e.g. hyperlinks and URLs) in NIH applications is restricted due to concerns including reviewer confidentiality, “overstuffing” applications, review consistency, and malware.

Applications that do not follow these instructions, and include unallowable hyperlinks, may be withdrawn from review and funding consideration.
Cost sharing approvals must be obtained in advance – start early on the process

Cost shared expenses must be treated the same as sponsored dollars:
- F&A Rates must be consistent (unless we are reducing the rate that we could assess on the requested side)
- Cost that are unallowable on the sponsored award cannot be used as cost sharing
- Clarification – Graduate Tuition can be included as cost share in proposals:
  - Federal projects may include the in-state cost of graduate tuition
  - Non-Federal projects may include the in and out-of-state cost of graduate tuition
  - Increase for out years is allowable at 6%
NIH VIRTUAL SEMINAR

Tuesday, October 27 to Friday, October 30

ATTENDANCE IS FREE

The National Institutes of Health invites you to take part in a unique opportunity to learn more about working with the NIH grants process, programs, policies, and staff at the 2020 NIH Virtual Seminar on Grants Administration and Program Funding.

REGISTER

ovpr.uconn.edu | ovpr.uchc.edu

If you’ve signed up for this seminar, “raise your hand”
Books, Journals, Periodicals and Subscriptions

• Books, journals, periodicals, and subscriptions generally falling into the following categories are normally treated as F&A costs:
  • General or reference text, including medical dictionaries
  • Books, manuals, reprints that generally assist the PI in keeping up with his/her field of research
  • Publications that provide a general benefit to research and teaching activities
  • Subscriptions to journals
Books, Journals, Periodicals and Subscriptions – Cont.

This type of cost may be charged as direct expenses only in unusual circumstances and where the charge can be specifically allocated to the project.

Examples of unusual cases may include:

• The book or journal is not available in the library
• The book or journal is available from the library but is utilized so frequently for a specific award that a library copy is not sufficient
• A book contains a specific research technique or information that will introduce efficiencies to the research or improve the quality of results.
Publication and Printing Costs (§200.461)

• Unless specifically stated otherwise in the award, sponsors require an acknowledgement of support and a disclaimer in any publication for which the grant supported the work to achieve the results.

• Publication costs for documenting, preparing, publishing, disseminating, page and reprint charges, and sharing of project findings and supporting material are generally allowable as direct charges on sponsored projects during the project period.
Publication and Printing Costs (§200.461) – Cont.

• Note that if the publication is supported by more than one sponsored award, the associated publication charges should be allocated to each account accordingly. These costs may also be allowable if incurred after the project expiration but prior to the University closeout of the sponsored award.

• Charges incurred after the award end date must be recorded in the award account at least 30 days prior to the closeout date to allow time for account reconciliation and preparation of the agency Final Financial Report (FFR).

• See Guidance on Scholarly Publication Costs for more information.
Administrative relief for recipients of federal grants impacted by Covid-19

Allowed for flexibility to pay employees even when they were unable to work

After June 16th, federal guidance requires that all other sources of funds must be exhausted first

UConn guidance returned to “normal” (i.e. paying employees who work) until July 1st

Gap period 6/17-6/30: need to ensure no federal funds paid ppl who were not working

An brief email survey will be going out to impacted PIs soon

Includes list of non-time reporters paid on their federal accounts in this time period

One question: were all individuals listed working on the listed project account(s) between 6/17/2020 and 6/30/2020?

Respond with a quick answer (Yes or No/Unsure)
Policy and Process Implementation Targeted for January 2021

**SPS Reviews in Order of Receipt!**

Proposals without deadlines will be treated with an internal deadline

**Impact of Missing the DEADLINE**

Proposal will not be accepted by SPS and therefore, not submitted to the sponsor except with use of pass or short notice RFP
PROPOSAL PROCESS – UNDER DEVELOPMENT

Policy Overview
• Current policy states proposals are due to SPS 5 days before the deadline.
  • Not including the deadline day, or holidays
• Short turnaround RFPs and Sponsor requested proposal exceptions

Complete Proposal Definition
• All internal forms completed and signed (not including Dean or Center Director signature on the IPR)
• Final budget and budget justification
• Final proposal ready for submission (not including the science documents which may be in draft)
• Subrecipient documents (except for signature on the subrecipient form)
• Other documents as required
PROPOSAL PROCESS – UNDER DEVELOPMENT

Benefits
• More consistent turnaround by SPS
• Proposals without deadlines will be reviewed and submitted more timely
• Adequate time for review and to make any changes
• Grant writer assistance
• Time to assure successful submission
• Less stress for all

Transition to firm Internal Deadline
• To ease the transition and pressure on investigators, each investigator will be allowed one “exception” to the deadline
• Long term, Colleges/ Schools will be given a set number of exception passes

Questions
• Storrs: Mark Reeves (mark.reeves@uconn.edu)
• UConn Health: Paul Hudobenko (hudobenko@uchc.edu)
We’re going to play Jeopardy!
You don’t need an account to play.

www.playfactile.com/join
Type in the code given
Pick your avatar and type in your name
All SPA meetings will be held at 10:30 am and will be online until further notice.

- November 18, 2020
- December 16, 2020
- January 20, 2021
- February 17, 2021
- March 17, 2021
- April 21, 2021
- May 19, 2021