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The RAP - March 2024 Updates

U-M BUSINESS UPDATES

ORSP launches realignment to strengthen research operations

The Office of Research and Sponsored Projects (ORSP) recently launched a comprehensive realignment strategy designed to support and strengthen research operations across U-M.ORSP will phase in the realignment over 13 months, enhancing structures and expanding staff, roles, processes, training, and systems. The realignment aims to eliminate multiple handoffs, improve responsiveness and communication with U-M faculty and staff, and shorten turnaround times.

"Our ultimate goal is to **modernize**, **enhance**, and **elevate** ORSP workflow and business processes to ensure responsive, compliant, best-in-class operations so that our research community can continue to generate new knowledge and discoveries that positively impact the world around us."

Shandra White
Assistant Vice President for Research-Sponsored Projects

M | RESEARCH AND SPONSORED PROJECTS

A new website will share realignment updates

Learn more about ORSP's strategy and current and future state on the realignment website. Visitors can currently view leadership announcements and job postings. current updates, along with a visual structure of how ORSP's organization will evolve with an expanded staff of 81. Contact orsp-modernize@umich.edu with questions.

The Uniform Guidance Single Audit is Complete for 2023

The Federal Audit Clearinghouse (FAC) has accepted the University of Michigan's (U-M's) Data Collection Form (DCF) submission.

None of the findings are associated with any pass-through awards.

The DCF and full audit report are publicly available via the FAC website.

UNIFORM GUIDANCE SUBPART F

SINGLE AUDIT
COMPLETE FOR U-M

Learn more about the 2023 Single Audit.

ORSP tracking of PAFs not funded
Capturing documentation and reason for improved data reporting

When a sponsor or a U-M research project team notifies ORSP that a proposal has not been funded, ORSP logs the "Turn Down Proposal" activity in the eResearch Proposal Management (eRPM) system. In the interest of better data reporting, and by request of the research community, ORSP is now additionally tracking the reason the sponsor did not fund the proposal.

PAF Cancel Turndown Withdraw

If a U-M research project team requests the Proposal Approval Form or Pre Award (PAF/PRE) be turned down but has not provided sponsor documentation and a reason, ORSP will follow up through eRPM to request the documentation or sponsor documentation or convey one of the following as a reason for the turndown:

- the proposal was non-compliant with the sponsor guidelines (identify which guidelines);
- the proposal was reviewed, but not selected for funding;
- the sponsor did not provide a reason.

Interim RPPRs - Important Reminders

When the University of Michigan (U-M) accepts an award from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) on behalf of a project team, it commits the U-M project team to provide final reporting, in the form of a Research Progress Performance Report (RPPR), at the end of the performance period for the work promised.

U-M is required to submit the I-RPPR in all project circumstances, regardless of whether the investigator has transferred to another institution or if the project was not started or will not continue).

Depending on whether a project continues, the I-RPPR serves as:

- a **final report of a *project segment*** when a competing renewal submission *is* approved and funded; *or*
- the **final report of a *project*** (or an RPPR) if a competing renewal application submission *is not* funded.

(See NIH GPS 8.6 - Closeout, NOT-OD-17-037, NOT-OD-24-047, NOT-OD-24-055.)

Delinquent reports put U-M at risk for corrective actions, including withholding of funds by the sponsor.

To ensure U-M adheres to award commitments and that research activity for all U-M investigators is unhindered, please be advised that ORSP will escalate non-compliant projects to dean-level research administrators for action.

U-M process being developed to handle risk mitigation plan requests

ORSP has been receiving risk mitigation plan requests from the Departments of Defense (DoD) and Energy (DoE). If an award is subsequently issued, it will likely include Risk Mitigation terms and conditions that would require review by the Research Security office.
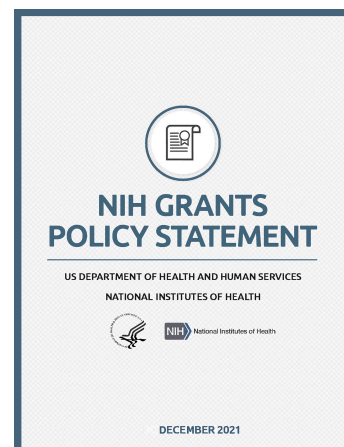
A process is being developed in eRPM to handle the Risk Mitigation reviews similar to how Export Control Reviews and IT Security Reviews are currently processed.

SPONSOR UPDATES

FY 2024 NIH Grants Policy Statement will be issued in March

NIH announced that the FY 2024 NIH Grants Policy Statement (NOT-OD-24-069) will be issued in March. As of publication of this newsletter it has not been released, but once live, it will be posted on the NIH Grants Policy page.

In last month's *RAP* newsletter, we shared a link to NIH's January 2024 Webinar covering what will be new and in development within NIH programs and policies.
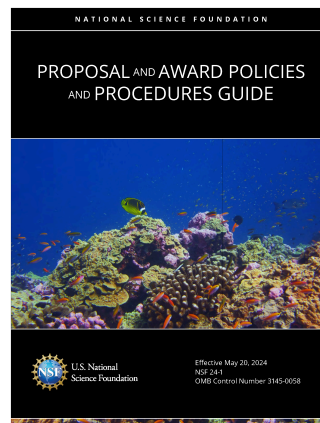
NSF Award Terms & Conditions updated

NSF announced on March 25, 2024, that it updated the [Award Terms and Conditions](#) to be consistent with the Proposal and Award Policies and Procedures Guide 24-1 ([PAPPG 24-1](#)), effective May 20, 2024.

Review NSF's [Summary of Changes](#) here.

Spring 2024 Grants Conferences Reminder

[NSF's Spring 2024 Grants Conference](#) will be held June 3-5, 2024, at the Philadelphia Marriott Old City. As a hybrid format, remote attendees can view the streaming option.

DOJ releases *JustGrants* application submission checklist

The Department of Justice (DOJ) recently shared an [Application Submission Checklist](#) for using *JustGrants,* its grants management system. Applications to the DOJ involve a two-step process:

- Submit an abbreviated application via Grants.gov. Complete and submit the full application in JustGrants.

Learn more with [DOJ's user support guide.](#)

Grants.gov outage from 4/20 to 4/23

The [Grants.gov](#) program management office announced that its website will go **offline** from Saturday, April 20, 2024, at 12:01 a.m. and will not be **online** again until Tuesday, April 23, 2024, at 6:00 a.m.

The schedule includes the business day of Monday, April 22, 2024, so be sure to plan accordingly.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & EVENTS

NCURA Region IV Spring Meeting in Ann Arbor

The NCURA Region IV Spring Meeting will be held in Ann Arbor at the Kensington Hotel from April 28 to May 1, 2024. Registration is open through April 22. Dr. LeShawndra Price from the National Institutes of Health will deliver the keynote address. View the full current program.

Consider volunteering for the meeting. It's a great way to connect with colleagues from peer institutions all over the Midwest region. View opportunities and sign up.

For questions, email Julie Olivero, Chair of NCURA Region IV, at jolivero@umich.edu.

SRA International Western/Midwest Section Conference

The SRA International Western/Midwest Section Conference will be held in Palm Springs, CA, this April 2 to 5, 2024. We hope for a strong Midwestern presence.

Other upcoming conferences:

- Southern/Northeastern Section Conference, Hilton Head, SC, May 7-10, 2024
- SRAI Annual Meeting 2024, Chicago, October 26-30, 2024

For questions, email Melissa Karby, Midwest Section President at mkarby@umich.edu.

Navigate updates

Spring 2024 Instructor-Led Courses
There is still time to apply for the following Spring 2024 courses to be offered virtually via Zoom.

- [Advanced Budgeting: Task-Based/Hourly Budgets](#) - Apply by April 5
- [Uniform Guidance Cost Principles](#) - Register by April 26

On-Demand Learning & Resources Available Year-Round

- [Navigate: E-ssentials self-paced eLearning modules](#)
- [Webinar Videos and Materials](#)
- [Video Resources](#)

For questions about Navigate training, contact navigate-research@umich.edu.

Nominations open for distinguished university innovator

Innovation Partnerships, a division of the Office of the Vice President for Research (OVPR), seeks nominations for the 2024 [Distinguished University Innovator Award](#) (DUIA) by May 17. This award recognizes faculty who have shown leadership in bringing new ideas to the marketplace. The awardee will be announced at the [Celebrate Invention](#) event this fall. Visit the Distinguished University Innovator Award webpage for award criteria, nomination and selection processes, and previous winners. Contact innovationpartnerships@umich.edu with questions.