Pitt Research | Office of Sponsored Programs

News and Notes

Pitt Research News

Research Development Communications

The Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP) Research Development team distributes weekly funding newsletters that highlight new funding program announcements, provide updates on current limited submission competitions, and include links to helpful events from funding agencies. To receive these updates, please register here: https://www.osp.pitt.edu/find-funding/external-funding/sign-funding-newsletters

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IACUC Congruency Reviews

The University is responsible for ensuring that all research on animals has been approved by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC). All awards, including grants and contracts, directly funded by Public Health Service (PHS) agencies, National Science Foundation (NSF), or American Heart Association (AHA), must have an IACUC Congruency Review (formerly referred to as a GAR) before they can be activated by OSP.

For more information about the Congruency Review process, see the IACUC website and the related National Institutes of Health (NIH) Notice NOT-OD-22-005.

Funding Agency Updates

To Resubmit or Not – National Institutes of Health Podcast

Two National Institutes of Health (NIH) program officers discuss in a podcast what should be considered when deciding whether or not to resubmit an application. Learn more about responding to reviewer comments, the ins and outs on the process, what to raise with NIH program staff, and **other advice**.

See the Extramural Nexus post for more details.

REMINDER: Upcoming Changes to NIH Biographical Sketch and Other Support Format Page

For applications and Research Performance Progress Reports (RPPRs) due on or after January 25, 2022, NIH will require new formats for both the biographical sketch (biosketch) and the Other Support documents. Effective January 25, 2021, the NIH will also require:

- Supporting documentation, which includes copies of contracts, grants or any other agreement specific to senior/key personnel foreign appointments and/or employment with a foreign institution for all foreign activities and resources that are reported in Other Support. If the contracts, grants or other agreements are not in English, recipients must provide translated copies.

- Immediate notification of undisclosed Other Support. When a recipient organization discovers that a PI or other Senior/Key personnel on an active NIH grant failed to disclose Other Support information outside of Just-in-Time or the RPPR, as applicable, the recipient must submit updated Other Support to the Grants Management Specialist named in the Notice of Award as soon as it becomes known.

For more details about the changes to the NIH biosketch and Other Support, see NIH [Notice NOT-OD-21-073](#) and Notice [NOT-OD-21-110](#).

Updates to National Science Foundation Biographical Sketch and Current and Pending Support Formats

The National Science Foundation (NSF) - approved biographical sketch and current and pending support formats were updated to incorporate revisions in the Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide (PAPPG) (NSF [22-1](#)) and must be used for proposals submitted or due on or after October 4, 2021.

The current formats are posted on the NSF [biographical sketch](#) and [current and pending support](#) websites. Updated system-related Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) are also available: [FAQs on using SciENcv](#) and [FAQs on using NSF fillable PDF](#).

American Heart Association Webinars

The American Heart Association (AHA) will offer free webinars to provide information on AHA research funding opportunities and answer questions from participants. The webinars are intended for investigators, grant administrators, and anyone who wants to learn more about AHA support. The webinars will be on Thursday, January 27, 2022 at 11:00am ([Zoom Link](#)) and Tuesday, March 29, 2022 at 11:00 ([Zoom Link](#)).