

News and Notes

Office of Sponsored Programs News

New Associate Director

Sarah Weissman joined the Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP) on July 1, 2022 as the new Associate Director for Clinical and Corporate Contracts. Sarah will oversee the [Clinical and Corporate Contracts Team](#), which processes agreements from corporate sponsors and non-financial research agreements. Sarah was previously working in the Pitt School of Law before joining OSP.

Funding Agency Updates

National Science Foundation Proposed Changes for January 2023

The National Science Foundation (NSF) is proposing the following changes that would be effective in January 2023:

- Complete transition from FastLane to Research.gov
- Requirement for Biographical Sketches to be submitted via [SciENCv](#)
- Revision of Current and Pending Support requirements to be more aligned with [NSPM-33](#)
- Inclusion of a new supplementary document: Plan for Safe and Inclusive Field/Vessel/Aircraft Research (PSI-FVAR) for proposals that include field research

See the [NSF Policy Office Website](#) and [For-Comment Draft of the NSF Proposal and Award Policies and Procedures Guide \(PAPPG\)](#) for more information about proposed requirements.

New National Institutes of Health Form for January 2023

Effective for proposals due on or after January 25, 2023, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) will release Forms-H to accommodate submission of data sharing plans as required by new NIH Policy for Data Management and Sharing (NIH [NOT-OD-21-013](#)). OSP will provide additional information as NIH releases notices.

NIH Updates Requirements for Notification of Removal or Disciplinary Action Involving PIs or Other Senior/Key Personnel

Per [NIH Notice NOT-OD-22-129](#), "NIH recipient institutions are required to notify NIH when individuals identified as PD/PI or other Senior/Key personnel in an NIH notice of award are removed from their position or are otherwise disciplined by the recipient institution due to concerns about harassment, bullying, retaliation or hostile working conditions." **The updated NIH reporting requirement is effective July 9, 2022.**

All University members, including supervisors who have received complaints, should report incidents of bias, harassment, bullying, retaliation or hostile working conditions. The [Pitt Concern Connection](#) makes reporting easy, allowing users to ask questions or file reports on a variety of topics, including employee relations, financial concerns, harassment and violence, Title IX and Civil Rights, alleged conflicts of interest, and other concerns.

The Office of Compliance, Investigations & Ethics supports the Pitt Concern Connection and provides additional resources about reporting, including [frequently asked questions](#) related to use of the Pitt Concern Connection.

See the [July 6, 2022 communication](#) from the Senior Vice Chancellor for Research related to this NIH reporting requirement.

FY22 Stipend Levels for NIH Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA)

On May 13, 2022, the NIH corrected a previously issued notice regarding stipend levels for FY 2022 Kirschstein NRSA awards for undergraduate, predoctoral, and postdoctoral trainees and fellows. Note that Retroactive adjustments or supplementation of stipends or other budgetary categories with Kirschstein-NRSA funds for an award made prior to October 1, 2021, are not permitted.

Review the specific stipend levels and training related expenses and institutional allowances in the [NIH Notice NOT-OD-22-132](#).

Determining Eligibility for Federal Funding Opportunities

The Grants.gov Community Blog provides helpful tips to determine eligibility for federal grants, including information on the following:

- Knowing applicant entity type
- How to search using keywords
- Reviewing eligibility requirements
- Reaching out to the federal agency point of contact

For more details, see the [Grants.gov Community Blog Post](#).