

Office of Research News & Notes

Office of Research News

Upcoming Training Opportunities from the Office of Research

The Office of Research will be participating in the Human Resources' Faculty Staff Development Program (FSDP). The trainings will include:

OFFICE OF RESEARCH ORIENTATION

This workshop will orient those new to the University's research community to the mission and services of the University's Office of Research.

Date & Time: Thursday, October 26, 2017 9 a.m. - 11 a.m.

Location: Office of Research Suite, Lower Level, B21 University Club

Who Should Attend: University of Pittsburgh research community members who are new to interacting with the Office of Research

BASICS OF FEDERAL CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION

This workshop will offer a basic overview of the federal contract process including an orientation to locating, applying, and interpreting FAR clauses and the various steps of the federal contract award pathway. Please note that this session *does not cover grants, only federal contracts.*

Date & Time: Thursday, November 30, 2017 9 a.m. - 11 a.m.

Location: Office of Research Suite, Lower Level, B21 University Club

Who Should Attend: Faculty and staff who support federal research funding activities, and staff charged with research administration support and related activities

For more details about the workshops and to register, [click here](#).

Reminder: Internal Deadline Policy for Grant Submissions

Complete and final proposals, which must include all of the [documents required for submission](#), as well as the upload of the electronic application, if applicable, and any other attachments or approvals required by the sponsor or the University, must be received by the Office of Research **at least three (3) full business days prior to the sponsor's due date for Grant submissions**.

Please be advised that your school or department may impose additional deadlines and requirements, so please be sure to confirm those deadlines within your school/department.

If a proposal is not received by the Office of Research before the stated internal deadline, no guarantee can be provided that the proposal will be submitted on time.

Funding Agency Updates

National Institutes of Health (NIH) Clinical Trial Policy Changes and New FORMS-E

Effective for proposals with due dates on or after **January 25, 2018**, the NIH will be requiring the use of their new FORMS-E application package. The most significant change for FORMS-E is the addition of a new PHS Human Subjects and Clinical Trials Information form, which expands the information required for studies that meet the [NIH definition of a clinical trial](#). The annotated form set for FORMS-E can be found [here](#), and the instructions are available [here](#).

NIH applications involving one or more clinical trials will be required to be submitted through a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) specifically designed for clinical trials for due dates on or after January 25, 2018. More information on clinical trial-specific funding opportunities can be found [here](#).

Please see NIH Notices [NOT-OD-17-062](#) and [NOT-OD-17-119](#) and the [Open Mike post](#) for more details.

NIH Announces New Review Criteria for K and NRSA Training Grants Involving Clinical Trials

For applications submitted for due dates on or after January 25, 2018, additional review criteria will apply to the following award applications if they involve clinical trials:

- Individual Career Development (K) Awards
- Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA) Individual Fellowships
- Ruth L. Kirschstein NRSA Institutional Research Training Grants

Please see NIH Notices [NOT-OD-17-121](#), [NOT-OD-17-122](#), and [NOT-OD-17-123](#) for more details.

Changes to NIH Policy for Issuing Certificates of Confidentiality

Effective October 1, 2017, NIH awardees no longer need to apply for Certificates of Confidentiality (CoCs). CoCs will instead be incorporated into the NIH Notice of Award (NoA). NIH-funded research projects that include any of the following criteria will be automatically protected with a CoC from the NIH:

- Meets the definition of human subjects research, including exempt research in which subjects can be identified
- Is collecting or using human biospecimens that are identifiable or that have a risk of being identifiable
- Involves the generation of individual level human genomic data
- Involves any other information that might identify a person

For more information, please see NIH Notice [NOT-OD-17-109](#) and the [NIH CoC website](#).

University Updates

FlashClasses Now Available through the Health Sciences Library System

The Health Sciences Library System (HSL) offers a series of FlashClasses, which are one-hour classes with a variety of information-related topics such as:

- Crafting a Data Management Plan
- Infographics: Communicating Information Visually
- EndNote Basics
- Locating and Citing Research Data
- Advanced PowerPoint for Presentations

[Click here](#) to view more details and to register for a FlashClass.