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Important Information for Research Administrators and Faculty regarding Federal Contracts

The Office of Research has noticed a number of Federal Contracts being awarded by the government to the University where a proposal has not been submitted through the Office of Research.   The majority are being issued to the University as unilaterally awarded Purchase Orders (POs) for commercial work (i.e., work-for-hire type agreements).

When a "work is made for hire", the hiring entity (sponsor) is considered the author and owner, not the person who creates the work. This work-for-hire status affects the length of copyright protection and causes a publication restriction.

Sometimes during the early discussions with a sponsor, investigators may be asked to provide cost quotes, statements of work, salary information, or other pricing information. Please note, these types of information could be considered a formal proposal by the contracting agency. To alleviate any unnecessary delays and issues, please contact the Office of Research at the time a request is made, so that an appropriate contract can be negotiated prior to award.

To learn more about the Federal Contracts proposal review process, please visit the Office of Research website http://osp.pitt.edu.

MyRA Training

MyRA (My Research Agreements) training sessions for submitting non-financial agreements, including Material Transfer Agreements, Data Use Agreements and Confidentiality Agreements, are currently underway. To register for training, please visit the MyRA project website: http://myra.pitt.edu

Office of Research Suggestion Box

The Office of Research has established a [Suggestion Box](#) to collect any suggestions, comments or feedback you may have regarding your experiences with the Office of Research.

Tip of the Week Suggestions

Research administrators and faculty are welcome to submit questions or topics to be considered for a "Tip of the Week". Please submit your ideas through our new [Office of Research Suggestion Box](#).