Office of Research News & Notes

Funding Agency Updates

National Institutes of Health (NIH) Advice on Watching Grant Balance

NIH awardees are advised to watch their grant balances because most grants are funded in 12-month increments. Unexpended funds run the risk of being returned to the U.S. Treasury.

For more information, see the NIH video and podcast here.

NIH Announces Delayed Enforcement and Flexibilities Affecting Prospective Basic Science Studies Involving Human Participants

NIH-funded studies that meet both definitions of basic science and clinical trial will have delayed enforcement of registration and reporting policies through September 24, 2019. The NIH will also provide leniency for applications submitted to the incorrect FOA based on the study type designation.

Please see the NIH Notice NOT-OD-18-212 for more details.

Available NIH Resources for Rigor and Reproducibility in Research

The NIH has a policy to enhance reproducibility of its supported research through rigor and transparency. There are several existing NIH resources available to aid researchers with meeting the NIH expectations in this area.

Please see the NIH Open Mike post for more information about the available resources. Additional information about Rigor and Transparency can be found on the Office of Research website.

NIH Application Resubmission Policy

Although the NIH policy for resubmissions has not changed, NIH Notice NOT-OD-18-197 provides clarifications, including:

- Only a single resubmission (A1) of an original application (A0) will be accepted
- An A0 application may be submitted following an unsuccessful A0 or A1 application, with a few exceptions
- What happens when switching FOAs between the A0 and A1 applications
- Generally a change of activity code (e.g., R01) between the A0 and A1 is not allowed, with one exception, which is when some FOAs change activity codes at the time they are re-issued

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National Science Foundation (NSF) Biographical Sketch Format Reminder

The NSF requires biographical sketches for all senior personnel listed in proposals. This document, which is limited to two pages, must include:

- Professional Preparations
- Appointments
- Products
- Synergistic Activities

To view details of what each biographical sketch section should contain, see the NSF Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide (PAPPG).