Assessing Faculty Research Administration Burden

Drexel is helping to lead a national survey to assess the amount of time faculty spend performing the administrative aspects of managing federal research awards. Over the next two months, faculty members from over 150 research universities and institutions who served as principal investigators (PIs) on federal awards during the 2016-2017 academic year, will receive an email asking them to participate in the survey. This Faculty Workload Survey is sponsored and administered by the Federal Demonstration Partnership, a cooperative initiative among 10 federal agencies and 154 institutional recipients of federal funds. The survey is conducted every five years and carries significant weight in governmental circles, as evidenced by the mandates in the latest funding bill from Congress for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to reduce the research administration burden on universities. Here at Drexel, there are 238 eligible faculty. We hope that with enough Drexel respondents, we can gain insight into our own administrative processes and opportunities to improve them, as well.
Workspace for Proposal Submissions
As previously announced, legacy PDF applications are no longer being accepted by Grants.gov as of December 31, 2017. Instead, applications to federal agencies – other than NIH and the National Science Foundation (NSF) – must be submitted via the Grants.gov Workspace platform. The Office of Research is holding a workshop to review Workspace registration and functionality on Wednesday, February 7, from 10 a.m. to noon in Bossone Research Enterprise Center’s Mitchell Auditorium on the University City Campus. Sign up through Career Pathway today!

Final Rule (2018 Common Rule Revisions) Delayed
The compliance date for the Final Rule has been delayed until July 19, 2018. For the research community, the impact of the delay will not change your submission process. All research will be reviewed under the current regulations. Please use the revised consent template, which complies with both sets of regulations. Refer to the OR website for forms, as they will be updated throughout the next six months. The requirement for continuing reviews will continue. This delay will provide more time for the Human Research Protection (HRP) office to
refine the new process and avoid the need for a pause in submissions during the next transition date. The HRP office will continue to develop standard operating procedures and education for the research teams related to the single institutional review board (IRB) and SMART IRB processes.

National Science Foundation Update
The NSF has issued an updated version of their Proposal and Award Policies and Procedures Guide, which includes revisions to the Collaborators & Other Affiliations Information (new template) and Budget Justification (increasing from three to five pages). The NSF is also piloting a new proposal submission system in preparation for phasing out Fastlane. More information on that system – and their plans to migrate all NSF IDs to Research.gov – will be provided in our next issue.

Urban Health Collaborative 2018 Pilot RFP
The Urban Health Collaborative (UHC) is requesting proposals for pilot funding to promote urban health research at Drexel University. Awards will be made to pilot projects with a focus on understanding and improving health in cities. The maximum budget for each award is $30,000. The UHC encourages project teams that partner with local or global community groups. Drexel University faculty members, postdoctoral fellows or doctoral students are eligible to submit a proposal. The deadline to apply is March 1, 2018. For additional details, visit the UHC website to download the Pilot Funding RFP or submit a proposal in InfoReady.

ICPSR Summer Program
The Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research offered by the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) is a comprehensive curriculum of intensive courses in research design, statistics, data analysis and social methodology. The Summer Program’s four-week immersive sessions in Ann Arbor, Michigan, (aka “Summer Camp for Nerds”) combine in-class instruction, group study and lectures by respected researchers; two- to five-day workshops offered in cities across the United States and Canada focus on specific methodological techniques. The cost of attendance at the four-week sessions or workshops is heavily discounted by the University’s membership in ICPSR. Registration for the Summer Programs begins on February 6.
Email Drexel Libraries for more information.

Change in IRB Training Requirements
Drexel Core Training modules HIPAA Part I and HIPAA Part II are no longer available and no longer required for IRB submissions.

FY19 Fringe Benefit Rates for Sponsored Projects
Drexel recently submitted its fringe benefit proposal to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to establish the fiscal year 2019 fringe benefit rates for sponsored projects. These rates are not final until we receive the official rate letter from HHS, however, we do not expect any significant changes when they are finalized. It is anticipated that the University will not receive the approved, final rate letter for at least three to six months. Therefore, you should begin to utilize these proposed rates on any proposal submissions that will have salary and wages after July 1, 2018, to ensure that you have budgeted adequate funding. Coeus has been updated to reflect the new rates.

Updated Appendix Policy: NIH/AHRQ/NIOSH
Beginning with clinical trial applications submitted to the NIH, Agency for Health Research and Quality (AHRQ), or National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) for due dates on or after January 25, 2018, the only allowable Appendix materials are: blank data collection forms, blank survey forms and blank questionnaire forms or screenshots thereof; simple lists of interview questions; blank informed consent/assent forms; and other items only if they are specified in the Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) as allowable Appendix materials. No other items are allowed in the Appendix. Simply relocating disallowed materials to other parts of the application will result in a noncompliant application unless they are items
specified in the FOA as optional or required for those other sections of the application. READ MORE...

Funding Opportunity Resources

Spotlighted External Funding Opportunities

Pharmacological Treatment for Anxiety Disorders in Children, Adolescents, Young Adults >
Pragmatic Clinical Studies to Evaluate Patient-Centered Outcomes >
Medications Development for the Treatment of Alcohol Use Disorder >
Cultivating Cultures for Ethical STEM (CCE STEM) >
American National Election Studies Competition >

Extramural Funding

University Libraries >

Internal Funding and Limited Submissions

Drexel University Funding Portal >

Events & Education

The Office of Research offers a full series of onsite workshops every spring and fall, covering a wide range of Research Administration topics including eRA, Pre-Award, Post-Award, Compliance, Human Research Protection, and sponsor-specific topics (NIH, NSF, etc.). Dates for our Spring 2018 Workshop Series will be published soon. We also create personalized presentations for faculty, support staff, students and anyone involved in the administration or conduct of research at Drexel. For more information about developing a session tailored to the needs and location of your group, please contact us.

Submit your Suggestions

We want to hear from you! Please send feedback and events, articles, and news suggestions for inclusion in this publication to Stacia Levy.
This message sent to Drexel Announcement Mail was approved by
Aleister J. Saunders, PhD, Senior Vice Provost for Research.