CLASP Annual Update 2025

A review of the research administration changes from calendar year 2025

University of Rochester
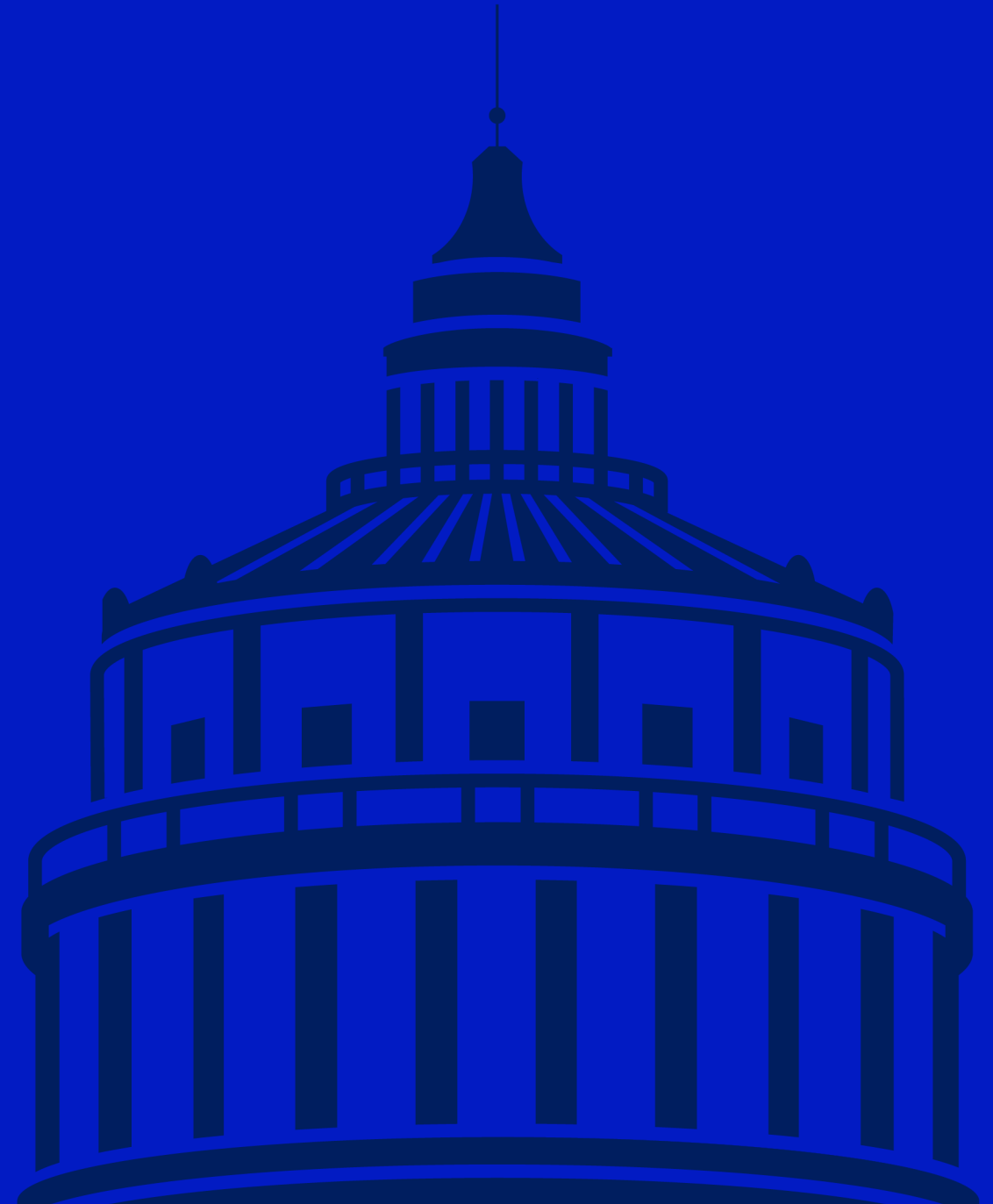
Continuous Learning for Administrators of Sponsored Programs

At the end of 2025 there are 526 certified research administrators. 112 received initial CLASP certification this Year alone

Agenda Topics

MyURHR salary cap and Cost Sharing

PCORI AI Specific Guidance

New Indirect (F&A) rate agreement (2)

Effort Certification in Workday (3)

Supplier Request Questionnaire

Research Subject Payment policy

P-Card Policy Update

Candex Payment Solution

Tariff Response / Guidance

Workday Business Assets

UR Space integration / Space Survey

Research Security Training

Limited Submission Process & Resources

Agenda Topics

Executive orders and Government Actions (Summary)

Changes to funding announcements

International collaborations, partnerships and subawards

Updated salary cap, stipend levels

Changes to NCE process

NIH public access policy & Genomic Data Access

NSF annual certification in Research.Gov

NIH Disclosure training

NIH Common forms

Government shutdown

Federal Grants Updates to Standard T&C

DOE common forms

NIH letters of intent, $500K submission threshold

MyURHR Salary Cap & Cost Sharing

- **Salary Cap**
  - **NIH**
    - Current Cap = $225,700
    - Set at Executive Level II
    - Expected to change Jan – Feb 2026
      - Effective beginning Jan 1
      - However, we enact the new rate on the first day of the next payroll after issuance
    - For active awards, including those issued in FY 2026 (continuation and new) that were restricted to Executive Level II, recipients should rebudget funds to accommodate the current Executive Level II salary level
  - **PCORI**
    - Current Cap = $200,000
    - No Expected Date of Change
    - Cost of Living Adjustments ARE allowed in detailed Budgets during the Proposal Process

Cap Calculations are Workday System Generated, please review your Award!!!
Salary Cap can be flagged on NIH Advance GRs
Any other (not NIH/PCORI) salary cap should be setup as cost share
Proposal Budget – Include ACTUAL Salary, NOT the Sal Cap Amount

PCORI AI Specific Guidance

- Per PCORI's guidelines on the Recording and Transcription of Meetings, **PCORI does not allow the recording of meetings without meaningful advance notice and consent from all applicable parties, in order to comply with all state laws.**

- PCORI is committed to protecting the confidentiality and privacy of all meeting participants. Therefore, **PCORI does not currently allow AI tools or software to attend, record or transcribe public or private meetings, events or discussions.** Additionally, **PCORI does not currently allow use of AI tools or software to automatically generate meeting notes or summaries or otherwise develop derivative documentation or insights from discussions.** If you have questions about this approach, please contact pfa@pcori.org.

- **This notice applies to all who participate in meetings at or sponsored by PCORI. It encompasses both virtual and in-person meetings and covers all types of AI notetaking tools, including but not limited to transcription software, voice recognition applications and automated meeting assistants.**

New Indirect (F&A) Rate Agreement

- **Rate Agreement (May 2025)**
  - 7/1/23 to 6/30/24   54% (Prior Rate)
  - 7/1/24 to 6/30/27   51% (Current Rate)
  - 7/1/27 to 6/30/28   51.5%
  - 7/1/28 to Amendment   51.5% (Provisional)

- **Rate Agreement Application**
  - This Rate Agreement ONLY applies to Awards signed ON or AFTER July 1, 2023 (Day 1 of FY2024). ALL Awards signed prior to that date continue the application of the prior rate agreement until the Award, or the Competitive Segment, ends.
  - The rate applied will be determined by the budget date of the transaction.
  - Transactions beyond 7/1/28 carry the 51.5% rate for the life of the award.

- Note: Next Base Year will be FY2027.

New Indirect (F&A) Rate Agreement

- **Subaward threshold**
  - Pursuant to the updates to the Uniform Guidance released in April 2024 with effective dates of October 1, 2024 the Subaward threshold changed from $25,000 to $50,000. This means when preparing a proposal which includes subawards, while the subrecipient is able to collect F & A / indirects on all of their qualifying direct costs, UR can now collect F&A / indirects on the first $50,000 of the subrecipient's total costs (as opposed to the previous allowability of F&A/Indirects on only the first $25,000). At Full F&A Rates this is $25,500 at 51%. **Please take into account when preparing Proposal Budgets.**
  - This is for any subaward on an award or competitive segment that is signed on or after 7/1/2024. This does not apply to new subawards on preexisting awards (signed before 7/1/2024).
- **Exceptions**
  - PCORI Awards Maintain the $25,000 Subcontract Threshold.

Effort Certification in Workday

- **Timing**
  - Academic (9-month appointments) certify three times a year
    - <u>June</u> for January-May effort
    - <u>September</u> for June-August effort
    - <u>January</u> for September-December effort
  - Non-Academic (12-month appointments) certify twice a year
    - <u>July</u> for January-June effort
    - <u>January</u> for July-December effort

- **Process**
  - Kickoff in Workday (ORACS) → Effort Certification Partner (Dept Admin) → Employee (PI for Students and other Exceptions).
  - Find and track your effort certifications in workday in your inbox or in your "Effort Certification Work Area."

Effort Certification in Workday

- **Effort Certification Partner**
  - Assigned based on the worker's HR department, not FAOs.
  - An HR department can have multiple effort certification partners.
  - Changes to the Effort Certification Partner role for an HR department can be made using "Initiate Authorization Request" in workday.
  - Certifications will route to all Effort Certification Partners assigned to the HR department.
  - You can see who else has been assigned to the effort certification by clicking on the "Process History" tab of the certification.
  - Effort Certification Partners will need to work with their colleagues assigned to the same HR department(s) to determine who will be responsible for each certification.

Effort Certification in Workday

- **Helpful Tips**
  - Don't use the "Save for Later" option when reviewing a certification.
  - Communicate directly with other departments to confirm effort distribution if a portion of the effort certification is not within your department.
- **Contact ORACS (EffortReporting@ur.Rochester.edu)**
  - If you have a bi-weekly worker that needs many changes to the certification, we can cancel the certification. You will do the PAAs and notify us, then we will rerun the certification.
  - If an employee is termed, on leave, etc. we can reroute the certification. However, we are only able to reroute certifications to an Effort Certification Partner for that HR department, the PI(s) for the grants where the worker has effort, or divisional finance.
  - If you have any questions, concerns, or something seems inaccurate (don't spend hours trying to troubleshoot yourself, we may be able to quickly resolve!).
- **Deadlines**
  - We recommend completing certifications within 5-10 business days.
  - No PAAs or PCAs can be processed for a worker who has an outstanding effort certification.
  - Termination of delinquent certifications will occur prior to next periods certification.
  - Those certifications terminated are subject to audit findings and corrective action plans.

Supplier requests

- A new supplier request and onboarding system, [Graphite Connect](#), launched on January 12, 2026. Graphite Connect provides a single, streamlined process for requesting and onboarding suppliers across the University of Rochester and its affiliates.

- All suppliers, whether it is believed they will be used on purchase order or not, must be initiated through this new system. In Graphite these are called New Supplier Justifications.

- As with the current process, all purchase order suppliers will be required to complete University qualification expectations which includes signing UR Terms and Conditions and providing proof of insurance.

- Similar to Workday Questionnaires, Graphite uses conditional logic to make certain questions required or suppress questions that are not necessary

Research subject payment policy

- Update in May of 2025 to increase W9 capture threshold.

- The divisions/departments are responsible to control, account for, report to Accounts Payable, and to properly safeguard University assets (i.e., the Participant Payments system, petty cash, gift cards/certificates). The faculty/department person involved in disbursing payments to research subjects shall obtain and keep adequate records for audit and accounting purposes to support the use of funds. **Furthermore, if any research subject receives payments of $500.00 or more in any single calendar year from the research study, the faculty/department person shall collect information from the recipient (i.e., a Form W9) and immediately forward to Accounts Payable for retention.** If tax reporting for the study subject is required because of payments for multiple studies or other payments to the individual, but your department did not pay them $500.00 or more, you are required to collect a W9 from the study subject when requested by Accounts Payable. No copy of the W9 or Social Security Number should be retained by the department.

Pcard policy updates

- The Pcard policy has been updated to align with industry best practices and peer institutions' purchasing controls.
  - **Software purchases** should now generally go through the Purchase Order process or the UR Tech Store, not Pcards.   See **Restricted Use Guidelines** for more details.   This gives the University better pricing through volume discounts and ensures proper licensing and IT security review.
  - Similar policy restrictions apply to **other high-risk purchases**.   We have made it easier to access a complete list of acceptable and restricted use for Pcard payments - see the full list in **Restricted Use Guidelines**
  - **Pcard transaction reconciliation deadlines** will now follow a simpler schedule: all Pcard charges must be reconciled and approved by the end of the following month.   For example, March purchases must be reconciled by EOB April 30th.
  - **Any policy violations incurred for restricted use of the Pcard** now follow a rolling 12-month tracking period with clear consequences: two violations result in a 10-day card suspension, three violations extend to 30 days.   This replaces the previous case-by-case review system and helps cardholders better understand the impact of non-compliance with policy.   See the full list in **Corrective Actions for Noncompliance**

CANDEX payment solution

- As of October 2025, the University uses a system called Candex to make paying one-time payees easier and faster. Using Candex, departments are able to:
    - Pay one-time payees without creating suppliers or collecting W-9s
    - Submit only the payee's name and email address
    - Replace Supplier Invoice Requests (SIR) with a streamlined Requisition process in Workday
- Candex is only for specific categories of payees. Detailed guidance can be found on the [Candex](#) website.
- With regard to study subject payments, Candex should be used for study subject payments to non-US persons and project payments not requiring IRB approval
- That is, the (Advarra) Participant Payment System is the preferred payment method for study subject payments to US persons.
- All study subject payments to non-US persons should be made via Candex because it easily addresses tax withholding and reporting.
- Candex is preferred if the payment complies with the requirements.

Tarriff response / exception for research

- **Two prong approach:**
- **Prong 1**:
- **Situation:** Import tariffs of 10-35%+ are causing vendors to raise supplies prices.
- **Do not** accept price increases without proper justification. Request the following from your vendor:
- •Send a respond to supplier suggested by Purchasing <u>Communication</u>, also see next slide.
- ➤Detailed explanation of how tariffs impacted their costs
- ➤Itemized cost breakdown with specific calculations
- ➤Description of their efforts to minimize cost increases
- **Important:** Ask vendors to itemize tariff charges as separate line items rather than embedding them in the base price. This allows us to track costs and potentially recover funds if tariffs change.

Tarriff response / exception for research

- **Two prong approach:**
- **Prong 2:**
- **Threshold Question:** Is good/service is tariffed or exempt?
- **What is Form 338?** Exemption under Florence Agreement (treaty), for scientific research or education
- **Eligibility Requirements (**<u>both</u> **must be met):**
- •Equipment used exclusively for teaching or research purposes
- •No equivalent U.S.-made alternative exists with comparable scientific value
- **What Qualifies:** Specialized laboratory instruments, research equipment, clinical research devices.
- **What Does Not Qualify:** General office equipment, computers, standard patient care devices, equipment available from U.S. manufacturers.

Workday Business Assets

- The University went live with Workday Business Assets as of July 2024
    - Replaces legacy fixed asset system (URFAS) and LLE database
        - New fixed assets purchased after 07/01/2024 are registered in Workday Business Assets
        - All active fixed asset records as of 06/30/2024 were converted in Workday Business Assets
    - Previously, URFAS data was integrated into URSpace prior to Workday Business Assets going live

Workday Business Assets

- Business Asset operational journals
  - An allocation was created to move all Business Asset operational journals to a designated OP FAO within each company as part of the common book close
    - Allocation was created as the transactions were not netting at the FAO level (but net at the UR consolidated reporting level)
  - Business Asset operational journals are exempt from sponsor billing and do not impact award cost processing

UR Space / Business Assets Integration

- The University is in the process of implementing the following:
  - New outbound integration between Workday Business Assets and URSpace
  - New inbound integration between URSpace and Workday Business Assets
- These integrations are necessary as the University's legacy fixed asset system (URFAS) has been decommissioned
  - Business Asset is the system of record for University fixed assets for financial reporting purposes
- In the interim, Financial Reporting sent movable equipment listings from Business Assets to cost centers to update location, serial numbers and responsible person(s) the week of 11/10/2025. If you did not receive the list, please the Equipment Administrator equipadmin@finance.rochester.edu.

UR Space / Business Assets Integration

- Both inbound and outbound integrations are expected to be released to production during the first quarter of calendar year 2026
  - Formal equipment survey requests will be distributed to all cost centers once the integrations are fully live (March 2026)
  - Equipment surveys are required to be completed during fiscal year 2026 per University and Uniform Guidance regulations
- Financial Reporting will update training materials and will provide training via Zoom/Microsoft Teams as requested
- Please direct all questions and concerns regarding the movable equipment updates to the Equipment Administrator equipadmin@finance.rochester.edu

Research Security Training

- <u>Why Required</u>: CHIPS and Science Act of 2022, regulations (NSPM-33), and agency specific requirements

- <u>Content and Length</u>: (A) Introduction, (B) One "Federal module," **and** (C) UR-developed content

- 1 hour, 35 minutes total to complete (approximate)

- <u>Require Trainees</u>: "Covered Individuals"

- Covered Individual means an individual who (a) contributes in a ***substantive, meaningful*** way to the scientific development or execution of a research and development project proposed to be carried out with a research and development award from a Federal research agency; and (b) ***is designated*** as a covered individual by the Federal research agency concerned

Research Security Training

- <u>Compliance</u>
  - ORPA is ***prohibited*** from submitting applications where applicable Covered Individuals have not satisfied their research security training requirements.
  - **For NSF:** All senior/key personnel (which include all PIs and faculty) identified in an application to NSF on or after **October 10, 2025** must have completed Research Security training within one year prior to proposal submission.
  - **For Dept of Energy:** All Covered Individuals (which include PIs and faculty) listed on DOE award applications as of **May 1, 2025** must have completed Research Security training within one year prior to the date of an application to DOE.
  - **For NIH (*Currently*):**
    - **I)** For Multiple PI applications (When the PI's are at URochester);
    - **II)** all senior/key personnel who submit Other Support information to NIH (through Just-In-Time procedures, a Research Performance Progress Report (RPPR), or certain applications) must have completed research security training prior to submission.
    - ***Effective for applications submitted for due dates on or after May 25, 2026,*** all senior/key personnel listed on an NIH grant application must certify to NIH that they have completed research security training within 12 months of the date of application submission.
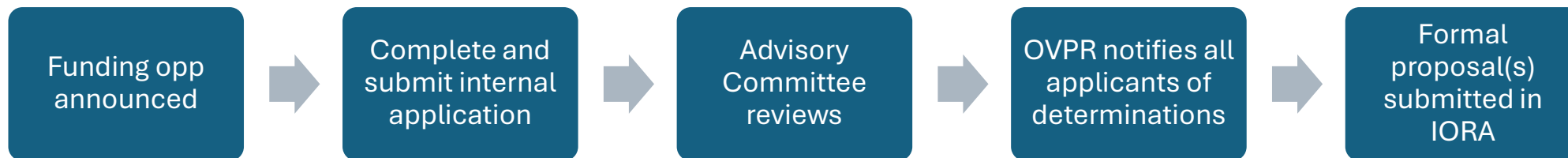
Malign Foreign Talent Recruitment Programs

- Federal law and University policy prohibits Covered Individuals from participating in a "Malign Foreign Talent Recruitment Program"

- Several agencies (DOE; NSF) have implemented certifications that a Covered Individual is not participating in such a program
  - NIH certifications are effective January 25, 2026

- Faculty are reminded to follow these standard compliance practices:
  - Review the University's guidance on foreign talent recruitment programs
  - Fully disclose outside engagements (domestic and foreign) in accordance with University and federal requirements. This includes annual and ad hoc disclosures through Reporting of Outside Financial Interests, as well as disclosures made through the Biographical Sketch and Current and Pending (Other) Support forms

Limited submission process

- To ensure compliance with restricted number of proposals per the NOFO

- To ensure we, as an institution, are putting forward our strongest proposals

- Announced through VPR_Funding_Opps listserv, posted in InfoReady

- NOFO information, award amounts, deadlines, required internal application elements, review process, and notifications all go through InfoReady

- If you identify a limited submission opportunity that is not on our InfoReady page, please contact OVPR ASAP to ensure coordination and compliance

Funding opp announced → Complete and submit internal application → Advisory Committee reviews → OVPR notifies all applicants of determinations → Formal proposal(s) submitted in IORA

VPR Resources

See the OVPR website for:

- Getting started with research

- Internal and external funding opportunities

- Policies, guidelines, and other compliance topics
  - Including Research Security and Research Integrity

- Training and education (required and recommended)

- Data management and computing resources

Executive Orders and Federal Actions

- Facilities and Administrative Costs:
  - Actions:
    - Friday, February 7th – NIH caps indirect costs at 15%
    - Friday, April 11th – DOE caps indirect costs at 15%
    - Friday, May 2nd – NSF caps indirect costs at 15%
  - Current Status:
    - Courts have ruled against the federal agencies and as such our negotiated indirect cost rate continues to be honored.
    - FAIR (Financial Accountability In Research) proposal under consideration – a new way to account for and determine the full costs of research.

- Grant terminations:
  - The University had multiple grants terminated.
  - Efforts by Office of Counsel, Government Relations, Individual faculty, VPR Office, and ORPA resulted in several grants being reinstated.
  - Court orders overturned several terminations.

Executive Orders and Federal Actions

- Executive Orders:
  - Changes in grants:
    - Several executive orders resulted in requests from Federal Sponsors to change grant documentation to ensure alignment with revised agency priorities.
    - ORPA has work with PI's and Departments on more than 35 such requests.

  - Changes in grantmaking process:
    - Several executive orders have indicated that Federal Agencies will the modifying the process by which grants are selected for funding.

- **Take aways:** If your PI receives a request to provide revised grant documentation, please consult with your ORPA RA prior to responding to the Federal Agency.

- Ensure your faculty are familiar with these changes and the updated Sponsor priorities.

Changes to Funding Opportunity Announcement

- In the Spring we became aware that changes were made to some posted federal funding announcements (including abruptly expired). These changes were often not communicated in advance.

- As a reminder, it is best practice to review funding announcements regularly as you prepare proposals.

- As a reminder:

- Please continue to forward to your ORPA representative any changes, notifications, or requests you receive from sponsors, as well as any changes you have noticed in funding announcements.

- Review funding announcements in their entirety before preparing and prior to finalizing your submission.

- For example: the following is atop many NIH NOFOs:

  - **March 31, 2025**

    - This funding opportunity was updated to align with agency priorities. Carefully reread the full funding opportunity and make any needed adjustments to your application prior to submission.

International Collaborations, Partnerships, & Subawards (Part 1)

- NOT-OD-104: NIH announced that it will no longer be accepting new applications that request funds for foreign components using the traditional grant subaward/consortium structure.

- NOT-OD-130: Taking into consideration concerns for patient safety risks for ongoing projects, NIH recognized the need to identify an alternative approach for removing the foreign subawards from existing grants and cooperative agreements involving human subjects research (e.g., clinical trials and clinical research) at the foreign site. As a result, NIH Institutes, Centers, and Offices (ICOs) will have the option to renegotiate the award structure with a recipient such that foreign subawards are financially removed from the primary award and awarded as administrative supplement (i.e., Type 3) awards. Each foreign supplement award will only include funds allocated for a single foreign entity, allowing NIH better ability to track obligations to foreign entities.

International Collaborations & Partnerships (Part 2, to be continued...)

- NOT-OD-155: NIH announces new process for foreign components.

- Effective for due dates on or after January 25, 2026, competing applications must be in response to a funding opportunity using a new grant type when requesting NIH funding for one or more foreign components.

- The primary applicant organization must be domestic (located in the U.S.). The leadership structure for the PF5 must include at least one PD/PI from the primary applicant organization, and at least one individual from each of the International Projects, who will serve as the PD/PI of the disaggregated Linked International Research Project award.

- The new structure will leverage NIH's multi-component or complex application package. At a minimum, PF5/UF5 applicants will be expected to provide an Overall Component that addresses the project's overall objectives as a collaboration, a Research Project component that addresses the scientific and technical directions of the project, and an International Project component that addresses the foreign collaborator's role on the project. Each funded foreign component should have a unique International Project component; therefore, an application with multiple foreign collaborators at different institutions would submit an application with multiple International Project components

- Descriptions for the new grant types are on the NIH Activity Codes webpage:
    - PF5: Collaborative International Research Project (awarded directly to domestic organization)
    - UF5: Cooperative Agreement Equivalent
    - RF2: Linked International Research Project (awarded directly to the foreign organization)
    - UL2: Cooperative Agreement Equivalent

- Per NIH: More details to follow.

Federal Actions – No Cost Extensions (NIH)

- May 7, 2025 NIH temporarily changes co-cost extension process.

- https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-25-110.html

- Required submission of NCE via Prior-Approval module.

- August 7th, 2025 NIH re-enables the no-cost extension functionality in Commons.

- https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-25-142.html

- We strongly advise requesting NCE's early and internally document a clear rationale for the extension.

- Form: https://www.rochester.edu/orpa/_assets/pdf/award_First_Fed_NCE.pdf

NRSA Stipend Levels Increased

- Awards made October 1, 2024 and after

- Stipends increased

- Institutional Allowance, Training Related Expenses and Tuition/Fees formula unchanged

- FY2025 award previously issued to be adjusted

- FY2025 appointments already done must be amended once the Award has been adjusted

- Adjustments for awards prior to 10/1 not allowable

- https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-25-105.html

NIH Salary Cap Increased

- https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-25-085.html

- The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024 restricts the amount of salary to Executive Level II of the Federal Executive pay scale. The Office of Personnel Management recently released new salary levels for the Executive Pay Scale. **Effective January 1, 2025, the salary limitation for Executive Level II is $225,700.**

- For active awards, including awards that have been issued in FY 2025 (continuation and new) that were restricted to Executive Level II, if adequate funds are available, and if the salary cap increase is consistent with the institutional base salary, recipients may rebudget funds to accommodate the current Executive Level II salary level. Recipients may not draw down funds, whether direct or indirect costs, to pay salaries above the salary rate limitation, and recipients must have established policies and procedures that are consistently applied regardless of the source of funds

NIH Public Access Policy

- Beginning July 1, 2025, all Author Accepted Manuscripts for NIH-funded research must be deposited in PubMed Central (PMC) upon acceptance and made publicly available without embargo on the Official Date of Publication.

- https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-25-047.html

- Resources:
  - https://www.rochester.edu/university-research/nih-public-access-policy-genomic-data-sharing-policy-updates/
  - https://libguides.lib.rochester.edu/dmsplans/public_access

NIH Genomic Data Access

- The NIH has announced significant updates to its Genomic Data Sharing Policy, which took effect on January 25, 2025. These changes aim to enhance the security and management of controlled-access data, highlighting the increasing significance of data protection in an evolving global research landscape.

- https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-24-157.html

- Approved users of NIH controlled-access data must attest that their institution complies with NIST SP 800-171. This includes those using third-party IT systems or Cloud Service Providers (CSPs) for data analysis and storage.

- Researchers seeking to access controlled human genomic data from genomic data repositories (e.g., dbGaP) must either attest that their systems meet NIST SP 800-171 requirements (which is coming) or have a documented plan of action on progress toward adoption (which will be available within the coming weeks).

NSF: Annual Certification in Research.gov

- [NSF Important Notice 149](#)

- Beginning **June 7, 2025, all Principal Investigators (PIs) and co-Principal Investigators (co-PIs)** named on an NSF award made **on or after May 20, 2024** must **certify annually in Research.gov** that they are not party to a MFTRP.

- Impacted PIs and co-PIs will be prompted to complete the MFTRP certification upon signing into Research.gov (using the Sign In link at the top of www.Research.gov). PIs and co-PIs with more than one active award made on or after May 20, 2024, are only required to certify once, annually. Once completed, PIs and co-PIs can view their MFTRP certification response under the Academic / Professional Information section of their profile. NSF is also working to expand the MFTRP annual certification requirement for all senior/key personnel roles at a future date.

NIH Disclosure Training Requirement

- NOT-OD-25-133

- Effective October 1, 2025, recipients must implement trainings, in addition to maintaining a written and enforced policy, on requirements for the disclosure of other support to ensure Senior/Key Personnel fully understand their responsibility to disclose all resources made available to the researcher in support of and/or related to all of their research endeavors, regardless of whether or not they have monetary value and regardless of whether they are based at the institution the researcher identifies for the current grant.

- Researchers who will submit Other Support information (or be included as part of a submission) to NIH through a Just-In-Time request, an RPPR (or be included in an RPPR), or through certain applications must complete the University's research security before ORPA can submit these materials.

NIH Commons Forms Implementation

- **All NIH submissions to NIH for deadlines on and after January 25th, 2026 will be required to use the Common Forms.**
  - NIH will require the use of SciENcv to complete Common Forms (i.e., Biographical Sketch, Current and Pending (Other) Support) and the NIH Biographical Sketch Supplement to produce digitally certified PDF(s).

- A system validation will generate an error preventing submission beginning February 5th, 2026.

- Finalized forms are live in SciENcv.

- Training resources were sent out via ORPA-L December 19th.
  - **Office hours on January 15th** (see ORPA-L 1/8/25)
  - NIH FAQs updated

Federal Government Shutdown 10/1/25 - 11/12/25

- Longest federal government shutdown in US Government History.

- No award actions were processed during this period.

- Notification emails from some federal systems were not functioning which led to challenges. This included resetting forgotten passwords.

- NIH LRP Deadline extended to 12/4/2025.

- Submitted proposals during the shutdown are now being reviewed.

- Prior approval requests were addressed on a first-in, first-out basis.

- NIH offered that applications due between 10/1/25 and 12/5/25 would be accepted by a 12/8 deadline without the need to request approval.

- ESI eligibility was extended.

Federal Sponsors Updated Grant Terms and Conditions

- Federal Sponsors, including NIH, and other DHHS organizations implemented changes to the standard award terms and conditions.

- NIH for example: This award is subject to the termination provisions at 2 CFR 200.340. Pursuant to 2 CFR 200.340, by accepting an NIH award, the recipient agrees that continued funding for the award is contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds, recipient satisfactory performance, compliance with the Terms and Conditions of the award, and may also otherwise be terminated, to the extent authorized by law, if the agency determines that the award no longer effectuates the program goals or agency priorities, in line with 2 CFR 200.340(a)(4).

- Any term or condition in this Notice of Award, including those incorporated by reference, that NIH is enjoined by court order from imposing or enforcing, shall not apply or be enforced as to any recipient or subrecipient to which that court order applies and while that court order is in effect.

DOE Implementation of the Common Forms

- With the release of FAL 2026-02, the DOE *is implementing the Common Form for Biographical Sketch and Common Form for Current and Pending (Other) Support (CPS). As part of implementation, DOE* has established a requirement that applications use SciENcv to prepare both Biosketches and CPS documents.

- Unique to DOE's implementation is that, within the ScieENcv CPS workflow, a "Current and Pending (Other) Support Addendum" must be selected (Yes/No). This addendum is not required for all applications. Please carefully review the specific Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) to determine whether the Addendum is required.

- <u>We advise that covered individuals not complete this addendum unless required by the NOFO.</u>

- If required, please notify your ORPA RA.

NIH Letters of Intent & Submission $500K direct cost threshold

- NOT-OD-26-019

- Effective December 2, 2025, NIH will no longer request or accept Letters of Intent.

- Additionally, effective December 2, 2025, NIH will no longer require applicants requesting $500,000 or more in direct costs (excluding consortium F&A costs) in any one budget period to contact the funding Institute or Center (IC) before application submission, or to submit a cover letter in such instances.

- Please note this does not change the UR dean's office signoff policies regarding review of applications requesting $500,000 or more in direct costs.

Updated Sponsor Priorities

- Several federal sponsors issued updated priorities in 2025.

- NSF: https://www.nsf.gov/updates-on-priorities

- NIH: https://grants.nih.gov/policy-and-compliance/implementation-of-new-initiatives-and-policies

- CDC: https://www.cdc.gov/about/cdc/index.html

- VPR Resource for updates: https://www.rochester.edu/university-research/messages-and-updates/

Thank You!

Special thanks for our presenters today.

A hearty Thank You to all of you! You keep the University of Rochester's Research Mission moving forward.

And finally....

Steve Dewhurst on holding discordant thoughts in challenging times:
https://sites.mc.rochester.edu/faculty/updates/20251006_research-update-from-steve-dewhurst-discordant-thoughts/