

Expanded Authorities

NIH prior approval is not required to rebudget funds for any direct cost item that the UG identifies as requiring prior approval, unless the rebudget is associated with or considered to be a change in scope. Grantees are authorized to:

- Incur pre-award costs up to 90 days before the start date of the initial budget period of a new or renewal award. (Complete the AANA form found on the Forms page on ORA's website and send to your CA.)
- Initiate a one-time, grantee-approved no-cost extension. (Complete the no cost extension request form found on the Forms page on ORA's website and send it to your CA.)
- Carry-forward unobligated balances from one budget period to any subsequent budget period (read the NoA—this expanded authority is sometimes withheld). Carry-forward balances of 25% or more of the current year's total budget (including carry-forward from prior years). MUST be identified in the RPPR with an explanation and plan for expenditure of the funds.
- Rebudget among budget categories and between direct and F&A costs.
- Direct charge the salaries for administrative & clerical staff not originally included in the approved budget as long as the department has received ORU or SP designation from campus.
- Rebudget to purchase equipment with a unit cost over \$5,000 not included in the approved budget.

One or more of these authorities may be overridden by a special term or condition of the specific award. IT IS CRITICAL THAT YOU READ THE NOTICE OF AWARD (NoA).

UMD implementation of UG terms on existing NIH awards

The NIH UG terms apply to all funds obligated by NIH on or after 12/26/14. UMD will not establish new KFS accounts solely because the new funding increment changes the grant terms. Those funding increments (type 5s) will be added to the existing KFS account and all remaining funding will become subject to the NIH UG grant terms. For those projects where automatic carry-forward is restricted, new accounts will continue to be established. Once the carry-forward funds are approved, they will be subject to the grant terms of the current KFS account.

Applicability of UG terms

NIH Grant General Conditions, dated 12/26/14, are applicable to new NIH grants with an effective date on or after 12/26/14. These updated UG terms are also applicable to funding amendments issued on or after 12/26/14.

Short-term Travel Visa Costs

Short-term visa costs can be an allowable expense when the travel and associated visa costs are shown to be critical and necessary for the conduct of the research.

Participant Support Costs

These costs are only allowable when identified in specific FOAs. For the purposes of NSRA programs, this term does not apply — NRSA programs will continue to use "trainee," "trainee travel" and "trainee-related expenses." Human subjects incentive payments are NOT considered participant support costs.



Research Performance Progress Reports

Annual Research Performance Progress Reports must be submitted through eRA Commons **45 days prior** to the end of the current budget period.

Individual Development Plans — Beginning in October 2014, annual progress reports must include a section to describe whether the University uses Individual Development Plans (IDPs) or not and how they are employed to help manage the training and career development of graduate students and postdoctoral researchers associated with the award.

eRA Commons User IDs for Students — Beginning October 1, 2014, all individuals in a graduate or undergraduate student role who participated in a project for at least one person month or more are required to have a eRA Commons User ID. See more at: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-13-097.html>

PubMed ID — In accordance with NIH's [Public Access Policy](#), anyone submitting an application, proposal or report must include the PubMed Central reference number (PMIC) at the end of the citation/s that they author or that arise from NIH-funded research.

NIH Salary Cap

Congress legislatively mandates limitations on direct salary charged to NIH grants, cooperative agreements, and contracts. For FY2015, the salary limit is set at \$183,300 (the Federal Executive Level II salary) per [NOT-OD-15-049](#). Departments are encouraged to establish “salary cap” accounts in the ledger 2 range when there are faculty with institutional salaries exceeding the salary cap.

When Automatic Carry-Forward is not authorized

Cooperative agreements, center grants and training grants normally do not include a provision for automatic carry-forward of unobligated funds from year to year. Because permission must be requested to carry-forward these funds, individual accounts are established by budget year to effectively account for each year's funding and to easily identify the amount of unobligated funding that requires carry-forward approval each year.

FCOI Training and Annual Disclosure

[Financial Conflict of Interest CITI Training](#) is required before engaging in PHS-funded research. Annual FCOI disclosure updates are required even when there is no FCOI to report. Please refer to the FCOI annual disclosure [quick reference guide](#) for assistance.

No Cost Extensions

Use the No-Cost Extension form on the ORA website to request no-cost extensions. The official request is submitted by ORA through eRA Commons.

Timely Close-Out

To avoid the possibility of being audited, final posting of campus expenditures or credits need to be completed within 60 days of award expiration. Under the UG, NIH has extended reporting requirements from 90 to 120 days. UM financial reports will continue to be generated at 90 days with a 30 day revision period for those NIH awards subject to uniform guidance terms.