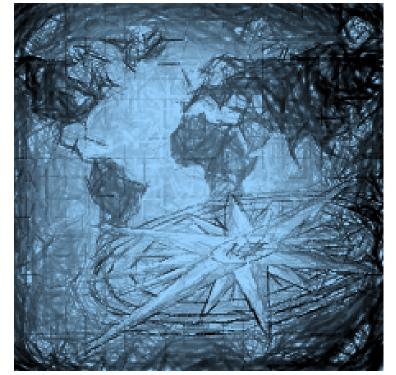
LEARN MORE: Regulatory Refresh & Updates

NU-RES April 2021





Institutional Certifications and Assurances

- Northeastern University, as a grantee, provides at the time of proposal submission and throughout the life-cycle of an award certifications and assurances that it is in full compliance with all relevant laws, rules and regulations.
- How each grantee implements its research management responsibilities varies but all grantees should include documented practices that address specific regulatory requirements.
- Some regulations required that the grantee monitor the research activity; monitoring involves verification and tracking of compliance with a specific term or condition of the award.

Learning Objectives

- Understand your and NU-RES' roles in assisting investigators and Northeastern in complying with the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (more commonly known as UG or Uniform Guidance) and non-financial regulatory requirements (e.g., OLAW, 45 CFR 46, Biosafety, Export Controls, etc.)
- Identify the various institutional offices responsible for non-financial research regulatory oversight;
- Understand the consequences of failure to properly monitor (verify & track) award compliance.

2021

NIH: <u>Upcoming Changes to the Biographical Sketch and Other Support Format Page for Due Dates on or after May 25, 2021</u>

Other Support <u>includes</u> <u>all</u> resources made available to a 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. This includes but is not limited to:

Resources and/or financial support from all foreign and domestic entities, that are available to the researcher. This includes but is not limited to, financial support for laboratory personnel, and provision of high-value materials that are not freely available (e.g., biologics, chemical, model systems, technology, etc.). Institutional resources, such as core facilities or shared equipment that are made broadly available, should not be included in Other Support, but rather listed under Facilities and Other Resources.

Consulting agreements, when the PD/PI or other senior/key personnel will be conducting research as part of the consulting activities. Non-research consulting activities are not Other Support.

In-kind contributions, e.g. office/laboratory space, equipment, supplies, or employees or students supported by an outside source. If the time commitment or dollar value of the in-kind contribution is not readily ascertainable, the recipient must provide reasonable estimates.

Reminder - NSF

(b) Appointments

A list, in reverse chronological order by start date of all the individual's academic, professional, or institutional appointments, beginning with the current appointment. Appointments include any titled academic, professional, or institutional position whether or not remuneration is received, and whether full-time, part-time, or voluntary (including adjunct, visiting, or honorary)

2021

• NIH Survey Impact On Research:

• COVID-19 Flexibilities: OMB M-21-20 and agency implementation guidance.

Northeastern University

2020 NIH Extramural Surveys:

The Impact of COVID-19 on the Research Community

In October of 2020, 45,348 researchers at domestic, NIH-funded institutions and 224 research leaders from the top 1,000 NIH-funded domestic institutions responded to an NIH COVID-19 Impact on Extramural Research Survey, which aimed to gauge the impact of COVID-19 on the research community.

At a high-level, survey findings emphasized the impact of COVID-19 on the career trajectory, mental health, and research productivity of extramural researchers:



of respondents said the pandemic will have a negative impact their career trajectory



of respondents said societal/political events negatively affected their mental health, more than other factors



of respondents reported lower levels of productivity since the pandemic began

Top career stages that anticipate negatively impacted career

trajectories due to COVID-19:



61% of lab-based researchers agreed that the pandemic will harm their career trajectory

- Asian respondents were more likely than other groups to anticipate a negative career trajectory (65%), with a decline in research activities and lab-based research driving opinions
- Black or African American respondents were least likely to anticipate a negative career trajectory (39%), with relatively fewer lab researchers and more public health researchers driving a more optimistic outlook



Postdoctoral Fellow/ Resident



Faculty (0-6 Years)



MENTAL HEALTH

Faculty (7-14 Years)

Q

A Closer Look...

The strongest predictor of a negative career trajectory perception is researchers' ability to apply for grants

Top factors that negatively impacted researchers' mental health include:

> Societal and/or political events

Physical and/or social isolation

3 Disruption of promotion/



42% of respondents said their mental/physical health had a substantially negative impact on productivity.

- Women and respondents identifying as "other" genders were consistently more negatively impacted than men across top factors affecting mental health
- Early career investigators were consistently more negatively impacted across top factors affecting mental health
- Asian researchers cited visa considerations as negatively affecting their mental health at twice the rate than the average

2021

Data Privacy & Security

- Protected Health Information (PHI),
- Confidential and/or Proprietary
- Controlled Unclassified Information
- ITS' Secure Data Enclave
- Controlled Unclassified Information
- Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification
- GCC@northeastern.edu

2021

Measurable Effort on Research Awards & Total Professional Effort

Although voluntary uncommitted cost sharing will no longer be included in the organized research base, it should be noted that current A-21 provisions for payroll distribution (section J.8.b) require that the apportionment of salaries and wages must be supported by a payroll distribution system that "will encompass both the sponsored and all other activities on an integrated basis." The process must also identify significant changes in the corresponding work activity. As such, when an institution reduces a faculty member's level of activities dedicated to other institutional responsibilities in order to shift his/her activities to organized research activities, the institution must reflect this reduction in the payroll distribution system (as an increase to the research effort component) and in the F&A proposals.

In addition, most Federally-funded research programs should have some level of committed faculty (or senior researchers) effort, paid or unpaid by the Federal Government. This effort can be provided at any time within the fiscal year (summer months, academic year, or both). Such committed faculty effort shall not be excluded from the organized research base by declaring it to be voluntary uncommitted cost sharing. If a research program research sponsored agreement shows no faculty (or senior researchers) effort, paid or unpaid by the Federal Government, an estimated amount must be computed by the university and included in the organized research base.

KEY CONCEPTS

Financial:

- Fraud
- Waste
- Abuse

Non-Financial:

• Protection Against Harm

- Monitoring = Verification& Tracking
- Documentation
- Consequences:
 Administrative, Civil,
 Criminal

INSTITUTIONAL OVERSIGHT

Office	Areas of Research Compliance
NU-RES: Research Administration	Authorized Organizational Official
NU-RES: Research Compliance	Chief Research Compliance Officer; NSF and Sponsored Programs Award Compliance Program; Research Misconduct; Responsible Conduct of Research, Export Controls; Human Subject Research, Animal Use.
NU-RES: Research Finance	Grant and contract expenditures; cost share, institutional base salary; measurable effort; Time & Effort (salary) certification.
Office of General Counsel (OGC)	Research, Data Compliance; Conflicts of Commitment & Interests
Information Technology Services	Data Security
Office of the Provost	Lab Safety; BioSafety; Faculty Affiliations
College Deans	Designated Official: Financial Conflicts of Interest

General:

GUIDANCE

Northeastern University:

- Animal Welfare
- BioSafety
- Human Subject Research
- Uniform Administrative Requirements,
- Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements
 (aka Uniform Guidance)
- Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR)

- Policies
- NU-RES Guidance

Funding Agencies:

- NIH Grants Policy Statement https://grants.nih.gov/policy/nihgps/index.htm
- NSF PAPPG https://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=papp

Area	Issue	Responsible Party	Institutional Oversight	Verification Tracking	Regulations	NU
Financial	Non-allowable Expenditures	PI/College	NU-RES Finance	Financial Reports, T&E Certifications	Uniform Guidance 2 CFR 200 et.seq. and/or FAR	Certification
COVID-19 Financial Impacts	Allowability of award expenditures during an Emergency when personnel are idle or the expense was incurred but the event did not occur (e.g., travel,).	PI/College	NU-RES Finance	Documentation of expenditure and explanation of specific COVID-19 impact	OMB/Agency specific guidance	Certification

Area	Issue	Responsible Party	Institutional Oversight	Verification Tracking	Regulations	NU
Non-Financial						
Animals	Humane Use and Care for Animals Used in Testing, Research & Training	PI/Project Personnel	NU-RES Compliance: Department of Laboratory Animal Medicine (DLAM) and Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC)	Congruence between an approved IACUC proposal & the research activity	OLAW	Assurance

Area	Issue	Responsi ble Party	Institutional Oversight	Verification Tracking	Regulations	NU
Non-Financial						
BioSafety	Lab Safety • Personnel • Environment	PI/Project Personnel	Environmental Health & Safety (EHS) and the Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC)	EH&S and/or the IBC reviews research activities to identify hazards (chemicals, materials, waste); regulatory registration requirements, select agents, and dual-use research concerns.	Local, state and federal	Certifications

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Area	Issue	Responsible Party	Institutional Oversight	Verification Tracking	Regulations	NU
Non-Financial						
Conflicts of Interest						
COI: Organizational Conflicts	Northeastern will improperly benefit from an award	Provost's Office	Center for Research Innovation (CRI) and NU- RES Compliance	Documentation of the University's interests in or relationships with other entities that may interfere with impartial performance or give the University unfair advantage.	Agency specific requirements	Certification
COC: Conflicts of Commitment	Investigators' commitments will create conflicts of appearance of improper	PI and Project Personnel	Provost's Office; University Compliance; NU-RES	Documentation of affiliations; disclosure via eCD and, as applicable, proposal documentation	Agency specific requirements	Certification

Area	Issue	Responsible Party	Institutional Oversight	Verification Tracking	Regulations	NU
Non-Financial						
Conflicts of Interest						
COI: Objectivity in Research (Bias)	Research findings and results may be biased by an investigator's financial interest in the research outcomes.	PI/College	NU-RES Compliance	PHS Financial Conflict of Interest Management Plans	PHS	Certification
COI: Financial Conflicts	Investigators or Project Personnel will improperly financially	PI/College	University Compliance and Procurement	Northeastern's CMAP	Agency- Specific	Certification

Area	Issue	Responsible Party	Institutional Oversight	Verification Tracking	Regulations	NU
Data Security						
Personal Health Information (PHI) or Personally Identifiable Information	Privacy	PI and Project Personnel	NU-RES Compliance: IRB	IRB Protocol	45 CFR 46; GDRP	Certification
Confidential or Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI)	Investigators or Project Personnel will improperly store or disclose confidential information	PI	NU-RES Compliance; ITS	Terms & Conditions of Award and/or Agreement	Agency- Specific	Certification

Area	Issue	Responsible Party	Institutional Oversight	Verification Tracking	Regulations	NU
Non-Financial						
Export Controls	Protect controlled technologies	PI/Project Personnel	NU-RES Compliance –	NU-RES Compliance reviews all research activity that is not governed by the Fundament Research Exclusion (FRE) and issues a Technology Control Plan (TCP)	EAR, ITAR, OFAC	Certification
Restricted Party Screening	Preventing engagement with individuals who may be disbarred or otherwise prevented from receiving federal funds	College/NU-RES and/or University Compliance	NU-RES Compliance	For Research & Sponsored Activities NU-RES documents in the other party's profile.	Federal	Certification

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Area	Issue	Responsi ble Party	Institutional Oversight	Verification Tracking	Regulations	NU
Non-Financial						
Human Subjects	Protecting study subjects in research projects, privacy re: personally identifiable data	PI/Project Personnel	NU-RES Compliance – Office of Human Subject Research Protections	 IRB's certification that it has reviewed the research activity. Human Subjects Determination Form Exempt Studies Self-Determination Form IRB Protocol or Reliance Agreement 	45 CFR 46 (aka the Common Rule)	Assurance
Stem CellshESCNon-Human Stem Cells			NU-RES Compliance Stem Cell Review Oversight (IRB and/or IBC)	Review of research activity against applicable protocols.	State and Federal	Certification

BEST PRACTICES

Review Compliance Requirements/Checklists

General

Eligibility
Duplicate Funding
Matching Funds
Misrepresentations

Financial

Allowability Allocability

Non-Financial

Failure to obtain required approvals and/or training; Failure to disclose or report.

For more information please see

https://research.northeastern.edu/nu-res/



Or contact NU-RES@northeastern.edu