

Dear Colleagues:

On January 25th, 2008, the National Science & Technology Council (NSTC) announced in the Federal Register (Vol. 73, No. 17, pages 4563-4567) that research agencies will be able to utilize a new standard core set of terms and conditions on research and research-related awards that are subject to OMB Circular A-110, "*Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Agreements With Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals, and Other Non-Profit Organizations*" (2 CFR Part 215). This resulted from an initiative of the NSTC/Research Business Models (RBM) Subcommittee of the Committee on Science (CoS). One of the RBM Subcommittee's priority areas is to create greater consistency in the administration of Federal research awards. Given the increasing complexity of interdisciplinary and interagency research, it has become increasingly important for Federal agencies to manage awards in a consistent fashion. The new standard terms and conditions are heavily based on the Federal Demonstration Partnership (FDP) Terms and Conditions. The FDP Terms and Conditions were intended as a model implementation of OMB Circular A-110, and the Foundation has incorporated these terms and conditions in awards to the 98 participating FDP institutions since 2000.

Effective 1 July 2008, all new NSF grants and funding increments on existing NSF grants to organizations subject to 2 CFR part 215, will incorporate by reference the Research Terms & Conditions dated July 1, 2008 and the NSF Agency Specific Requirements dated July 1, 2008. The Research Terms & Conditions will not be applied to NSF cooperative agreements and NSF fellowship awards made to individuals. For NSF purposes, there are no substantive changes to the requirements currently imposed by the NSF General Grant Conditions (GC-1). The GC-1 will continue to be applied to organizations that are not subject to OMB Circular A-110.

For NSF purposes, there are no substantive changes to the requirements currently contained in the General Grant Conditions (GC-1).

The NSF website is serving as the official host site of the Research Terms and Conditions for this important interagency initiative. The Research Terms, and other documents pertinent to this initiative are posted at: <http://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/rtc/index.jsp>. This Research Terms webpage includes:

- The Research Terms & Conditions Federal Register Notice and Policy Letter;
- The Research Terms & Conditions Implementation Statements; (NSF will attempt to consolidate as many of the statements as possible on our site)
- The Research Terms & Conditions;
- The Research Terms & Conditions Appendix B - Subaward Requirements;
- The Research Terms & Conditions Appendix C - National Policy Requirements;
- The Research Terms and Conditions Agency Specific Requirements; and,
- Relevant Links.

NSF will continue to keep the Research Terms website updated as additional documents are provided to us for posting. For further questions, please contact the Policy Office at NSF at policy@nsf.gov; and (703) 292-8243.

Best,

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