

# IN A FLASH

The Office of Sponsored Projects and Contract & Grant Accounting Newsletter

**December 2018 Edition** 

# **Holiday Proposal Schedule**

We are closed on Friday, December 21<sup>st</sup> - January 1<sup>st</sup>. (No appointments.)

Limited appointment availability on the following dates:

Monday 17th, Tuesday 18th, Wednesday 19th & Thursday 20th.



# **Fun Facts**

#### The World's Largest Pyramid isn't in Egypt

The Great Pyramid of Cholula, located in Cholula, Puebla, Mexico, is the largest pyramid in the world and—with a base four times the size of the Great Pyramid of Giza—also happens to be the largest monument ever constructed anywhere. Part of the reason it's not better known may be that it happens to be buried under a mountain.

# "Jingle Bells" was written for Thanksgiving, not Christmas.

The song was written in 1857 by James Lord Pierpont and published under the title "One Horse Open Sleigh". It was supposed to be played in the composer's Sunday school class during Thanksgiving as a way to commemorate the famed Medford sleigh races. "Jingle Bells" was also the first song to be broadcast from space.

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**NSF Advisories** 

12/14/18—ATTENTION:

Please click <u>here</u> for important proposal guidance.

## **CGA Updates**

Dept. of Justice Revisions

Don't forget to schedule your Comprehensive Component Review Appointment.

The proposal review appointment form allows the PI or designated representative to choose three preferred proposal review dates. Please only chose dates and times when you will be available. There is also a note section to fill in with any additional information you may want the scheduler and/or Proposal Specialist to know.

To request a proposal review appointment with a Proposal Specialist, please visit the <a href="OSP Website">OSP Website</a> and click the new & improved <a href="Appointment Request">Appointment Request</a> button.



## **CGA UPDATES**

#### **Department of Justice Revisions**

The Department of Justice (DOJ) has made the following revisions to the <u>DOJ</u> <u>Grants Financial Guide</u>. Changes implemented below were effective as of November 23, 2018:

Chapter 3.2: Period of Availability of Funds; OJP Specific Tip, page 33. Revised language regrading period of availability of funds as it relates to VOCA funding:

\*Some grants administered by the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) are available for the federal fiscal year of the award plus the following three fiscal years. The Victims of Crimes Act (VOCA) of 1984 states that VOCA funds are available during the federal fiscal year in which the award is actually made, plus the following three fiscal years. At the end of this period, VOCA funds will be deobligated. OJP has no discretion to permit extensions beyond the statutory period. (E.g., VOCA funds awarded in FY 2018, are available until the end of FY 2021.\*

Chapter 3.5: Adjustments to Awards; Grant Adjustment Notice, Budget Modifications, pages 48 & 49. Increased the budget modification threshold from \$150,000 to \$250,000. On page 51, removed references to "\$150,000" and replaced them with "simplified acquisition threshold."

Chapter 3.8: Procurement under Awards of Federal Assistance; Procurement Standards — General Guidance: DOJ, consistent with directives to Federal agencies included in Office of Management and Budget Memorandum m-18-18, entitled "Implementing Statutory Changes to the Micro-Purchase and the Simplified Acquisition Thresholds for Financial Assistance," increased the simplified acquisition threshold from \$150,000 to \$250,000 and the micro-purchase threshold from \$3,500 to \$10,000, for federal grants administrative purposes.

\*Financial Management Tip, page 64. Added language specifying micropurchase threshold and simplified acquisition threshold.\*

As specified in this section (3.8) and as applied elsewhere throughout the Guide, the "simplified acquisition threshold" is \$250,000 and the "micropurchase threshold" is \$10,000, for federal grants administrative purposes. See the provision under the heading, "DOJ Implementing Provision Regarding Financial Assistance Acquisition Threshold Changes in OMB M-18-18," (next page of newsletter).

\*Noncompetitive Practices, page 66. Revised language regarding threshold for prior approval of non-competitive approach to sole source procurements:

All sole source procurements in excess of the simplified acquisition threshold must receive prior approval form the grant-making component before entering into the contract.

\*Noncompetitive Practices, page 66. Added note regarding procurement threshold changes\*

Article continued on pg. 3

## **CGA UPDATES**

#### **Department of Justice Revisions (cont.)**

# DOJ Implementing Provision Regarding Financial Assistance Acquisition Threshold Changes in OMB M-18-18

Notwithstanding any grant award term or condition specifying a different threshold (specifically including the award condition entitled, "Specific post-award approval required to use a noncompetitive approach in any procurement contract that would exceed \$150,000"), and consistent with the provisions of an Office of Management and Budget memorandum, OMB M-18-18, dated June 20, 2018, and entitled, "Implementing Statutory Changes to the Micro-Purchase and the Simplified Acquisition Thresholds for Financial Assistance," DOJ will allow recipients (and any subrecipients) to use a simplified acquisition threshold of \$250,000 and a micro-purchase threshold of \$10,000, for federal grants administrative purposes.

Chapter 3:10: Updated Conference Cost Submission Form. The new form includes the following updates:

- · FY2019 links for Per-Diem Rates
- · A job aid/instructions on how to complete Sheet A
- Optional auto-populated facility comparison form
- · Fix to formula rounding errors in previous version

#### **Revised NIH Grants Policy Statement for Fiscal Year 2019**

NIH has released a revised <u>Grants Policy Statement</u> that applies to all NIH grants and cooperative agreements with budget periods beginning on or after October 1, 2018. This revised version does not introduce new policies, but it does incorporate all policy changes or updates made throughout the previous year and includes significant enhancements to improve the user interface, navigation, and search.

#### **Chrome River Deadlines for Winter Break**

Moving Expense reimbursements and supporting documentation were to be submitted by departments and received by Financial Services by 5:00 PM Friday, December 7, 2018. Departments are encouraged to initiate, complete and approve their Chrome River documents by 5:00 PM on Friday, December 14, 2018. Contract and Grant Accounting will strive to approve expense reports so that payments can be made by Thursday, December 20, 2018. If a report is not in an approvable form (i.e. it has errors or needs to be returned for correction), or if it is received after 5:00 PM on Friday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, we cannot guarantee that the report will be reviewed and approved before Winter Break.

#### **Subaward Invoice Reminder**

Per the Uniform Guidance, we are required to pay all subaward invoices within 30 calendar days of receipt unless we believe the invoice is in error. With the Winter Break coming up, this means any subaward invoices received December 2<sup>nd</sup> or earlier will need to be approved <u>and</u> paid before Winter Break. Invoices received December 3<sup>nd</sup> or 4<sup>nd</sup> should be approved before Winter Break. Please keep this in mind if you have subaward invoices in your Workflow gueue. Thank you!

## **CGA Updates**

Dept. of Justice Revisions

Revised NIH Grants Policy

**Chrome River Deadlines** 

Subaward Invoice Reminder



## **Cayuse Corral**

For Cayuse help or information, please contact Betsy Drellack at <a href="mailto:bdrellack@unm.edu">bdrellack@unm.edu</a> or 505-277-2258

# **Cayuse Corral**

#### Notice about Budgets in Cayuse 424:

An upgrade to Cayuse 424 added a Fringe dropdown box that defaults to excluded (see Figure 1.)

The Fringe dropdown box should match the Indirect Cost Types for Req. Salary Dropbox to the left of it, which is auto-populated by information filled out in a previous screen (see Figure 2.)

If the dropdown remains at excluded it will exclude fringe from the IDC rate and the budget will be incorrect.

Cayuse is aware of the issue and will have a fix in the next upgrade.

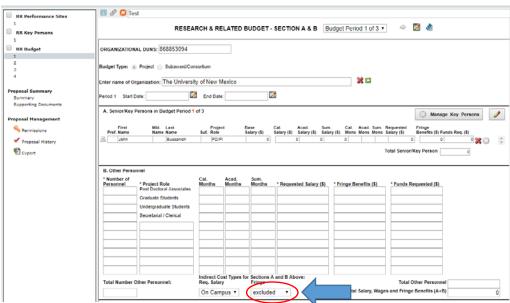


Figure 1



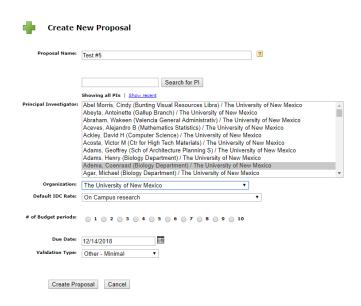


Figure 2

## 'Twas the Night 2018

'Twas the night before Christmas and all through the campus Young professors sighed like a defeated Pete Sampras. They had just received another proposal rejection To be added to their extensive collection.

When hope is flagging and you just want to scream Fight that urge and call-in the OSP Team. Competition for funds is fierce and keen, Researchers need guidance and help to be seen.

With Federal funds waning and projects in peril Researchers need Santa from the old Christmas carol. A magical genie who can shed some light On the darkness that is the young scientist's plight.

From the inkling of the idea to the completed research project Young scientists need funding even more that pure logic.
With strategy ideas and discriminator victory
To navigate purposefully, simply call OSP.

Hoping you Have a Happy Holiday and Success in the New Year!

~ http://www.KSRStrategies.com/ ~

#### 'Twas the Night 2018

#### **Pop Quiz Questions**

Answers for the last pop quiz

- 1) a
- 2) b
- 3) d

## **Contact Us**

Give us a call or visit our websites for more information about our services.

#### **OSP**

(505) 277-4186 osp.unm.edu

#### **CGA**

(505) 277-4721 cgacct.unm.edu

OSP is on Twitter. Please follow us @OSPUNM1.

# **Pop Quiz**

- 1. Conflicts of interest may exist
  - a. When students want to work with different faculty
  - b. When arrangements allow faculty to gain financially
  - c. Only in relationships between businesses and universities
  - d. When faculty conduct different unfunded research projects at the same time
- 2. The federal regulations on human subjects include special provisions for
  - a. Cadavers
  - b. Prisoners
  - c. Graduate students
  - d. Persons with physical disabilities
- 3. When does the federal fiscal year end?
  - a. April 15
  - b. June 30
  - c. September 30
  - d. December 31

<u>Customer Service Feedback</u> -- A survey link is embedded in all outgoing OSP Staff email.

Please take the opportunity to tell us how we are doing.

If you have any questions or newsworthy items to share, please email them to the FLASH Editor, Jamey Cook