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What's New at Sponsored Programs

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*Contract Administrators are responsible for proposal review and approval, grant and contract negotiation and approval, have signature authority, and answer administrative and contractual questions related to agreements.

**Contract Specialists are responsible for account setup and data maintenance.

**Visit Us On the Web**

www.usu.edu/vpr/funding/programs

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Agriculture | David Paul
Business | John Sites
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Information & Learning | John Sites
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Science | Bruce Kidd

**Administrative Units** | **Administ**
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Graduate School | John Sites
Instructional Technology | John Sites
Provost | Dennis Paffrath
Small Business Administration | Bruce Kidd
Student Services | David Paul
Vice President for Research | Dennis Paffrath

**Who We Are**

Utah State University participates in nationally applied research as a Carnegie Doctoral Research Institute, in quest for knowledge and to help society meet its educational, and social challenges.

USU research proposals totaled $318 million in fiscal year 2003. USU ranks highly in the amount of monies awarded.

USU’s Sponsored Programs Office is responsible for oversight of creative activities of faculty members; facilitates liaison with federal and provincial granting agencies; sponsors; and the promotion of Utah State University’s scholarship and creativity is valued.

USU’s Sponsored Programs Office offers the following information services provided through Proposal budget development, Review and approval of proposals, Administrative oversight during project period, Administrative closeouts of projects.
**Controllers Office**

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**New Sponsored Research Advisors**

Need help with responding to a Sponsor’s requirements regarding technical writing or proper wording for a proposed research project? Contact one of our new Sponsored Research Advisors, who will advise and aid in the technical research submittal process.

James P. Shaver
Office: (435) 797-1836
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Email: shaver@cc.usu.edu

Anne Anderson (NSF Advance Grant)
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New and Improved Forms

Within the past year the Sponsored Programs Office has acquired additional staff and support in order to serve the USU Research community better. We are committed to orderly and timely facilitation of proposals and awards.

To facilitate the ease of submitting administrative documentation for proposed and awarded research projects, our web site now contains fillable Adobe Acrobat forms that may be filled out, signed, dated and submitted to the Sponsored Programs Office. Some of the forms include:
- The Proposal Approval Form
- The Letter of Guarantee Form
- The Justification Waiver for Facilities and Administrative Costs
- A Proposal Budget Cost Template
- Conflict of Interest Disclosure Forms
- Subcontracting, Consulting, Honorarium Agreements and Checklists
- Final Inventions Statement Form

For other general Proposal, Accounting, Rate, Personnel, Governmental Agency Forms, Templates and Web links please visit our web site.

Subcontracts/Honorarium Agreements

The Sponsored Programs Office, the Controller's Office, and the Purchasing Office have revised the procedures for processing payments for Subcontracts and Consulting/Honorarium agreements. For any funds that are not considered Sponsored Program funds (i.e. state appropriation, F&A return, etc.) you MUST contact Purchasing to complete the transaction.

Subcontracts will still be negotiated and approved by the Sponsored Programs Office, but all invoice payments will be processed by the Controller's and Purchasing Office. This will allow for checks and balances in proper payment of expenditures. The Controller's Office will receive all invoices and review for allocability, reasonableness and allowability of expenses contained in such invoices. The Purchasing Office will obtain Principal Investigator's final approval via signature for all expenses and will process all payments.

Consulting/Honorarium Agreements have been revised to increase the amount to $25,000. If the payments to an individual or organization exceed $25,000 over the life of a grant, a subcontract must be negotiated and approved by the Sponsored Programs Office.

90 Day Close-out Memorandums

In order to complete the administrative and financial close out procedures for any sponsored award the Sponsored Programs Office will be sending out a memorandum informing the Principal Investigators that the project will be ending in 90 days and to please provide the Sponsored Programs Office with a request to extend the grant, or begin the process of shutting down all financial and administrative obligations.

New Policies and Procedures

Any policies and procedures listed below have been reviewed and approved by USU's Research Council and/or Faculty Senate.

2 Day Processing Policy
Due to more stringent compliance regulations from federal, state, and private funding sponsors, the Sponsored Programs Office will now require 2 full business days prior to the sponsor submittal deadline date for review and approval of the proposal by the Sponsored Programs Office.

Letter of Guarantee Form
In the past, a Principal Investigator was allowed to submit a standard letter to the Sponsored Programs Office requesting an account to be set up in advance of receiving a Sponsored Award. In order to set up an account in advance of receiving the award, the Letter of Guarantee form which can be found on the SPO website, must be filled out and signed by the PI, Department Head and the Dean of your College.

Limited Submissions
A new procedure has been put in place to review proposals, which have a sponsor requirement on how many proposals may be submitted for this particular solicitation. Please review the procedure which is posted on the SPO website. In brief, a white page will be submitted to the SPO, which will then be reviewed by an internal committee. This committee will be brought together under the direction of the Vice President for Research. At the conclusion of the internal committee's review, the Principal Investigator for the selected proposal will be notified. The selected Principal Investigator will follow the normal procedures in processing the proposal for the Sponsored Programs Office.

Budget for Matching Costs
In order to facilitate the processing of sponsored awards, Principal Investigators will be required to submit a budget containing the matching costs. This budget page is now part of the Proposal Approval Form, specifically page 2 of 3. Signatures by responsible parties and accurate account numbers will need to be included.