

COVID-19 Guidance

COVID-19 Related Proposals, Awards and Subawards

Funding opportunities for COVID-19 related research have been communicated to faculty on campus. Many agencies have shortened proposal submission timelines for COVID-19 related research proposals, that require Principal Investigators to act expeditiously. SPO will prioritize the processing of these proposals, and accommodate Principal Investigators (PI) by eliminating the [VCR Late Submission](#) requirement **for COVID-19 related research proposals only**. Final proposals should still be submitted to SPO at least one full business day (8 working hours) before the submission deadline.

To help SPO prepare for compressed proposal review timelines, PIs or their Department Research Administrators should alert SPO of forthcoming proposals as soon as the decision to apply is made. An email with the following information should be sent to spo@ucmerced.edu:

- In the subject line include “COVID-19 Proposal” and Cayuse SP Number (if one has already been created)
- Principal Investigator Name
- Funding agency
- Proposal submission deadline
- Cayuse routing anticipated date

Award/subaward review, negotiation and setup for COVID-19 related research projects will also be prioritized and expedited.

June 25, 2020 Updates

[NSF's Implementation of OMB Memorandum M-20-26: Extension of Administrative Relief for Recipients and Applicants of Federal Financial Assistance Directly Impacted by COVID-19 due to Loss of Operations](#)

June 23, 2020 Updates

[Updated CAREER Proposal Submission Timeline](#)

June 18, 2020 Updates

[OMB M-20-26: Extension of Administrative Relief for Recipients and Applicants of Federal Financial Assistance \(COVID-19\)](#)

June 17, 2020 Updates

[Statement on NSF Proposal Deadlines](#)

06/16/2020 01:00 PM EDT



The National Science Foundation is mindful of the challenges many in our country face today. We also are acutely aware that while the research community is dedicated to its work, science may not be at the forefront of everyone's minds during this particular moment in our nation's history. With this in mind, NSF has decided to [extend some of our upcoming proposal deadlines](#) where possible.

In ... More at

https://www.nsf.gov/news/news_summ.jsp?cntn_id=300767&WT.mc_id=USNSF_51&WT.mc_ev=click

Due dates were most recently updated on June 11:

https://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/covid19/covid19_deadlines.pdf

June 9, 2020 Updates

[New COVID-19 guidance from Department of Education](#)

May 29, 2020 Updates

COGR: [Institutional and Agency Responses to COVID-19 and Additional Resources](#)

NSF Notices: [Implementation of Revised PAPPG & NSF Grants.gov Application Guide](#)

UC-Federal Governmental Relations:

[COVID 19 Currently Open Opportunities](#)

[COVID 19 Hospital Opportunities](#)

May 22, 2020 Updates

[COGR May updates](#)

May 14, 2020 Updates

From NIH:

[Temporary, Emergency Situations Due to COVID-19 and Application Scores Received During Peer Review](#)

Guest blog by [Sally Amero](#)

As we continue to address the effects of the COVID-19 public health emergency on NIH-supported research, we are aware of applicant concerns about the potential impact of this temporary emergency situation on the outcome of peer review. We want to reassure applicants that we released guidance for reviewers that makes it clear that, when reviewing applications during the coronavirus pandemic national emergency, reviewers should assume that issues resulting from the coronavirus pandemic, such as the following, should not affect scores. [Continue reading](#) →

Top Stories

[Working on an NIH Grant Application? Make Sure You Are Using the Right Forms!](#)

NIH is transitioning to an updated set of application forms we refer to as FORMS-F. Use FORMS-F forms for grant application due dates on or after May 25, 2020 and FORMS-E for due dates on or before May 24, 2020. [Continue reading](#) →

[Late Window Extension for T32 and T35 Applications to Parent Announcements](#)

Training grant applications submitted to parent funding opportunity announcements PA-20-142 (T32) and PA-20-162 (T35) for the May 25th due date will be accepted through June 30, 2020. [Continue reading](#) →

[Animal Oversight Changes for Institutions Receiving National Aeronautics and Space Administration \(NASA\) Funding](#)

NIH and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) announced a new agreement to ensure consistent and effective oversight of the welfare of animals used in NASA-funded activities. [Continue reading](#) →

New Resources

[New “All About Grants” Podcast – All About Contracts](#)

Yes, we are talking about contracts in this next installment of the NIH’s “All About Grants” podcast series. Our guests are George Kennedy and Brian O’Laughlin, who are acquisition staff from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases and National Institute on Drug Abuse, respectively. [Continue reading](#) →

May 6, 2020 Updates

NIH FAQs: [COVID-19 Flexibilities for Applicants and Recipients Updated](#)

May 1, 2020 Updates

[COGR's FAQs and Resources on COVID-19's Impact to Federal Awards](#)

[COGR Federal Agency Guidance Matrix](#)

April 29, 2020 Updates

[UCOP RPAC's COVID-19 Updates](#)

infoED Global: [COVID-19 Resources - Research Related Funding Opportunities](#)

April 23, 2020 Updates

[COGR's Web Page on Institutional and Agency Responses to COVID-19 and Additional Resources \(Including COGR's FAQs\)](#)

[FDP: COVID-19 pandemic and subawards](#)

April 20, 2020 Updates

Contract & Grant Accounting: COVID-19 policies and guidance released by University of California Office of the President (UCOP): <https://www.ucop.edu/research-policy-analysis-coordination/policies-guidance/coronavirus/uc-resources.html>

April 17, 2020 Updates

NIH [COVID-19 Funding and Funding Opportunities](#)

NIH [Roundup of New COVID-19 Resources for NIH Applicants and Recipients](#)

NIH [Roundup of New COVID-19 Resources for NIH Applicants and Recipients: Part 2](#)

[COGR's Web Page on Institutional and Agency Responses to COVID-19 and Additional Resources \(Including COGR's FAQs\)](#)

UCOP RGPO update: During this period of uncertainty amid a declared public health emergency due to COVID-19, the Research Grants Program Office (RGPO) of the University of California is committed to prioritizing the health and safety of our staff, grantees, and the community. We recognize that many research projects, institutions, faculty, and trainees are adjusting to new work and personal circumstances and we want to extend our support to everyone effected.

To ensure our grantees have flexibility over the next few months, RGPO is issuing guidelines related to reporting and research continuity:

- Progress and fiscal reports that are due within the next six months (on or before October 1, 2020) will receive an automatic deadline extension of three months.
- As per current RGPO policy, all grants are eligible to receive an initial automatically-approved three-month no cost time extension at the conclusion of their project period.
- As per current RGPO policy, carryforward of prior year funds of up to 25% is allowable without approval.
- Please refer to your institutional policies and processes on modifications or delays to research that are made in response to implementing COVID-19 risk reducing measures, including those of the Institutional Review Board (IRB), *Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC)*, and/or other research regulatory bodies. If your institution requires approval of changes to research protocols, please submit those approvals to the RGPO funding program. Notification to our office of any assurance approvals or renewals due in the next six months (on or before October 1, 2020) will receive an automatic 30-day deadline extension.
- If you need to modify the scope of your research plan, please note the following:
 - If you need to **reduce** the scope of your research plan due to COVID-19 related impacts, you do not need to contact the Program Officer assigned to your grant in advance, as this reduction will be captured in your progress/final report.
 - If you believe that it will be necessary to **alter** the approved scope of work or respond to challenges faced by your organization or the communities you serve as a result of COVID-19, please contact your Program Officer. They will be as responsive as possible and work with you to make any changes efficiently.
- RGPO will allow recipients to continue to charge the approved salaries and benefits to currently active RGPO awards consistent with the recipient institution's policy of paying salaries under unexpected or extraordinary circumstances from all funding sources, Federal and non-Federal.
- For research studies that were disrupted due to the COVID-19 public health emergency, RGPO will allow costs to be charged that are necessary to resume activities supported by the award. The expenses must be consistent with applicable RGPO policies, and directly benefit the approved scope of work.

- Costs related to the cancellation of events, travel, or other activities necessary and reasonable for the performance of the approved scope of work, or the pausing and restarting of grant funded activities due to the public health emergency, may be charged to the RGPO grant with which those events, travel, or activities were associated.
- Grant recipients may continue to use the currently approved indirect cost rates agreed to in the award to recover their indirect costs on RGPO awards regardless of expiration date until a new rate is negotiated.

If you need additional time extensions, or have questions, please contact us at:

RGPOgrants@ucop.edu

RGPO is closely monitoring University of California, National Science Foundation, National Institutes of Health, and other granting instructions for guidance on research practices, and RGPO is considering additional changes to support our researchers in the upcoming weeks. Please visit our website for program-specific updates at <https://www.ucop.edu/research-grants-program/>.

Please note, due to shelter in place orders in the state of California, RGPO is working remotely. Business is continuing, and staff are available during normal business hours. For quickest response, please communicate with us via email

April 16, 2020 Updates

- NSF recently recorded [a webinar about the requirement to use an NSF-approved format](#) for both the biographical sketch and current & pending support documents as part of proposals submitted to NSF. The policy, outlined in the NSF [Proposal and Award Policies and Procedures Guide](#) (PAPPG) (NSF 20-1), goes into effect for proposals submitted or due, on or after June 1, 2020. The two NSF-approved formats are [SciENCv: Science Experts Network Curriculum Vitae](#), and an NSF Fillable PDF.

Webinar topics include:

the policy guidance for preparation of the biographical sketch and current and pending support sections of the proposal;

- a walk-through of the user experience in accessing these formats in NSF systems;
- detailed guidance from NIH on using SciENCv for preparing both documents; and
- answers to a number of frequently asked questions.

For additional information, see the NSF pages for the [biographical sketch](#) and [current and pending support](#).

- CDFW's [Watershed Restoration Grants Branch](#) has developed a [Frequently Asked Questions document](#) addressing questions and concerns posed regarding the [COVID-19 emergency](#) and potential impacts on restoration grants.

Again, CDFW recognizes the numerous ongoing challenges related to COVID-19 that our restoration community continues to face. Please feel free to submit questions not addressed in the FAQ to WatershedGrants@wildlife.ca.gov.

April 15, 2020 Updates

[UCOP RPAC's COVID-19 Website](#)

April 14, 2020 Updates

COGR Resources:

- [NIH FAQ Addendum #1 with new FAQs](#) have been developed from NIH specific questions from the membership and will be updated periodically as new information becomes available (4/13/20)
- A [Costing FAQ Addendum #2](#) has been developed from costing specific questions from the membership and will be updated as new information becomes available (4/9/20)
- A [federal agency guidance matrix](#) that is updated periodically as new guidance becomes available (4/8/20)

What's next?

Webinar #2: [Registration is now open](#) for COGR's 2nd webinar in our COVID-19 Series "A Focus on Compensation Policies Amidst the COVID-19 Crisis." The webinar will be on **Friday, April 17 from 12-1:15 p.m.**

Want More Information?

Please visit COGR's [Institutional and Agency Responses to COVID-19 and Additional Resources](#) page for a list of federal agency guidance released to date, links to institutional COVID-19 policies, and other helpful resources. Questions related to COVID-19 or COGR resources can be sent to COVID19@cogr.edu.

April 10, 2020 Updates

NSF's Implementation of OMB Memorandum M-20-20: Repurposing Existing Federal Financial Assistance Programs and Awards to Support the Emergency Response to the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Dear Colleagues:

The Foundation has issued [guidance on NSF's implementation](#) of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Memorandum ([M-20-20](#)), entitled, *Repurposing Existing Federal Financial Assistance Programs and Awards to Support the Emergency Response to the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)*. NSF remains committed to working with the Administration, other federal agencies, and the research community to effectively respond to the COVID-19 national emergency. This guidance is to implement the flexibility class exception authorized by OMB Memorandum [M-20-20](#) that allows Federal awarding agencies to repurpose their Federal assistance awards (in whole or part) to support the COVID-19 response, as consistent with applicable laws. This will certainly help address questions that recipients may have regarding the donation of items/resources from NSF awards.

Any questions about the policies described in the NSF Guidance should be directed to policy@nsf.gov. Questions specific to a particular award should be directed to the cognizant NSF Program Officer. NSF is working to update existing FAQs and other resources to reflect NSF's new guidance and will keep you informed on our website at: nsf.gov/coronavirus.

Jean Feldman
Head, Policy Office
Division of Institution and Award Support
Office of Budget, Finance & Award Management
National Science Foundation

April 9, 2020 Updates

Council on Governmental Relations: [Frequently Asked Questions Regarding COVID-19's Impact on Federal Awards \(Version 2.2\)](#)

April 8, 2020 Updates

NSF: [Impact on Existing Deadline](#)

UCOP: [COVID-19 Updates](#)

CA DWR: The 2020 Final Guidelines and Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP) for the Drainage Reuse Grant Program has been released for the public to submit proposals. The following link provides detailed information.

<https://water.ca.gov/Work-With-Us/Grants-And-Loans/AgDrainage-204>

DWR is working on making the forms that are attached to the PSP electronically fillable with ADA Compliance. The current PSP on the webpage will be replaced with the updated version as soon as possible. We will notify you via email when the new version is available.

As stated on the above webpage, DWR decided to add the email option (pdf format) for accepting proposals due to the current COVID-19 Pandemic situation. The complete application

package can now be sent either by postal service or via email at AgDrainageGrants@water.ca.gov. A confirmation email will be sent for the application packages that are submitted via email. Please let me know if you have any questions.

April 6, 2020 Updates

The UC Research Grants Program Office has just issued a funding opportunity for grant funding related to COVID-19. \$2,000,000 in funding is being made available for brief projects of no more than \$25,000. Award turn-around time will be within two weeks of proposal submission.

You can find the RFP here: <https://uckeepresearching.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/COVID-RFP-for-Publication.pdf>

[COGR's Web Page on Institutional and Agency Responses to COVID-19 and Additional Resources \(Including COGR's FAQs\)](#)

April 2, 2020 Updates

Council on Governmental Relations: [COVID-19 Agency Guidance Matrix](#)

AFOSR guidance: <https://afresearchlab.com/afosr-covid>

April 1, 2020 Updates

NSF Updates:

The Foundation has issued a revision to [NSF's implementation](#) of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Memorandum ([M-20-17](#)), entitled, *Administrative Relief for Recipients and Applicants of Federal Financial Assistance Directly Impacted by the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) due to Loss of Operations*. Revisions include:

- **Prior approval requirement waivers** (# 8) has been revised to update the specific situations that require NSF prior approval. Additional guidance also has been added for Major Facility Recipients;
- **Extension of financial and other reporting** (# 10) has been supplemented with information on the processing of payments via NSF's Award Cash Management Service; and
- **Extension of closeout** (# 12) has new guidance extending award closeout from 120 days to 180 days.

Questions about the policies described in the NSF Guidance should be directed to policy@nsf.gov. NSF is working to update existing FAQs and other resources to reflect NSF's new guidance and will keep you informed at: [nsf.gov/coronavirus](https://www.nsf.gov/coronavirus).

UCOP: [COVID-19 Updates](#)

Sandia National Lab: [Mission Essential Subcontract Activities During COVID-19 Response](#)

March 31, 2020 Updates

UC MEXUS: [Automatic grant extension](#)

California Strategic Growth Council:

[CCR: COVID-19 Grantee Guidance](#)

[CCR: Grantee COVID-19 Letter](#)

[CCR: COVID-19 Impacts and adjustments to Research Grants Form](#)

March 30, 2020 Updates

[UPDATE: NIH Late Application Policy Due to Public Health Emergency for United States for 2019 Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)

[American Institute of Physics](#)

USAMRAA Update: [Supplemental Guidance on Administrative Flexibilities for Grants and Cooperative Agreements in Response to COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

March 26, 2020 Updates:

NIFA [Coronavirus Resources](#)

UCOP: [COVID-19 Updates](#)

UCOP: [Federal Resources](#)

March 25, 2020 Updates:

[SFPFH Subcontractor Guidance](#)

[S-STEM Community Update](#)

[Council On Governmental Relations](#)

March 24, 2020 Updates:

UCOP: [Charging grants and contracts costs to Federal sponsored awards during COVID-19](#)

DOD: [Frequently Asked Questions for DOD Research Proposers and Awardees Impacted by the Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)

March 23, 2020 Updates:

[UCOP - RGPO Message regarding COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

[FDP: COVID-19 Impact on Subaward Performance](#)

[OMB M-20-18 Memorandum to the Heads of Executive Departments and Agencies](#)

NSF: Implementation of OMB Memo M-20-17:

The National Science Foundation has issued [Important Notice No 146](#) to the Community Regarding COVID-19. NSF has also issued additional [guidance on NSF's implementation](#) of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Memorandum ([M-20-17](#)), entitled, *Administrative Relief for Recipients and Applicants of Federal Financial Assistance Directly Impacted by the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) due to Loss of Operations*. NSF has implemented flexibilities authorized by OMB from specific administrative, financial management and audit requirements contained in 2 CFR Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* without compromising accountability requirements.

Any questions about the policies described in the NSF Guidance should be directed to policy@nsf.gov. Questions specific to a particular award should be directed to the cognizant NSF Program Officer. NSF is working to update existing FAQs and other resources to reflect NSF's new guidance and will keep you informed on our website at: [nsf.gov/coronavirus](https://www.nsf.gov/coronavirus).

March 20, 2020 Updates:

[OMB M-20-17 Administrative Relief for Recipients and Applicants of Federal Financial](#)

"This memorandum provides similar administrative relief listed in M-20-11 to an expanded scope of recipients affected by the loss of operational capacity and increased costs due to the COVID-19 crisis. Many of the operational impacts and costs are unknowable at this point, as they will depend on the spread of the coronavirus and response dictated by public health needs. This memorandum

provides short term relief for administrative, financial management, and audit requirements under 2 CFR Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost principles and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, without compromising Federal financial assistance accountability requirements. As program managers are considering administrative relief, they should be prudent in their stewardship of Federal resources which includes giving consideration to potential offsets-e.g. reduction in training and travel. In addition, the flexibilities provided within this memorandum, agencies are reminded of their existing flexibility to issue exceptions on a case-by-case basis in accordance with 2 CFR § 200.102, Exceptions. M20-11 shall continue to apply, and Appendix A describes the exceptions granted under this memorandum to recipients affected by the loss of operational capacity. These exceptions are time limited and will be reassessed by OMB within 90 days of this Memo.”

1. Flexibility with SAM registration. (2 CFR § 200.205)
2. Flexibility with application deadlines. (2 CFR § 200.202)
3. Waiver for Notice of Funding Opportunities (NOFOs) Publication. (2 CFR § 200.203)
4. No-cost extensions on expiring awards. (2 CFR § 200.308)
5. Abbreviated non-competitive continuation requests. (2 CFR § 200.308)
6. Allowability of salaries and other project activities. (2 CFR § 200.403, 2 CFR § 200.404, 2 CFR § 200.405)
7. Allowability of Costs not Normally Chargeable to Awards. (2 CFR § 200.403, 2 CFR § 200.404, 2 CFR § 200.405)
8. Prior approval requirement waivers. (2 CFR § 200.407)
9. Exemption of certain procurement requirements. (2 CFR § 200.319(b), 2 CFR § 200.321)
10. Extension of financial, performance, and other reporting. (2 CFR § 200.327, 2 CFR § 200.328)
11. Extension of currently approved indirect cost rates. (2 CFR § 200.414 (c))
12. Extension of closeout. (2 CFR § 200.343)
13. Extension of Single Audit submission. (2 CFR § 200.512)

[UCOP Coronavirus/COVID-19 Updates](#)

Agencies and entities are issuing guidance on Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). Guidance and announcements received by the Sponsored Projects Office are posted below. This page will be updated as new information is available.

Also see:

- Vice Chancellor for Research: [COVID-19 and Research Continuity at UC Merced](#)
- UC Merced: [Coronavirus Information](#)

Reminder: Biosafety Review

Note that all principal investigators must have institutional biosafety committee approval prior to performing any coronavirus research or work on campus (including to help state and federal agencies to screen patient samples), and must undergo [Institutional Biosafety Committee \(IBC\)](#) review and approval. This includes requesting or accepting COVID-19 samples (patient or otherwise).

Federal

National Institutes of Health

[General Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\) - Proposal Submission and Award Management Related to COVID-19 \(NOT-OD-20-083\)](#)

[NIH Extramural Response to Natural Disasters and Other Emergencies](#)

[NIH Late Application Policy Due to Public Health Emergency for United States for 2019 Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) \(NOT-OD-20-082\)](#)

[Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#)

NIAID: [Coronaviruses: Information for Researchers](#)

[NIAID's Multi-Pronged Response to the COVID-2019 Outbreak](#)

Fogarty International Center: [Coronavirus news and resources for global health researchers](#)

Funding Opportunities

- [Notice of Special Interest \(NOSI\) Regarding the Availability of Urgent Competitive Revisions for Research on the 2019 Novel Coronavirus \(2019-nCoV\) \(NOT-AI-20-030\)](#)
The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases and the National Institute of General Medical Sciences are issuing this NOSI to highlight the urgent need for research on the 2019 novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV). NIAID is particularly interested in projects focusing on viral natural history, pathogenicity, transmission, as well as projects developing medical countermeasures and suitable animal models for pre-clinical testing of vaccines and therapeutics against 2019-nCoV. NIGMS is specifically interested in incorporation of data from the 2019-nCoV into ongoing research efforts to develop predictive models for the spread of Coronaviruses and related pathogens.
- NIAID: [Partnerships for Countermeasures against Select Pathogens \(R01 Clinical Trials Not Allowed\)](#)
This initiative will support development of new or improved therapeutics for emerging viral

pathogens of public health concern. Note that this FOA will support development of a candidate therapeutic against severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), the virus that causes COVID-19. Deadline: 6/29/2020.

National Science Foundation

[Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\) About the Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) for National Science Foundation \(NSF\) Proposers and Awardees](#)

[Statement on Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#)

Includes impact on NSF's acceptance and review of proposals, impact on award oversight, impact on meetings funded via a grant from NSF, etc.

[Detailed Guidance on Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)

Funding Opportunities

- [Dear Colleague Letter on the Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#):
NSF is accepting proposals to conduct non-medical, non-clinical-care research that can be used immediately to explore how to model and understand the spread of COVID-19, to inform and educate about the science of virus transmission and prevention, and to encourage the development of processes and actions to address this global challenge.
 - [Dear Colleague Letter: Provisioning Advanced Cyberinfrastructure to Further Research on the Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#)
The Office of Advanced Cyberinfrastructure is inviting RAPID proposals and supplemental funding requests to existing awards that address COVID-19 challenges through data and/or software infrastructure development activities.
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OTHER

NASA: [Coronavirus Information: Message to NASA Contractors - Assistant Administrator for Procurement Message on Coronavirus](#)

DOE: [Memorandum for Applicants and Awardees](#)

USAMRAA: [USAMRAA's COVID-19 FAQs](#)

Office of Management and Budget

M-20-11 Administrative Relief for Recipients and Applicants of Federal Financial Assistance Directly Impacted by the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)

On this page

- [NIH](#)
- [NSF](#)
- [NASA](#)
- [OMB](#)
- [Other Entities](#)

RELATED INFORMATION

- [VCR: COVID-19 and Research Continuity at UC Merced](#)
- [UC Merced Coronavirus Information](#)
- [CDC Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#)