

Grants: Current and Hot Topics for Post-Award Management



Today's Topics

- Central Office Post-Award Team Intro
- Required New Award Meeting
- Effort Requirement/Reporting
- PI Portal
- Departmental Admin Support



Office of Research Administration and Compliance Post-Award Team

Grants and Contracts Administration Team

Billing and Revenue Team

Award Setup Team

- Four Senior Financial
 Analysts, Five Financial
 Analysts, and a Financial
 Analyst/Development and
 Training Specialist
- Managed \$85.6M in sponsored projects awarded in FY23
- Perform administrative oversight and financial management for 825+ active sponsored projects and clinical trials

- Billing and Revenue
 Manager, Billing and
 Revenue Specialist, and
 Grant Revenue
 Management Technician
- Processes over 900

 invoices, manages an average of 785 Federal
 Cash Draws, and processes an average of 2,100 deposits quarterly

- Award Analyst
- Created 362 new funds in FY23
- Processes over 300
 eTRACS actions
 quarterly and fields
 numerous requests
 daily from Award Setup
 email box



New Award Meeting

- Both ECU policy and best practice require a PI New Award Meeting at the beginning of projects.
- Principal Investigators are required to attend the meeting as a condition of accepting responsibility for the sponsored project and to plan for project management with hub and departmental personnel.
 - Identify personnel resources used on the grant
 - Identify Sub-award recipients
 - Confirm cost share obligations
 - Identify unique issues to the project, such as budget alignment or carryforward
- Hub or departmental personnel documents that the PI New Award Meeting has taken place or waived via a Change Request in eTRACS.



Effort Requirement/Reporting

- Per federal Memorandum 01-06, "...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)."
- At ECU, a forthcoming policy on senior/key personnel effort will reflect concepts from the Memorandum and also emphasize other key points regarding effort commitments



Determining Personnel Effort

- ECU senior/key personnel must devote at least 1% of annualized effort – or a level of effort as required by the sponsor – per sponsored project.
- Beyond this **minimum** requirement, the specific amount of effort committed to a particular sponsored project is left to the judgment of the senior/key personnel, based on an estimate of the actual effort necessary to meet the technical goals and outcomes of the project. In most cases, it is expected that the effort will be substantially larger than 1%. Planning for effort commitment should take into consideration researchers' other current and pending awards in order to avoid becoming highly committed; **maximum** total sponsored project effort for researchers with faculty appointments cannot exceed 95%, as the remainder of their 100% appointment is allocated to University responsibilities (i.e. service, student mentoring/advising, other administrative duties).

Determining Personnel Effort

- Effort for senior/key personnel should be budgeted, expensed and certified according to WHEN the project effort takes place.
- At ECU, effort reporting is completed 3 times during a 12-month cycle; this process allows the government and other sponsors to verify that salaries charged to a project reasonably reflect effort spent on each project during the reporting time frame.
- Project work performed during any month (academic year OR summer months) should be expensed to the sponsor during that month and certified during the effort reporting cycle in which the work was performed; to expense or report effort outside of the month in which the work was actually performed is falsifying the effort certification.
- Any work performed and not expensed to the sponsor becomes a subsidization of the project by state funding (unless the project contains required cost share effort).



PI Portal

 The PI Portal provides key project information using graphics and figures to PIs and staff in order to stay on top of projects.

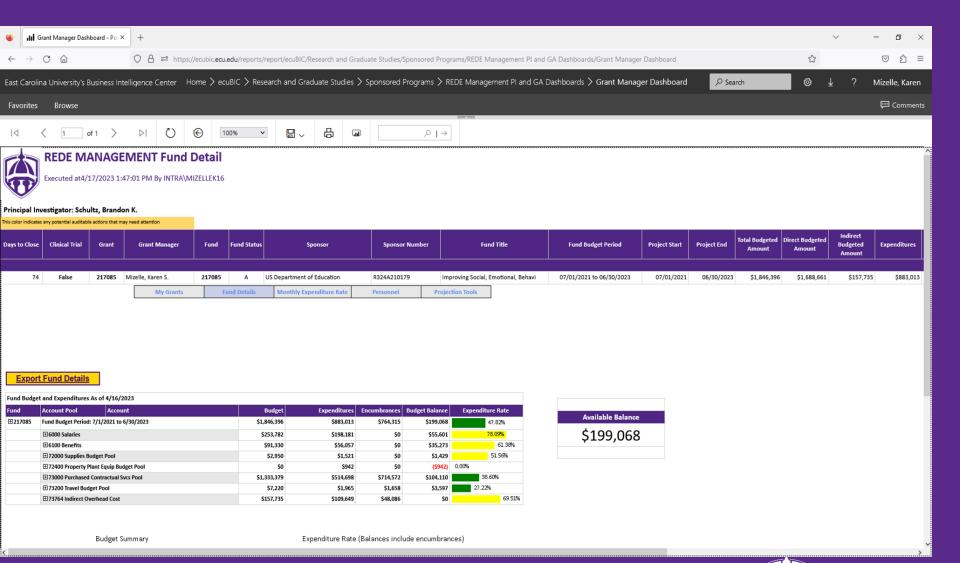
 The information in the PI Portal is Banner data arranged in a more useful format.



PI Portal Tabs

- My Grants
- Fund Details
 - Budget, Expenditures, Direct Cost Remaining,
 Budget Summary Pie Chart
- Monthly Expenditure Rate
- Personnel
- Projection ToolsS





Departmental Admin Support

- Monthly All Flags Report Introduced May 2023
- Grants with Cost Share Introduced June 2023

 Grants with Sub-recipients – Introduced June 2023

 Questionable Costs for Administrators – Introduced August 2023



Monthly Management Reports

- Confirms salary is being charged correctly
- Allowability, allocability, and reasonableness
- Identifies incorrect charges
- Identifies overspending
- Facilitates efficient closeout
- Minimizes grant audit findings





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