





- Contracts vs. grants & cooperative agreements
- Responsibilities of the PI
- Responsibilities of Project Accounting
- Expenditure categories and types
- Special award conditions
- Audits
- Award closeout







# FAR vs. OMB Circular A-110

FAR

- Applicable to Federal Contracts
- Intent is to contain all the administrative requirements for all types of entities (commercial-educational, contractors vs. subcontractors)
- Full text of clause may be in contract or incorporated by reference

FARSITE url: http://farsite.hill.af.mil/farsite\_alt.html *OMB A*-110

- Applicable to Federal Grants & Cooperative Agreements
- Contains all the administrative requirements, specifically for educational institutions
- Text is incorporated by reference into grant or cooperative agreement



#### **PI Responsibilities**

#### The PI has the primary responsibility to:

#### Programmatically

- > Execute the project according to the scope of work
- Monitor progress of subawardees/collaborators
- > Achieve research objectives
- Ensure compliance with all applicable rules, regulations and terms and conditions of the award, including those of the Institute
- > Ensure compliance with technical report requirements

### **Project Accounting Responsibilities**

Project Accounting has primary responsibility to:

- Review Caltech expenses for compliance with all sponsor and institutional policies
  - approve and process cost transfers
- Ensure compliance with special award conditions
- Work with PI and OSR to obtain agency approvals
- Invoice sponsors or request reimbursements via LC draws
- Process payments to JPL
- Submit financial reports and process financial closeout
- Coordinate all external audits related to sponsored research (with the exception of audits involving indirect cost rate proposals)
- Provide training to campus

# How it all starts

- OSR notifies PI when an award is received
- Division requests expenditure account (PTA)
- OSR activates PTA appropriating approved budget and noting sponsor's terms & conditions
- PI starts spending from the PTA
  - Charges salaries for self, researchers, student workers
  - Purchases supplies, equipment
  - Allocates funding for subawardees
  - Attends project meetings, conferences
  - Covers portion of graduate assistant's tuition





Expenditure Types-Salaries								
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EXPENDITURE TYPE	DEFINITION	Overhead *	Paid Leave	Staff Benefits	Tuition Remission			
Bi-Weekly Admin Staff	Salaries for administrative staff (i.e., those who support the administrative activities of the Institute)	Yes	Yes	Yes	No			
Bi-Weekly Technical Staff	Salaries for technical staff (i.e., those who support the technical activities of the Institute)	Yes	Yes	Yes	No			
Bi-Weekly Research Staff	Salaries for research staff (i.e., those who support organized research projects)	Yes	Yes	Yes	No			
Monthly Admin Staff	Salaries for administrative staff (i.e., those who support the administrative activities of the Institute)	Yes	No	Yes	No			
Monthly Technical Staff	Salaries for technical staff (i.e., those who support the technical activities of the Institute)	Yes	No	Yes	No			
Monthly Research Staff	Salaries for research staff (i.e., those who support organized research projects)	Yes	No	Yes	No			
Monthly Staff	Salaries for staff (other than research and administrative staff)	Yes	No	Yes	No			
Other Faculty Salaries	Monthly salaries for non-professorial faculty	Yes	No	Yes	No			
Professorial Faculty	Monthly salaries for professorial faculty	Yes	No	Yes	No			

				Staff	Tuition	
Expenditure Type	Definition	Overhead	Paid leave	Benefits	Remission	
Postdoctoral Fellowship	Monthly stipends for postdoctoral fellows, recipients of NIH, NSF and NASA fellowship /training grants	No	No	Not in benefits pool	No	
Postdoctoral Scholar Sal	Monthly salaries for post doctoral scholars working on research projects	Yes	No	Yes	No	
Res/Postdoctoral Fellows	Monthly stipends paid to research/postdoctoral scholars	No	No	Not in benefits pool	No	
Grad Assistantships	Monthly salaries for graduate research assistants for working on institutional research	Yes (on salary only)	No	No	Yes	
Grad Fellowships	Stipends paid to graduate students under fellowships	No	No	No	Yes	
NTR Grad Assistantships	Monthly salaries for graduate research assistants for working on institutional research	Yes	No	No	No	
NTR Grad Fellowships	Stipends paid to graduate students under fellowships	No	No	No	No	
Stipend-Participant Support UG	Used only for stipends paid to Undergraduate students on NSF-REU awards	Yes at 25%	No	No	No	
Student Wages NB	Salaries for students who do not receive benefits under the work study program, includes SURF students	Yes	No	No	No	









#### Ask if food is entertainment

- Caltech business expense guidelines state that federal contract and grant funds may not be used to fund entertainment
- In case of a conflict between agency policy and Institute guidelines, more restrictive guidelines will apply
- Project Accounting will follow-up with divisions if food and hotel costs charged to federal awards

http://researchadministration.caltech.edu/documents/32cit\_business\_expense\_guidelines.pdf

http://researchadministration.caltech.edu/documents/33cit\_entertainment\_guideline.pdf





### **Participant Support Costs**

- NSF research grants may include funds for participants or trainees attending meetings, conferences, symposia or training projects
- Allowable direct costs are stipends or subsistence allowances, travel allowances and registration fees paid to or on behalf of participants or trainees (not employees)
- NSF approval is required both to use funds for participant support, and to use such funds for other purposes

Expenditure type	Expenditure definition
Mtgs - Participant Support	(Materials & Supplies) Direct costs for registration or conference fees associated with meetings, conferences, symposia or training projects that are paid to, or on behalf of, participants or trainees who are not employees of the Institute
Travel - Participant Support	Direct costs for stipends, subsistence allowances and travel allowances associated with meetings, conferences, symposia or training projects that are paid to, or on behalf of, participants or trainees who are not employees of the institute
Stipend Participant Support	Stipends paid under NSF grants that provide for participant support costs
Stipend Participant Support UG	Use only for stipends paid to undergraduate students on NSF- REU awards

To rebudget funds from participant support cost category to another category requires Program
Officer approval

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## **Travel-Domestic and Foreign**

#### Travel

- Airfare in excess of lowest available rate is unallowable
  - Exceptions usually available if "lowest available" would result in traveling at unreasonable hours, excessively prolong the duration of travel, etc.
- International travel
  - Often requires prior approval from sponsor
  - Federal funds: Fly America Act
- Supporting documentation for travel:
  - Travel Expense Form
  - Trip receipts
  - Per Diem rates
  - http://procurement.caltech.edu/documents/purchasing/travelpolicy.pdf







## **Cost Sharing**

#### Only allowable costs can be cost shared

- Faculty salaries/benefits
- Non faculty salaries/benefits
- GRA assistantships and tuition
- Equipment and M&S
- Other direct costs
- Imputed indirect costs
- Unrecovered indirect costs only with prior approval from federal awarding agency
- Cost sharing coming from third party, needs to be documented

OMB A-110, Subpart C-Post Award Requirements, section .23 http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars\_a110/#23











via progress report (NIH, NSF)

#### Voluntary Committed Cost Sharing-Resulting from PI Effort Deviations

•Example 1: PI *committed* 10% effort, *charged* 8% salary to the award and indicated 10% effort on the *PDC* report

•2% difference is voluntary committed cost sharing

•Requires ZOACS companion award

•Example 2: PI *committed* 10% effort, *charged* 8% salary to the award, and certified *PDC* for 8% effort commensurate with payroll

•2% difference is voluntary committed cost sharing •Requires ZOACS companion award

•Example 3: PI *committed* 10% effort, *charged* 8% salary to the award and certified *PDC* for effort commensurate with 8% pay; but indicated 15% in the *progress* report submitted to sponsor (NIH, NSF)

•2% difference between committed effort and payroll distribution is voluntary committed is cost sharing

•Requires ZOACS companion award

•Remaining 5% (difference between effort *committed* and declared in the progress report) is voluntary <u>uncommitted</u> cost sharing and <u>will not require a ZOACS companion award</u>

Monitoring Key Personnel Effort													
Award Manager	Award	Funding	Sponsored	Cost	Cost	Employee	Commitment	Commitment	Total Effort	Cost Share	Salaries	Salaries	Reduction of
	Status	Source Award	A ward Number	Share Award	Share Project	Name	Start Date	End Date	Committed %	Effort Committed	Charged to Sponsored	Charged to Cost	25% and above
		Number		Number	Number					%	Award %	Share %	
ncent, Steve J	Active	ABCDEF-2008	ABXDEF.2008			Vincent, Steve	01-Jan-2009	28-Feb-2010	2.00	2.00	2.00		N
ncent, Steve J	Active	R01 DC12345	NIH.12345	NIHSAL 123 45		Vincent, Steve	15-Sep-2008	30-Aug-2011	20.00		15.6	4.4	N
ncent, Steve J	Active	R01 DC67890	NIH.67890	NIHSAL.678		J Vincent, Steve	15-Sep-2008	30-Aug-2011	30.00		23.4	6.6	N
incent, Steve J	Active	P50 DCAM	NIH.PROGR M	90		J Vincent, Steve J	01-Mar-2009	30-Sep-2009	5.00		0		Ye



- NIH mandates salary limitations on NIH awards
- Restricts institutional base salary of personnel working on NIH awards to Executive Level I pay scale
- Requires universities to monitor salaries charged to NIH awards to match the legislative salary limitation
- Universities are allowed to pay salary amounts in excess of the salary cap with non-federal funds
- Salary cap calculator is available for divisions to calculate over the cap salary

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http://www.imss.caltech.edu/cms.php?op=wiki&wiki\_op=view&id





















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Cost transfers <u>over 90 days and/or from overspent awards</u> require:

- cost transfer and justification form with questions 1 through 5 answered in Section C
- original signatures (no rubber stamps) or email authorizations from PI, Division Chair and Project Accounting official
- labor transfers impacting certified PDCs may require recertification
- justifications need to meet extenuating circumstances from CIT Cost Transfer policy

## **Cost Transfers**

What will qualify as an extenuating circumstance?

Late issuance of appropriate documentation for reasons beyond the control of the requestor, such as late issuance of an award by a funding agency

Failure of another department to take action when supporting documentation had been properly submitted

Transfer of expenditures from an unrestricted account to a federal award that was not in place when the expense was incurred



What will not qualify as an extenuating circumstance?

- Absences of the PI or cognizant administrator
- Shortage or lack of experience of the staff administering the awards
- Federally funded sponsored accounts used as a holding account for expenditures

*If in doubt send PA a draft for pre-review and feedback before obtaining signatures* 



Federal government requires effort reporting or salary certification for all directly charged salaries

#### Key personnel effort

- effort committed=salaries paid (direct +cost shared)
- reductions greater than 25% require sponsor approval
- reductions may create cost sharing situations





















