NIH Salary Cap

- Effective January 11, 2015 the new NIH salary cap is $183,300 up from $181,500.

- Non-competing awards: If a grant award (competing or non-competing) has already been issued in FY 2015, no adjustments will be made. However, rebudgeting is allowable.

- Excellent Q&A can be found at link below.

NRSA Stipend Levels for FY 2015

NIH~ AHRQ~HRSA

- Effective October 1, 2014 – NEW Stipend Levels

- All FY2015 award previously issued using FY2014 stipend levels will be revised to adjust stipends to the FY 2015 level.

- More information can be found at link below

Non-competing continuation awards that have already been made in FY 2015 were generally funded up to 90% of the previously committed level—as described in NOT-OD-15-001.

Such reductions may be fully or partially restored, depending on the Institute or Center. Non-competing continuation grants that remain to be issued in FY 2015 likely will be made within the range between the commitment level indicated on the Notice of Award and 3 percent below that level.

Applications submitted for due dates on or after January 25, 2015 are encouraged to follow the new format. (Required after May 25th)

Revised forms and instructions are available on the SF 424 (R&R) Forms and Applications page.

Applications going through RAPPORT with this new bio sketch format may cause an error in the RAPPORT validation process.

Please inform your Pre-Award Grants Officer who will assist you work around this issue.

Standard Due Dates for SBIR/STTR application are CHANGING!

- While we are subcontractors on these applications— the due dates for the Prime applicant will be changing!
- *April 5th 2015 deadline is not effected*
  After April it changes!
- There will NOT be an August 5, 2015 due date!
- The next Standard Deadline Due Date after April 5th is September 5, 2015.

Standard deadlines: Sept. 5, January 5 and April 5.

ASSIST—To Become Option for Most Competing Grant Programs

- Currently ASSIST is a required system for Multi-Project Applications.
- Throughout 2015, ASSIST will become an OPTION by activity code. Starting with R03 and R21’s.
- Please *continue* using RAPPORT for these optional activity codes as your vehicle of submission, as ASSIST is *NOT* required for these.

NSF Significant Changes

- Significant changes to PAPPG (GPG & AAG), effective for proposals submitted on or after December 26, 2014
- Changes to Fastlane system, effective January 26, 2015
Inclusion of such costs on a proposal budget may be appropriate if following conditions are met:

- Admin or clerical services integral to project
- Individuals can be specifically identified with the project
- Costs are explicitly included in the approved budget or have prior written approval from NSF Grants Officer
- Costs are not also recovered as indirect costs

Travel Revision

- All travel (domestic & international) must be justified
- Destinations must be included in justification and dates, if known
- Attendance at meetings or conferences must be necessary to accomplish objective or disseminate results in order to qualify for support

Materials & Supplies

- Computing device considered supply if cost is less than $5,000
- Charging as direct cost is allowable for devices that are essential and allocable, but not solely dedicated.
- Cost estimates must be included for items that represent a substantial amount of proposed line item cost

Indirect Costs

- Unless specifically identified in solicitation, federally negotiated IDC rates must be used.
- Domestic organizations without federally negotiated rate may use 10% of MTDC, or prepare a project specific indirect cost proposal to submit to NSF.
- Foreign organizations may use 10% of MTDC if they don’t have a US federally negotiated rate.

Agency Approval Revisions

- PI and Co-PI do NOT need to notify NSF for short term absence of 90 days or less
- Three new requests that require NSF approval
  - Including salaries of clerical staff
  - Travel costs for dependents
  - Additional categories of participant support cost
Changes to Fastlane

- Budget justification must be uploaded rather than entered as text
- Cost sharing notifications must be submitted by all awardees with awards that include cost sharing (ex: MRI)
- Cover sheet will now include Ideas Lab as a new funding mechanism
- **24 automated compliance checks** (page counts, budget caps, proposal sections)