

NANO Session – March 29, 2007

Will you reschedule Budget Basics that was originally scheduled for this month? Yes.

Tuition escalation (4.4%) changes were made on templates and OSPA web pages based on the actual tuition rates for 2007 – 2008. Is there any change to salary escalation rates? No, you can still use 0% - 4% as in BOB.

What are allowable expenses for a 420 account?

- Business cards? No
- Name tags? Yes (justifiable if holding a conference, for example)
- Name plates? No
- Software? Yes, if it's project specific
- Letterhead/envelopes? Project specific, yes, but submit a rebudget request to OSPA Awards Team
- Books for reference library? Yes, as long as they benefit the project
- (rebudget for indirect costs)
- Could be yes if it's a center grant.

When we're trying to zero out an account, but there is extra indirect left, can we spend into the indirect?

Yes, usually you can spend into the indirect as long as the sponsor allows it. The US Department of Education, for example, doesn't allow it.

Tips on managing the spending of IDC. Why would there be too much IDC left at the end of the award?

- Tuition & equipment can be major factors. Spending more than budgeted on those 2 areas can result in more IDC because none is charged on either cost.
- If you can see that there is going to be too much IDC early in the project, work with your SPA Accountant to come up with a correct amount and submit a rebudget request to the OSPA Awards Team.

Is there a disadvantage to zeroing out an account balance? Auditors will look more at costs 90 prior to award close and 90 days after to see if expenses were dumped or CV'ed

SPECS

Quiz – The Grants.gov question about filling in the forms is tricky. It wasn't meant to be, but Diane took responsibility for it☺. We're learning how to format the questions in WebCT so they are fairer.

Suggestion for Quiz retake – It would be nice if you could see which answers are correct.

Deadline for first 5 quizzes – quizzes will be closed at the end of the semester
What will the Final test be like? It will cumulative. OSPA will use questions from the quizzes; SPA hasn't decided yet.

Clarification on Requirements – If you have one or two absences do you still need to do all quizzes? Yes.

The second NCURA video (Effort Reporting) has arrived in OSPA, SPA is reviewing it and then we will set up a time to show it everyone. The first video, Sponsored Programs Fundamentals, can be checked out from OSPA. Just call Diane Wright 4-0984(?) to make arrangements.

Why doesn't the DUNS number on the Institutional Information page have the four 0's at the end? Like zip codes, the DUNS number uses a DUNS Plus 4. ISU doesn't use Plus 4, but the Grants.gov form requires them so we add four zeros to the end of the number (0053098440000).

What is the easiest answer for a PI to understand when they ask "How much money do I have to spend"?

Provide balances for both Before and After commitment.

Access+/ WebFM:

- It's nice, but navigation is awkward especially if you are used to ADIN. How much are people using WebFM? OSPA and SPA are using both WebFM and ADIN. WebFM requires a lot of clicks to get to the screen you want.
- Becky is in the process of enrolling all PIs in WebFM. She is sending lists to grant administrators to confirm.

Troubleshooting

When is Human Resources switching their functions to Access+? Nobody is sure, but some have heard that they are working on it.