

ARRA “Stimulus” Weekly Update, April 24, 2009

I. Reporting

Weekly Submissions to UNC-GA. Information on ARRA-related proposals, preliminary notices of award (i.e. JIT submissions) or actual awards should be submitted to Sarah Smith, with a copy to Courtney Thornton, on a weekly basis by 12:00 p.m. on Thursday. The submission time coincides with the time frame for submitting materials to be discussed at the UNC-GA Council meeting on Monday mornings. This information will be pulled by UNC-GA from RAMSeS and SPARC by June 1st.

Federal Reporting. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) will collect public comments on the proposed reporting requirement as cited in “Updated Implementing Guidance for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009” (M09-15). The Council on Government Relations (COGR) has compiled comments from member institutions and submitted them to OMB. Ellen Zavalla from UNC-Charlotte will be presenting information on COGR activities during the afternoon web-based session of the spring SPARC meeting (pre-award track) scheduled for April 29th. For more information about the SPARC meeting, please contact Sarah Smith at smsmith@northcarolina.edu.

State Reporting: The Office of State Budget Management (OSBM) recently asked state agency Chief Information Officers to complete a survey regarding the proposed OMB reporting element. The survey identifies ~49 data elements and agencies are to identify which, if any, systems currently capture these data elements or if the data resides in hardcopy form only. The intent is to coordinate reporting to NC OpenBook and NC Recovery with the required ARRA reporting and to utilize existing applications, to the extent possible, for tracking grants and contracts information. OSBM has asked UNC-GA to coordinate the System’s response. UNC-GA will have representation to the NC ARRA Information Technology working group and will share resulting information with campuses as it becomes available. Sarah Smith will get campus input to the survey based on the various systems used including RAMSeS, SPARC, RADAR, Banner, FRS, PeopleSoft and other off-line tools. Please contact Sarah Smith at smsmith@northcarolina.edu if you have any questions about the survey.

The Office of Economic Recovery and Investment (OERI) recently issued Management Directive #1, which outlines the reporting requirements for ARRA funds disbursed and received for each ARRA funded grant. The directive is attached to this update. This reporting requirement will be discussed at the spring SPARC meeting (post-award televideo session), scheduled for April 29th. For more information about the SPARC meeting, please contact Sarah Smith at smsmith@northcarolina.edu.

II. Stimulus Resources

The National Council of University Research Administrator (NCURA) recently released a panel discussion on ARRA in a “pod-cast” format entitled “Preparing Your Institution for Stimulus Funding: Part I. The panel is moderated by David Richardson, Assistant Vice President for Research, The Pennsylvania State University and features panelists Denise Clark, Assistant Vice President for Research Administration and Advancement, University of Maryland College Park, Anthony DeCrappeo, President, COGR, Susan Sedwick, Associate Vice President for Research and Director of Sponsored Programs, University of Texas-Austin, and Richard Seligman, Associate Vice President for Research Administration, California Technical Institute. Please contact an NCURA member on your campus for information about the pod-cast.

III. Agency Activity

NIH Commons Error Correction Window: NIH and its partners will extend the electronic application error correction window (the time allowed after the submission deadline to correct errors/warnings identified by the eRA system) to five days for those opportunities with submission dates from April 21, 2009 through May 1, 2009. Although Grants.gov has not exceeded their 48 hour processing target for the vast majority of application submissions, we understand that many applicants will not have an opportunity to see the results of their submission in eRA Commons before the normal two-day error correction window elapses. This extension should allow applicants sufficient time to correct system identified errors or warnings following on-time submission. Please note that the five day correction window is temporary - NIH will return to the normal two-day window on Monday, May 4, 2009. NIH will continue to closely monitor the situation at Grants.gov and will make further adjustments as necessary to protect our applicants' ability to submit on-time. For more information, view Guide Notice NOT-OD-09-087 <<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-09-087.html>> .

The National Science Foundation transmitted a Current Plan to Congressional Appropriators as required under ARRA the week of April 17th. The Plan must be approved prior to release of ARRA funds. NSF posts its weekly activity reports to the following URL: <http://www.nsf.gov/recovery/>.

The White House Office of Legislative Affairs released the first planned NIH funding announcements for North Carolina on April 23rd. UNC Chapel Hill and UNC Charlotte are scheduled to receive awards. The proposals to be funded were previously submitted but not funded due to budget constraints and build on current programs of research.

The Department of Justice Community Oriented Policing (COPS) Hiring Recovery Program (CHRP) application closed on April 14th. 7,263 applications were received for 39,314 officer positions, which represents a total of \$8.342 billion in funding requests. The application vetting, data analysis and application review process began following the application closing and will be conducted on a rolling basis throughout the summer. Several UNC System campuses have requested support for public safety officer positions through the program.

April 9, 2009

MANAGEMENT DIRECTIVE # 1

TO: Senior Management Team for Recovery
FROM: Dempsey Benton, Director 
Office of Economic Recovery and Investment
SUBJECT: Funding and Disbursement Report

It is necessary to remain current with respect to Economic Recovery funds that have been awarded to the State, obligated, disbursed, and for which funds have been drawn. Effective immediately, the attached spreadsheet must be completed and electronically submitted by 12 Noon each Tuesday for all federal awards of recovery funds. The submission must be e-mailed to Jane Smith at Jane.Q.Smith@NC.Gov. Please ensure that staff responsible for this submission meets the above deadline. The first submission is due Tuesday, April 15, 2009 at Noon. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

DB/js

Cc: Zack Ambrose
Charles Perusse

Enclosures: Form
Instructions

INSTRUCTIONS

ARRA Funding and Disbursement Report

This report is a continuing report, but each submission will enter total activity from grant award to date of submission.

1. Enter the Date of Submission
2. Enter the name of the individual submitting the report
3. Enter the name of the Department for whom the report is being submitted.

For each grant award, enter the following:

4. CFDA – Enter the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number for each grant for which the report is being submitted.
5. Grant Award Number – Enter the Grant Award or Grant Agreement Number from the Grant Award document.
6. TAS Number – Enter the TAS Number from the Grant Award document.
7. DUNS Number – Enter the DUNS Number from the Grant Award document.
8. Title of Grant – Enter the Title of the Federal Grant awarded to the Department.
9. Grant Award Amount – Enter the total of the Grant Award, broken by Federal, match/cost share, and other, as it is stated on the Grant Award document.
10. Grant/Budget Period – Provide the Grant and/or Budget period as specified on the Grant Award document.
11. Obligated – Provide the amount of federal funding that remains obligated through either purchase order or contract through the date of each submission.
12. Disbursements – Provide the amount of federal funding that has been disbursed through payments from the date of award through the date of each submission.
13. Drawn down – Provide the amount of federal funding that has been drawn and deposited from the date of award through the date of each submission.

