



RELEASE: Monday, July 28, 2025

Lobo Researchers,

Although our summer communications haven't been as frequent, that in no way indicates our team has slowed down, and there are a number of updates we have for you.

As of last week, all of UNM's terminated National Institutes of Health (NIH) grants have been reinstated, following the judicial order that took immediate effect on June 16; NIH filed its appeal on July 18. Thus, we await additional information from the judiciary on this case. Ultimately, we continue to encourage PIs with funded/reinstated awards to spend down/encumber their funds, in compliance with federal regulations.

In other news, we still have several pending appeals with the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and we remain hopeful for positive outcomes.

The various funding agency (NIH, NSF, DOE, DOD) new policies proposing a cap on F&A rates have been at least temporarily paused by various legal actions. The latest of which came down July 18 on the Department of Defense's proposed 15 percent F&A rate. Several of the involved organizations are tracking these actions, including the Association of Public and Land Grant Universities (APLU). As a helpful resource, APLU's F&A [webpage](#) includes the major developments in all cases.

In addition, the U.S. Senate's proposed National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) bill, released this month, includes language prohibiting modification of indirect cost rates with some caveats. Any changes must be certified through congress and must include evidence of working with the extramural research community, including institutions of higher education as well as an adequate transition time. You can read more about it [here](#) (see Sec. 226).

On July 15, the Joint Associations Group (JAG), a coalition of 10 national organizations, proposed a hybrid model to replace the current F&A reimbursement structure. If you recall, JAG introduced two separate models in June. Based on feedback from research institutions and universities, they have since merged the two into a hybrid model. This model includes:

- Choice of base and expanded options for institutions calculating the F&A
- Certain items that are charged directly to individual projects
- A fixed percentage to cover general research operations costs that cannot be easily attributed to specific projects.



JAG is expected to present this [hybrid model](#) to congress and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in the coming weeks. Although JAG's work on the new F&A model has gained some traction, it remains unclear whether congress and OMB will adopt the proposed model.

All the changes in federal funding processes have set in motion some new agency policies for researchers. Many of these are being initiated through the NIH but will likely be adopted by other agencies over time. Below are links to some of the latest notices (NOTs) on new guidance and policies and how they may affect UNM researchers.

- [NOT-OD-25-132](#): Guidance on use of artificial intelligence and cap on number of proposals accepted per PI. **Effective Sept. 25.**
 - NIH will not consider applications that are either substantially developed by AI, or contain sections substantially developed by AI. NIH may refer the matter to the Office of Research Integrity to determine whether there is research misconduct among other penalties, should AI detection be made post award.
 - NIH will only accept six new, renewal, resubmission, or revision applications from an individual principal investigator/program director or multiple principal investigator for all council rounds in a calendar year (excluding T & R13 codes).
- [NOT-OD-25-131](#): NIH policy and guidelines on the inclusion of women and minorities as subjects in clinical research. This notice provides extensive detailed instructions for clinical studies. If your research deals with these issues, please see the full notification. **Effective 30 days after publication of notice, which was July 17.**
- [NOT-OD-25-130](#): Addresses implementation of the NIH Policy on Foreign Subawards (See [NOT-OD-25-104](#)) for applications submitted *before* May 1, and projects *active on or before* May 1. This notice addresses concerns for participant safety risks for ongoing projects with a short-term supplement model to support clinical research and clinical trials conducted under an active foreign subaward. The supplement approach is in place while NIH finalizes the implementation of a new award structure replacing foreign subawards ([NOT-OD-25-104](#)).

As we prepare for a new academic year, we remember it's not just a time for new beginnings, it's a chance to unite our strengths and talents, reminding ourselves and other Lobos that collectively, we can achieve far greater heights than we ever could alone.

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