

CONTENTS

- **American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) Subcontractor Reporting – Interim Rule Effective July 2, 2010**
- **Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (FFATA) Subcontractor Reporting – Interim Rule Effective July 8, 2010**
- **Important Reminder on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) Awards - University of Hawai'i vs. the United States Recovery Spending Rates**
- **ORS Enhanced Proposal Development Services**
- **Open for Enrollment – Contracts and Grants Certification Program For Administrative Officers, Fiscal Officers and Research Administrative Staff**
- **Changes to the ORS Projects Fiscal Accounting Section**
- **Signature Authorization Memoranda for Principal Investigators ORS Helpline Frequently Asked Questions**
- **ORS Helpline Frequently Asked Questions**

From the Director's Office

Aloha Kākou,

Welcome back!

Hope you all had a restful and productive summer. I would like to welcome new faculty and staff to the University of Hawai'i research community. In this issue, we provide resources for principal investigators, research administrators and fiscal officers who are new to the university system. Please see details below.

We are pleased to report that ORS received \$50.6 million in awards in July 2010, which is a new university record for the month of July! Congratulations!

As you are aware, ORS is committed to provide excellent services to meet the needs of the University of Hawai'i's research enterprises. As part of ORS' continuing improvement, our associate director, Dr. Susanna Tsai, is leading the effort to enhance the proposal development process with a search engine for the ORS website to assist with locating funding opportunities for researchers and project administrators. This enhancement is intended to assist principal investigators with their proposal development and reduce their administrative burden when preparing proposals for submissions. Stay tuned for upcoming announcements about the resources to be made available on the ORS website.

Happy Discovery!

Yaa-Yin Fong

Director, ORS

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) Subcontractor Reporting – Interim Rule Effective July 2, 2010

The Civilian Agency Acquisition Council and the Defense Acquisition Regulations Council have agreed on an interim rule to revise Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Clause 52.204-11 (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act – Reporting Requirements) effective as of July 2, 2010. [Existing American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) task orders, delivery orders and contracts which include the March 2009 version of the clause do not need to be renegotiated.]

Under the interim rule, first-tier subcontractors with ARRA funded awards of \$25,000 or more must report jobs information to the prime contractor for reporting into <http://federalreporting.gov>. The interim rule also requires the prime contractor to submit its first report on or before the 10th day after the end of the calendar quarter in which the prime contractor received the award, then quarterly thereafter.

Interested parties should submit written comments to the Regulatory Secretariat on or before August 31, 2010 to be considered in the formulation of a final rule. Comments may be submitted electronically through <http://www.regulations.gov> for FAR Case 2010-008, by fax at (202) 501-4067, or by mail to General Services Administration, Regulatory Secretariat (MVCB), 1800 F Street, NW, Room 4041, Attn: Hada Flowers, Washington, DC 20405. If submitting comments by fax or mail, cite “FAC 2005-43, FAR Case 2010-008” in all correspondence. All comments received will be posted without change to <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal and/or business confidential information provided.

Should you have any questions, please contact Dawn Kim, Compliance Manager, at dawnk@ors.hawaii.edu or (808) 956-0396.

Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (FFATA) Subcontractor Reporting – Interim Rule Effective July 8, 2010

The Civilian Agency Acquisition Council and the Defense Acquisition Regulations Council have issued an interim rule effective July 8, 2010, amending the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) to implement Section 2 of the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (FFATA) which requires the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to establish a free, public website containing full disclosure of award information for certain federal contracts.

Under the rule, contractors must report executive compensation and first-tier subcontractor awards on contracts expected to be \$25,000 or more, except classified contracts and contracts with individuals. This information will be available to the public at USASpending.gov.

Prime contractors awarded a federal contract or order that is subject to FAR Clause 52.204-10 (Reporting Executive Compensation and First-Tier Subcontract Awards) are required to file a FFATA subaward report by the end of the month following the month in which the prime contractor awards any subcontract greater than \$25,000, then annually thereafter. This reporting requirement will be phased in as follows:

- Reporting starts now for subcontracts under federally-awarded prime contracts and orders valued greater than or equal to \$20,000,000.

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Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (FFATA) Subcontractor Reporting – Interim Rule Effective July 8, 2010 (continued)

- Reporting starts October 1, 2010 for subcontracts under federally-awarded prime contracts and orders valued greater than or equal to \$550,000.
- Reporting starts March 1, 2011 for subcontracts under federally-awarded prime contracts and orders valued greater than or equal to \$25,000.

Contractors must provide these subcontract reports to the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act Subaward Reporting System (FSRS) at <http://www.fsrs.gov/>.

Interested parties should submit written comments to the Regulatory Secretariat on or before September 7, 2010 to be considered in the formulation of a final rule. Comments may be submitted electronically through <http://www.regulations.gov> for FAR Case 2008-039, by fax at (202) 501-4067, or by mail to General Services Administration, Regulatory Secretariat (MVCB), 1800 F Street, NW, Room 4041, Attn: Hada Flowers, Washington, DC 20405. If submitting comments by fax or mail, cite “FAC 2005-44, FAR Case 2008-039” in all correspondence. All comments received will be posted without change to <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal and/or business confidential information provided.

Should you have any questions, please contact Dawn Kim, Compliance Manager, at dawnk@ors.hawaii.edu or (808) 956-0396.

Important Reminder on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) Awards - University of Hawai'i vs. the United States Recovery Spending Rates:

As a reminder, spending on American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) awards should be made timely and expeditiously in accordance with the pace of your project(s). As of June 30, 2010, the University of Hawai'i spent 11 percent (11%) of the total awards received, which is below the national average (see below). While competitive awards generally have initial start up periods, we strongly encourage you to develop and follow an expenditure plan in order to ensure the timeliness of expenditures for the successful completion of your ARRA award(s).

A comparison of average spending rates by major University of Hawai'i ARRA sponsoring agencies as of June 30, 2010 is provided below for your information.

Federal Sponsor	UH	US
Department of Energy	0%	17%
Department of Health and Human Services	10%	80%
Department of Interior	15%	28%
Department of Justice	26%	49%
National Science Foundation	15%	14%

Should you have any questions, please contact Dawn Kim, Compliance Manager, at dawnk@ors.hawaii.edu or (808) 956-0396.

ORS Enhanced Proposal Development Services

ORS would like to welcome new faculty/researchers and staff to the University of Hawai`i. We look forward to working with all of you in your pursuit of research grants. Available ORS resources may be found at our website: <http://www.ors.hawaii.edu/default.asp>. You may also contact the ORS Helpline with any questions at helpline@ors.hawaii.edu or (808) 956-5198.

In addition, as part of ORS' continued commitment to providing excellent services to meet the needs and goals of all University of Hawai`i researchers, we have recently expanded our proposal development services.

A series of proposal development support initiatives and materials are forthcoming. We are currently working on improving the ORS grant search and funding opportunities website, and will be adding new proposal preparation checklists for principal investigators. An announcement will be made once these become available.

Should you have any questions regarding ORS' new enhancements in proposal development services, please contact Dr. Susanna Tsai, Associate Director, at susanna.tsai@hawaii.edu or (808) 956-7800.

Open for Enrollment – Contracts and Grants Certification Program For Administrative Officers, Fiscal Officers and Research Administrative Staff

ORS is proud to provide continuing educational programs to assist administrative officers, fiscal officers and research administrative staff to better understand the contracts and grants process.

Topics for this certification program include:

- Research Administration Overview and Research Compliance
- Financial Compliance Issues and Subrecipient Monitoring
- Facility and Administrative Costs (Indirect Costs), Cost Sharing and Program Income
- Proposal Preparation and Processing, Proposal Budget Preparation and Review and Approval of Contracts and Other Award Documents
- Receiving and Administering an Award, Project Closeout and Compliance Revisited
- Electronic Research Administration Tools and InfoEd Grants Management Tools

The program for this fall will be held on Wednesdays from September 22, 2010 to October 27, 2010 and is comprised of six modules, three of which will be held at the University of Hawai`i at Mānoa in Kuykendall 201 on September 22, September 29, and October 27, 2010 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The remaining three modules will be available online.

Live broadcasts of the Kuykendall sessions will be made available to Honolulu Community College, Leeward Community College, Kaua`i Community College, University of Hawai`i Maui College (UHMC), Molokai Education Center, University of Hawai`i at Hilo, and University of Hawai`i – West Oahu. Arrangements are still pending with Windward Community College and the UHMC Lana`i Education Center. There will be no live broadcast available for the Kapi`olani Community College so please feel free to sign up for an alternate site if you are interested in attending.

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Open for Enrollment – Contracts and Grants Certification Program For Administrative Officers, Fiscal Officers and Research Administrative Staff

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The registration deadline for the fall session is Monday, September 5, 2010. Please register online at <http://www.ors.hawaii.edu/education-and-training.asp>

For more information on this fall's certification program, visit us at <http://www.ors.hawaii.edu/for-ao.asp>.

Changes to the ORS Projects Fiscal Accounting Section

Effective August 1, 2010, the ORS Projects Fiscal Accounting Section has been restructured to meet ongoing commitments to the university's research community and work on the Kualii Financial System. Please see the updated ORS Directory at <http://www.ors.hawaii.edu/projectsfiscalaccounting.asp> for the changes.

If you have any questions, please contact Janis Morita, Projects Fiscal Accounting Manager, at morita@hawaii.edu or (808) 956-6959.

Signature Authorization Memoranda for Principal Investigators

Under ORS policy, principal investigators (PIs) must personally sign the ORS Form 5 and no signature delegations are allowed. In addition, since ORS is not part of the University of Hawai'i procurement process for purchases, payroll or travel, the PI out of town signature authorization memoranda do not impact ORS. Therefore, to save trees, ORS no longer needs to be copied on the PI's out of office signature authorization memoranda. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

As a note, ORS generally communicates directly with the PIs regarding proposal and award matters through email, and ORS will continue to contact the PI's fiscal officer if an out of office message is received as an email reply from the PI.

ORS Helpline Frequently Asked Questions

Is there a way to get notifications for new grant opportunities?

You may set up a new opportunity RSS feed from the grants.gov website which continually updates with any new grants.gov opportunities. More information on setting up grants.gov RSS feeds may be found at <http://grants.gov/help/rss.jsp>.

Alternatively, you may set up daily email notifications using set parameters to narrow your search at http://grants.gov/applicants/email_subscription.jsp.

Are there any other resources for finding new grant opportunities?

The ORS website contains links to many grant search engines and opportunity listings at <http://www.ors.hawaii.edu/search.asp>.

There are also agency specific grant listings, so if you are interested in a grant from a specific agency, you may either set up the grants.gov agency-specific email notifications or check the specific agency's website for more information.