

Summary of Significant Changes to the NIH GPS for March 2015 Version
(Guide Notices Issued Before March 30, 2015)

The revised NIH Grants Policy Statement (NIHGPS, rev. 3/31/2015) represents an update to the 10/01/2013 version and is applicable to all NIH grants and cooperative agreements beginning on or after December 26, 2014 and awards that received supplemental funding on or after December 26, 2014. This version incorporates new and modified requirements, clarifies certain policies, and implements changes in statutes, regulations, and policies that have been implemented through appropriate legal and/or policy processes since the previous version of the NIHGPS dated 10/01/2013. The 3/31/2015 revision supersedes, in its entirety, the NIH Grants Policy Statement (10/01/2013) and the NIH Interim General Grant Conditions (2/5/2015) as a standard term and condition of the award.

Notable Policy Changes: Implements new policies and clarification of existing policies announced in the NIH Guide since October 2013, and listed at [Grants Policy & Guidance](#).

Regulatory and OMB Circular Citations: References to Department of Health and Human Services’ (HHS) implementing administrative regulations have been changed from 45 CFR Parts 74 and 92 to 45 CFR Part 75 based on the Office of Management and Budget’s (OMB) consolidation of several circulars under *the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards – Final Rule* (“Uniform Guidance”) have been made through the NIH GPS. Likewise, references to former OMB grants circulars have be updated to cite the appropriate subpart of 2 CFR 200. (See [NOT-OD-15-046](#).)

Section	Significant Changes	Reason
PART 1: NIH Grants – General Information Chapter 1 – Glossary & Definitions	Modified definitions of 39 terms and removed 6 other terms from Exhibit 2: Definitions of terms used in the Grants Policy Statement. Added 56 new terms in Exhibit 2.	Alignment with 45 CFR Part 75, HHS’ implementation of OMB’s “Uniform Guidance”
	Revised NIH definition of clinical trial.	Implements policy announced in NOT-OD-15-015 .
Chapter 2 – The National Institutes of Health as a Grant-Making Organization	Sections 2.3.7.4 and 2.4.4 Clarified policies related to resubmission of applications.	Implements policies announced in NOT-OD-14-074 and NOT-OD-14-082 .
	Section 2.3.7.7 Clarified policies related to videos submitted as application materials.	Aligns text with policies previously announced in NOT-OD-12-141 and NOT-OD-13-030 .
	Section 2.3.7.9 Graduate Student Compensation: Clarified that the maximum	Provides further detail consistent with the explanation provided in Part III.1.9 of the

	amount NIH will award for the support of a graduate student on a research grant or a cooperative agreement is tied to the National Research Service Award (NRSA) zero-level stipend in effect on the Federal award date.	Supplemental Grant Application Instructions For All Competing Applications and Progress Reports based on policy originally announced in NOT-OD-02-017 .
	Section 2.3.9.2 Application Submission: Revises policy on late application submission.	Implements policy announced in NOT-OD-15-039 .
	Section 2.3.11.2 Confidentiality of Information: Reminds NIH peer review members and NIH Advisory Council members of their responsibility concerning, and rules that apply to, confidentiality in the NIH peer review process.	Implements policy announced in NOT-OD-14-073 .
	Section 2.5.1 Just-in-Time: Adds Genomic Data Sharing information.	Provides further detail consistent with the explanation provided in Part III.1.7 of the Supplemental Grant Application Instructions For All Competing Applications and Progress Reports
PART II: Terms and Conditions of NIH Grant Awards Chapter 4 – Public Policy Requirements, Objectives and Other Appropriation Mandates	Section 4.1.1 Animal Welfare Requirements: Added prohibition on using funds to procure or support the use of dogs from Class B dealers.	Implements policies announced in NOT-OD-14-034 .
	Section 4.1.24.2 Dual Use Research of Concern: Updates NIH’s DURC policy to require that recipients implement the Policy by September 25, 2015.	Implements policies announced in NOT-OD-15-017 .
	Section 4.1.34 Incorporates implementation of Pilot Program for Enhancement of Employee Whistleblower Protections.	Implements policies announced in NOT-OD-14-068 .
	Section 4.2.11 Appropriations Mandates - Added a restriction of pornography on computer networks based on FY 2014 appropriations law.	Implements policies announced in NOT-OD-14-062 .
	Section 4.2.12 Appropriations Mandates -	Implements policies announced in NOT-OD-

	Added a provision for compliance with guidance on the spread of the ebola virus for grants funded under Division G, Title VI – Ebola Response and Preparedness of the FY 2015 Consolidated Appropriations and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015 (Public Law 113-235).	15-054 .
Chapter 7 – Cost Considerations	Section 7.9.1 Selected Items of Cost: Terms and descriptions of several cost items modified to align with 45 CFR Part 75.	Alignment with 45 CFR Part 75, HHS’ implementation of OMB’s “Uniform Guidance”
Chapter 8 – Administrative Requirements	Sections 8.1.1.5 through 8.1.1.8: Incorporates as additional NIH Standard Award Terms waivers of certain additional cost-related and administrative prior approvals	Alignment with 45 CFR Part 75, HHS’ implementation of OMB’s “Uniform Guidance,” including expanded authorities to waive certain cost-related and administrative prior approvals.
	Section 8.2.3.3 Genomic Data Sharing (GDS) Policy/Policy for Genome-Wide Association Studies (GWAS): Expands policy initially introduced in 2007, effective January 25, 2015.	Implements policies announced in NOT-OD-14-111 and NOT-OD-14-124 .
	Section 8.4.1.1 Requires use of the Research Performance Progress Report (RPPR) for all Type 5 progress reports. Requires use of Inclusion Management System (IMS) for reporting inclusion enrollment data, if applicable.	Implements policies announced in NOT-OD-14-092 and NOT-OD-15-014 . Implements policy announced in NOT-OD-14-085 , NOT-OD-14-086 , and NOT-OD-15-005 .
	Section 8.4.1.1.2 Revised Policy: Descriptions on the Use of Individual Development Plans (IDPs) for Graduate Students and Postdoctoral Researchers Required in Annual Progress Reports beginning October 1, 2014.	Implements policy announced in NOT-OD-14-113 .
	Section 8.4.1.3 Progress Reports for Multiyear Funded Awards: Requires use of the RPPR for these awards made after January 1, 2014.	Implements policies announced in NOT-OD-14-026 .

	Section 8.6 Closeout: Informs grantees of unilateral closeout procedure and potential enforcement actions; cross-references record retention requirements. Also specifies timeframe for submission of final grant reports required for closeout as no later than 120 days from project end date.	Implements policies announced in NOT-OD-14-084 and NIH Interim General Grant Conditions.
Chapter 11– Ruth L. Kirchstein National Research Service Awards	Section 11.2.2.3 Eligibility: Predoctoral candidates.	Implements policies announced in NOT-OD-14-133 and NOT-OD-14-134 .
	Section 11.2.6 Period of Support: For individual dual-doctoral degree fellows, limits aggregate support to no more than 6 year of which at least 50 percent of the award period must be devoted to graduate research training leading to the doctoral research degree. Stipulates that these applicants must have matriculated into a dual-degree program no more than 48 months prior to the due date of the initial (-01) application.	Implements policies announced in NOT-OD-14-056 . Implements policy announced in NOT-OD-14-072 .
	Section 11.2.11.1 Activation Notice: Revised to reflect that an Activation Notice is required for the initial year only for all fellowships.	Implements policy announced in NOT-OD-14-101 .
	Section 11.2.11.3 Termination Notice: Clarifying what information to report in the “Amount of Stipend” column.	Clarification of form instructions.
	Section 11.3.3.4 Updates Diversity Statement based on recent available data.	Implements policy announced in NOT-OD-15-053 .
	Section 11.3.16.1 Other Terms and Conditions, Leave: Broadens application of family-friendly leave to full-time trainees under institutional training grants.	Encouragement of family-friendly fringe benefits in the Uniform Guidance (2 CFR 200.431)
Chapter 12 – Research Career Development (“K”) Awards	Section 12.3.1 Clarifies that foreign components, as defined in the NIH Grants Policy Statement, are eligible to apply for career development (K series) awards.	Implements policy announced in NOT-OD-14-088 .

Chapter 18 – Grants to For-Profit Organizations	Section 18.5 Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Programs: Enabled applicants to “switch” between programs to any active and open NIH SBIR or STTR solicitation, including the Omnibus and any targeted funding opportunity. Launched a pilot program allowing an eligible small business entity to apply directly to Phase II if it had already completed Phase I-like research and development work using funding from sources other than the SBIR/STTR program.	Implements policies announced in NOT-OD-14-048 and PAR-14-088 .
--	--	---