RAPSS Phase II Launching in August

Phase II of the Research Administration and Proposal Submission System (RAPSS), will launch in August. The completion of Phase II provides the expanded functionality of RAPSS that includes the review, approval, submission, and tracking of all funding proposals for research at Rutgers. Currently RAPSS is being used to process new proposal submissions to federal agencies that use Grants.gov.

As noted by the Office of Research and Economic Development (ORED), “RAPSS will now include information for the initial set-up and tracking of research-related awards as well as the management and tracking of research agreements, subawards, and on-going adjustments to research funding via awards modifications. Additionally, the request and approval process of advance accounts will be migrating to RAPSS. This electronic gateway will be utilized by both the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs (ORSP) and the Office of Corporate Contracts (OCC).”

Starting in August, RAPSS is mandatory for all new applications, regardless of the sponsor, for the internal endorsement of the proposal. As per the Office of Research and Economic Development, “for applications to federal agencies being submitted through Grants.gov, RAPSS must be used for the formal submission as long as the agency’s application package is compatible with RAPSS. In the event that the application forms are not compatible with RAPSS, applicants must still use RAPSS for the internal endorsement. But the formal submission will need to be prepared and submitted outside of the system using the downloaded Grants.gov application package.”

Certain agencies, for example the National Science Foundation (NSF), maintain their own submission system. In a case like this, RAPSS must be used for the internal endorsement of the proposal. However, the agency’s submission system will be used for the submission of the application.

Please contact the Office of Sponsored Research if you have any questions regarding the submission of your proposal and its compatibility with RAPSS.

The Office of Research and Sponsored Programs (ORSP) is offering training sessions for users to learn the RAPSS system. All training is conducted in the RAPSS training environment, available here. The training system (sandbox site) is available regardless of whether or not a training session has been attended.

RAPSS Phase II training sessions will be held on the Rutgers University-Camden campus on Wednesday, July 6th and Friday, July 22nd. 24 hours advance registration is required. More information regarding the training sessions is available on page four of this newsletter.

All faculty and staff who have been or will be submitting grants are strongly encouraged to attend the RAPSS Phase II Training. The session will also include the “Approver” training for those who normally approve the endorsement form. Also, these sessions will cover training on agreements, awards, modifications and subawards along with the incorporation of online training for some of these modules. Register here.
Periodically, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) updates the grant application forms. NIH posted the new FORMS-D application guide on March 25, 2016. It is available on the NIH website—http://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide/forms-d/general-forms-d.pdf. This new application guide is to be used with applications due on or after May 25, 2016.

Information regarding the changes to the FORMS-D application packages can be obtained at http://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide.htm. Also, information is available on NIH’s Forms Update section of the web page—http://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms_updates_faq.htm.

Rutgers University Endorsement Process

Meeting the proposal deadlines is critical. Internal deadlines are now in place and must be met.

Currently the “funding proposal” in RAPSS serves as the endorsement form for all new Grants.gov grant submissions. Also, the funding proposal in RAPSS will now serve as the endorsement form for submissions to the National Science Foundation (NSF). All other proposal submissions should use the new two page endorsement form (http://orsp.rutgers.edu/endorsement-form). The endorsement form is required for all proposals, awards (new and non-competing), contracts/agreements, and clinical trials.

Please remember that a completed and signed endorsement form is needed by the Office of Sponsored Research 5 days prior to the submission deadline. In addition to the Endorsement Form, the following documents are required for the submission of a proposal at the 5 and 2 business day deadlines:

Documents Requested at Five (5) Business Day Deadline (12 pm noon)
* Completed Endorsement Form with PI signature and working project title
* Sponsor’s guidelines
* Final proposal excluding final science
* Final budget with budget justification

Documents Requested at Two (2) Business Day Deadline (12 pm noon)
* Final Science, which may include:
  * Project Summary/Abstract
  * Project Narrative
  * Bibliography & References Cited
  * Facilities & Other Resources
  * Specific Aims
  * Research Strategy

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* Final proposal excluding final science
* Final budget with budget justification

* Subaward documents (if applicable):
  * Budget
  * Budget Justification
  * Statement of Work
  * Letter of Commitment

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  * Specific Aims
  * Research Strategy
Pilot Project Grants are available to support cancer-related research projects that can be completed in one year. As per the request for proposals (RFP), “The goal of this pilot project grant program is to provide the opportunity for early career faculty who are independent and self-directed to obtain preliminary results that will allow them to compete successfully for national research grants. Through this competition four awards of $50,000 are available as follows:

* Three awards will be made in the areas of cancer biology, and/or the detection, treatment, and prevention of cancer, from outstanding basic science, clinical, or population science proposals.
* One additional award will be dedicated to a junior faculty member whose research aligns with the current special interest priorities of the American Cancer Society (ACS), which are “psychosocial and behavioral research, health policy or health services research, cancer in the poor and medically underserved, and childhood cancer.”

Eligible Applicants:

* Rutgers University and Princeton University faculty members who are within 6 years of their initial academic appointment as assistant professor or equivalent, and
* Do not currently have an award from a national, peer-reviewed competition.

Applications became available on April 5, 2016. **The application deadline is noon, July 1, 2016.** Please be aware that applications received after the deadline may not be considered. For more information and to obtain an application e-mail cinjpiilotprogram@cinj.rutgers.edu.

GrantForward—a New Tool for Finding Funding Opportunities

Rutgers University has recently subscribed to GrantForward Funding Opportunity Search and Recommendation service, that is available to all faculty and staff. The Office of Research Development (ORED) states, that “GrantForward is a startup from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, launched by professor of computer science, and his research team”. GrantForward will be replacing PIVOT. PIVOT will no longer be available as of June 30, 2016.

GrantForward (see quick overview video) enables users to find grant opportunities relevant to their research needs with a database of grants containing over 12,000 sponsors. The information is updated daily. Funding searches for grants can be conducted using keywords and advanced filters. Users can save their favorite searches for new grant alerts and save favorite grant opportunities to keep track of them. Also, GrantForward is able to provide grant recommendations to users based on the information provided in their CV, past publications, and research interests.

ORED states, “You can access GrantForward at www.grantforward.com or from the ORED website. In order to be able to use full search features including saved-search and personalized grant recommendations, please sign up (view demo) for a user account with your Rutgers email address.

“Attached is a Researcher Welcome Guide for you to be able to quickly get started with using GrantForward. You can also find additional tutorials and guides on GrantForward Support page, or view the video tutorials on their YouTube Channel. If you require any assistance, please contact support@grantforward.com.”

If you have any questions or concerns, contact Jacquelyn Williams (jacquelyn.williams@rutgers.edu, 848-932-9982) in the Office of Research Development.
National Science Foundation’s Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Program

The Faculty Early Career Development program is a National Science Foundation (NSF) award available to support junior faculty. If you are planning to submit a proposal, contact the Office of Sponsored Research as soon as possible.

The Office of Research and Economic Development has a Sakai site with information to assist faculty with their NSF Career proposals. Contact the Office of Sponsored Research if you would like to obtain access to the Sakai website.

The NSF due dates for proposals are as follows:
- Full Proposal Deadline Date: July 20, 2016 (BIO, CISE, EHR)
- Full Proposal Deadline Date: July 21, 2016 (ENG)
- Full Proposal Deadline Date: July 22, 2016 (GEO, MPS, SBE)


Fulbright – Deadline is August 1st

This is a reminder that the deadline to submit a Fulbright application is coming soon. Please be sure to submit your Fulbright application before or by the August 1, 2016 deadline.

The Fulbright Scholar Program offers U.S. college faculty, professionals and administrators grants for research, lectures and seminars. The programs available include the following:
- Core
- Distinguished Chairs
- Specialists

· International Education Administrators (IEA)
· Nexus Regional

Again, the deadline for the Core Fulbright Scholar and Distinguished Chair Programs is August 1, 2016.


National Endowment for the Humanities
2017 Summer Stipend Competition

The National Endowment for the Humanities has announced the 2017 Summer Stipends competition. The award is $6,000. Rutgers-Camden may submit a maximum of two nominations for consideration.

The Summer Stipend program is a great way to earn summer salary and work on a research project.

NOMINATION PROCESS AT RUTGERS-CAMDEN CAMPUS

Faculty members teaching full-time at colleges and universities must be nominated by their institutions to apply for a Summer Stipend.

Any faculty member with a humanities project may apply for nomination for a Summer Stipend. The field of the project determines the eligibility for nomination to and application for NEH Summer Stipends, not the field of the applicant.

If you are interested in applying please submit the following: a cover sheet, a narrative of your project (text must not exceed three single-spaced pages) and a 2-page resume to the Rutgers-Camden Office of Sponsored Research by 4:30 PM on Monday, July 18, 2016. Please forward the application packet to the following:

Camie Morrison
Director
Office of Sponsored Research
311 North 5th Street, Room 351
Camden, NJ 08102
Email: cam-mor@camden.rutgers.edu

The cover sheet should contain:
- Name
- Title
- Address
- Telephone number
- Fax numbers
- Email address
- Status (junior or senior scholar) *
- Field of study
- Project field of study
- Title of project
- Names and e-mail addresses for your two recommenders. Also identify their respective departments and institutions.

* Junior scholars are defined as those who are seven years or fewer beyond their final degree; senior scholars are defined as those who are eight years or more beyond their final degree.

If you are a foreign national, identify your country of citizenship and the month and year you entered the United States—see eligibility requirements at the NEH website noted below.

Please review the eligibility requirements, nominations and project narrative information. For additional information visit the NEH website at http://www.neh.gov/grants/research/summer-stipends.

Please contact Camie Morrison, Director of Sponsored Research if you have any questions at 856-225-294.
RAPSS Phase II Training Sessions

Phase II of the Research Administration and Proposal Submission System (RAPSS) will be launching in August. Phase II will include the review, approval, submission and tracking of all funding proposals. The paper endorsement form will no longer be used. All grants will be submitted via RAPSS except for those certain agencies, such as the NSF, that maintain their own submission system. In such cases, RAPSS must be used for the internal endorsement of the proposal, but the agency's submission system will be used for the formal submission of the application.

There will be **RAPSS PI & Proposal Team Training** sessions for the Camden campus on Wednesday, July 6, 2016 and Friday, July 22, 2016.

All faculty and staff who have been or will be submitting grants are strongly encouraged to attend the **RAPSS PI & Proposal Team Training** session. The session will also include information about the "Approver" training portion for those who normally approve the endorsement form. Approvers may attend the session to learn more about the overall process.

We hope that you will be able to sign up for one of the sessions listed below.

**RAPSS Training Sessions**

**Date:** Wednesday, July 6, 2016  
**Location:** Rutgers-Camden—Armitage Hall, Room 101  
The afternoon session is a repeat of the morning session. Only one session needs to be attended.

- 9:00 am to 11:00 am – PI & Proposal Team Training  
- 12:30 pm to 2:30 pm – PI & Proposal Team Training

**RAPSS Training Session**

**Date:** Friday, July 22, 2016  
**Location:** Rutgers-Camden—Armitage Hall, Room 101  

- 9:00 am to 11:00 am – PI & Proposal Team Training

At least 24 hours advance registration is required. Please register for the training here – [http://marcy-cfinstext.rbhs.rutgers.edu/rutrprod/eproc/GenRegister.cfm](http://marcy-cfinstext.rbhs.rutgers.edu/rutrprod/eproc/GenRegister.cfm)

Contact Camie Morrison (cammor@camden.rutgers.edu or 856-225-2949), Director of Sponsored Research, if you have any questions or concerns regarding the RAPSS training sessions.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important training session.

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**RAPSS Approver Training Video**

In lieu of the Approver Training previously offered, please reference the "Review Funding Proposal" training video located here for guidance: [https://ored.rutgers.edu/rapss/video-guides](https://ored.rutgers.edu/rapss/video-guides). It would be greatly appreciated if all faculty and staff who have been designated as approvers for their Departments, Centers or Schools watch the approver training video.