



G&CA Alert!

Yale University
Grant and Contract Administration
Grant and Contract Financial Administration
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Alert(s):

- Important Information Regarding No-Cost Extension Requests for ARRA Supplements

“Please alert your faculty and staff to allow at least 30 days notice for GCA to process NIH ARRA Supplement No-Cost Extension requests and encourage this as a regular practice for all GRANTEE approved requests.”

Important Information Regarding No-Cost Extension Requests for ARRA Supplements

NIH is experiencing difficulties extending NIH ARRA supplements in the NIH eRA Commons system and as a result GCA requires additional lead time to process these types of requests.

As you know, we request thirty (30) days notice for all requests for GRANTEE approved (approved by the GCA office) No-Cost Extensions and forty-five (45) days notice for GRANTOR approved (request made to the sponsor) No-Cost Extensions. However, many requests come to us during the last week of the month in which the grant is expiring.

Some of the facts surrounding no-cost extensions, in general, are:

- GRANTEE approved requests to NIH or NSF require minimal review and an Authorized Official in GCA can access eRA Commons or NSF Fastlane and activate the extension period (no earlier than 90 days prior to the grant's expiration date).
 - The Award Setup Unit (ASU) still completes all of the necessary compliance checks before extending the Yale award number.
- GRANTOR approved requests to NIH or NSF involve making an official request to the sponsor which includes the unobligated balance, a technical justification why an extension is required, or even a full progress report and detailed budget. These requests must be reviewed and approved by NIH or NSF. Once approved, the sponsor generates a revised award notification.
 - The Yale award remains closed until the revised award is received.
- Non-ARRA Supplements usually follow the project period of the parent award and can be extended with the parent.
- ARRA Supplements, however, are being treated as unique “stand alone” grants by NIH and as such, can be extended separate from the parent grant.

Additional time is needed to initiate requests for ARRA Supplement extensions because of the following issues:

- The “extension” link in eRA Commons which allows us to initiate a No-Cost Extension for NIH is not showing automatically.
- We must contact the eRA Commons HelpDesk and generate a work order for the “extension” link to be activated in each individual instance.
- It takes several days to generate the correction, necessitating tracking and follow-up and so we risk missing the “deadline” or end date of the award.
- If not accomplished by the end date of an award, a request to the NIH Grants Management Specialist will be necessary which may generate substantially more paperwork and red tape as described above.

Please alert your faculty and staff to allow at least 30 days notice for GCA to process NIH ARRA supplement No Cost Extension Requests and encourage this as a regular practice for all GRANTEE approved requests.

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