

SPECIAL AWARD CONDITIONS
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Economic Development Administration (EDA)

NON-CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS: Grants under Section 27 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980, as amended (15 U.S.C. §3722)—Regional Innovation Program (i6 Challenge, Cluster Grants for Seed Capital Funds, Science and Research Park Development Grants)

1. AWARD

This award number **ED15HDQ0300035** (the “Award”), to **Cal Poly Corporation**, supports the work described in the approved final scope of work, which is incorporated by reference into this Award, as the *Authorized Scope of Work*. All work on the project (Planning To Support Expansion of the Cal Poly Technology Park into a Master Planned Innovation Complex) must be consistent with the *Authorized Scope of Work*, unless the Grants Officer has authorized a modification of the scope of work in writing through an amendment memorialized through execution of a Form CD-451.

The *Authorized Scope of Work* for this project includes:

Task 1 – Strategic & Master Planning Coordination - Vision 2022, adopted May 2014, sets the framework for more focused planning on two major initiatives: The Academic Plan for Enrollment and Campus Master Plan. Both plans will extend the principles and values of Vision 2022 to the year 2030 and beyond. The Academic Plan will direct Cal Poly toward the future as the premier comprehensive polytechnic university. It will forecast what graduates need to learn and do to be successful and then shape future curriculum and support programs to meet those needs. The new Master Plan will translate academic and program requirements into the physical design of the campus. Vision 2022 and the Academic Plan will also guide other more specific activities, including findings from the recent campus climate survey. Task 1 will provide “grounding” for all programming and scoping to be accomplished in Task 3 below to ensure all plans for further Technology Park buildings will be consistent with these long term plans for Cal Poly. This task will be initiated at contract award and will have a period of duration of 12 months.

Task 2 – Update Market Study – In 2003 a thorough study was completed for Cal Poly to confirm that a technology park project would satisfy a demand for R&D space in San Luis Obispo on the Cal Poly campus. In February 2003 Hammer, Siler, George Associates (“HSGA”), a national economic and real estate consulting firm with expertise in university-affiliated research parks, completed the “CAL POLY TECHNOLOGY PARK MARKET AND FEASIBILITY ANALYSIS”. It evaluated the potential for the Technology Park based on a comparison between Cal Poly and other similar universities with successful technology / research parks, taking into account factors within universities as well as local economic factors. The report forecasted an annual absorption rate of 22,500 to 27,500 square feet per year for a Cal Poly-based park. The report also concluded that a technology park at Cal Poly is both marketable and feasible, that there is minimal downside financial risk, and that there should be considerable long-term benefit through the expected creation of high-paying jobs. Under Task 2, an economic and real estate consulting firm will be retained to provide context and update the existing plan from 2003 to better inform the current state of the market in the San Luis Obispo region for additional research space. This task will be initiated at contract award and will be completed within six months.

Task 3 Programming – Through existing procurement mechanisms, FP&CP will solicit a Request for Proposal (RFP) to retain the services of a licensed architect in the State of California with verifiable experience designing research facilities for university science/technology programs. The architect will

program the project so it is capable of achieving a standard equivalent to LEED Gold and will meet the CSU Sustainability Measurement System guidelines. In addition to programming for the next Technology Park building, the service provider will provide a conceptual construction estimate and assist with the submission of a Capital Outlay Proposal (COP) to the California State University Chancellor's Office. In general, the study will explore the overall space needs of the University for the proposed approximately 25,000 gross square foot research facilities, and provide programming overall build out of the Innovation Complex. This task will be initiated at contract award and will be completed within twelve months. Specific services under this task will include:

3.1 Feasibility Study - The Feasibility Study will include a statement of the project's goals, activities to be accommodated, and special requirements or considerations that will guide the study. It will also include a summary of key requirements of governing codes and regulations, including major program requirements and constraints, and analysis of project delivery options and strategies.

3.2 Program Requirements - The development and documentation of detailed requirements for the project will include the covering of design objectives, limitations, and criteria, the gross area and space requirements, spatial relationships, needs for flexibility or expandability, special equipment and systems, site requirements, and project budget requirements. The development of component diagrams and flow diagrams (adjacencies) will be used to determine requirements, functional relationships and access, and circulation and flow patterns within the structure and on the site.

Research of Project Type - The architect will conduct research of the project type with the goal of becoming familiar with aspects of the building type, such as the types of spaces frequently included and the space criteria (number of square feet per person or unit) for spaces based on space type, and CSU criteria, and results from the market study in Task 2. The goal of this research is to determine the typical relationships of spaces for functions, the typical ratios of Net Assignable Square Footage to Gross Square Footages for building type, the typical costs per square foot for building type, and the typical site requirements for project type.

Establish Goals and Objectives - The architect will work with a Cal Poly Project Committee and private sector end-users to solicit and suggest broad goal statements to guide the programming process. The Organization Goals will include the University's goals, where we are headed, and how the project fits into the broad picture. The Form and Image Goals will include the aesthetic and psychological impacts of design, the relationship to surroundings, the image similar to or distinct from neighbors, and the context implications. The Function Goals will include major functions in building and the number of people that need to be accommodated for. The Economic Goals will include the total project budget, our attitude toward initial costs versus long-range operating and maintenance costs, the level of quality desired, and our attitude toward conservation of resources and sustainability. The Time Goals will include milestone dates through Project occupancy and anticipated changes and the Management Goals will include submission of a Capital Outlay Proposal (COP) to the Chancellor's Office.

Task 3 Final Program Summary Deliverable - The program summary will state the architectural problem clearly and concisely by documenting pertinent information and writing salient summary statements that define results. The summary statements will include the following: Functional Program, Form/Site, Building/Economy, and Time. The Functional Program consists of performance requirements to satisfy the needs of users and accommodate the major activities in the project, which will be created by the relationship among activities in the project. The Form/Site identifies and abstracts influences on the building design, including the major form-giving influences of the site, the salient environmental influences, and the quality of the project and its implications. The Building/Economy is the budget and its influence on the fabric

and geometry of the building, design directive for operating costs, and reconciliation between possible differences between initial budget and life cycle costs. And Time consists of the Project Schedule, which includes phasing of construction for concurrent occupancy, final occupancy, durations and linear/concurrent scheduling.

Preliminary (design development) and construction documents will be developed for at least a 25,000 square foot building as a final deliverable for this task.

Sustainability - Sustainability issues will be addressed during and incorporated into each phase of the project: Programming, schematic, preliminary (design development), construction documents, construction, inspection, startup, and commissioning. Using life cycle cost analysis, the project design shall incorporate the concepts of sustainability. While all projects may not pursue certification, projects shall be designed to a LEED Silver standard or higher.

3.3 Cost Estimates - The consultant will produce a best professional estimate of actual costs anticipated. The Economic Feasibility is the cost estimate analysis, which includes the efficiency ratio of net to gross area, the cost per square foot escalated to mid-construction, and other expenditures as percentages of building cost. The balance budget is based on space requirements, quality of construction, money budgeted, and time. Phasing of construction may be considered as an alternative. We will identify options for cost control, such as space reduction and levels of quality.

4.0 Environmental Documentation Update – In June of 2008 Crawford, Multari, and Clark completed a California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration for the existing Technology Park site. Cal Poly will engage an environmental consulting firm to update sections of the study, in particular traffic, to ensure CEQA requirements are met. This task will be initiated at contract award and will be completed within six months.

The application, including any attachments, project descriptions, and subsequently submitted supplemental documentation are hereby incorporated by reference into this Award. Where the terms of the application materials and the Award differ, the Award shall prevail.

2. UNIFORM ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS, COST PRINCIPLES, AND AUDIT REQUIREMENTS FOR FEDERAL ASSISTANCE AWARDS

3. ALONG WITH OTHER CONTROLLING LAW, THIS AWARD IS GOVERNED BY THE UNIFORM ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS, COST PRINCIPLES, AND AUDIT REQUIREMENTS AS SET FORTH IN 2 C.F.R. PART 200, WHICH SUPERSEDED OMB CIRCULAR A-21 (COST PRINCIPLES), OMB CIRCULAR A-133, AS WELL AS 15 C.F.R. PARTS 14 AND 24 ON DECEMBER 26, 2014.PROJECT DEVELOPMENT TIME SCHEDULE

The Recipient agrees to the following Project development time schedule:

Action Item	Due
Return of Executed Financial Assistance Award	No later than (NLT) 30 calendar days after receipt of Form CD-450/CD-451
Scheduling of Kick-Off Meeting	NLT 30 calendar days after receipt of Form CD-450/CD-451
Finalization of Work Schedule	NLT the date of the Kick-Off Meeting
Submission of Final Project Progress Report	NLT 30 calendar days from the Award End Date
Submission of Final Financial Documents (SF-425)	NLT 90 calendar days from the Award End Date

The Recipient shall diligently pursue the development and implementation of the Project upon receipt of an EDA Award so as to ensure completion within this time schedule. Moreover, the Recipient shall promptly notify EDA in writing of any event which could substantially delay meeting any of the proscribed time limits for the Project as set forth above. The Recipient further acknowledges that failure to meet the development time schedule may result in EDA's taking action to terminate the Award in accordance with the regulations set forth at 2 C.F.R. § 200.338 through 2 C.F.R. § 200.342, as applicable.

4. PROJECT REPORTING AND FINANCIAL DISBURSEMENTS INSTRUCTIONS

a. Award Disbursements

EDA will make Award payments using the Department of Treasury's Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP) system. The Recipient is required to furnish documentation as required by ASAP including but not limited to Recipient and Requestor Identification Numbers. Complete information concerning the ASAP system may be obtained by visiting www.fms.treas.gov/asap.

In order to receive payments, Recipients must submit a Form SF-270 "*Request for Advance or Reimbursement*" for the applicable period electronically to the Project Officer, who will review and process the request.

Please note that prior to the initial disbursement, Recipients must complete the attached Form SF-3881, "*ACH Vendor/Miscellaneous Payment Enrollment Form*" and submit it to NOAA's Accounting Office by FAX to 301-528-3675 (*FAX is required to secure confidentiality of sensitive information*). The form must be completed by the respective parties (EDA, Recipient Bank, and Recipient) at the start of each new award.

b. Reports

i. Performance Progress Reports:

The Recipient agrees to provide EDA with Performance Progress Reports, which will communicate the important activities and accomplishments of the Project, on a semi-annual basis for the periods ending **March 31** and **September 30**, or any portion thereof. Reports are due no later than 1 month following the end of the period. All reports should be submitted via the Grants Online grants management portal.

Performance Progress Reports should be submitted to EDA in an electronic format no later than the dates outlined above in a concise, clear format, which outlines the following information in no more than 3-6 pages in length:

- a. Provide a clear, concise overview of the activities undertaken during the Project Period;
- b. Document accomplishments, benefits, and impacts that the Project and Activities are having. Recipients should note specific outcomes where activities have led to job creation/retention, private investment, increased regional collaboration, engagement with historically excluded groups or regions, enhanced regional capacity, and other positive economic benefits;
- c. Highlight any upcoming or potential press events or opportunities for collaborative press events to highlight benefits of the EDA investment;
- d. Compare progress with the project timeline, explaining any departures from the targeted schedule, identifying how these departures are going to be remedied, and projecting the course of work for the next period;
- e. Outline challenges that currently impact or could impact progress on the grant over the next reporting period and identify ways to mitigate this risk; and

- f. Outline any areas where EDA assistance is needed to support the project or any other key information that would be helpful for your EDA Project Officer to know.

Final Project Reports may be posted on EDA's website, used for promotional materials or policy reviews, or may be otherwise shared. Recipients should not include any copyrighted or other sensitive business information in these reports. There is no specific page limit for Final Project Reports; however, such reports should concisely communicate key project information, and should:

- a. Outline the specific regional need that the project was designed to address and update on progress made during the reporting period that will mitigate need and advance economic development;
- b. Provide a high-level overview of the activities undertaken;
- c. Detail lessons learned during the project period that may be of assistance to EDA or other communities undertaking similar efforts;
- d. Outline the expected and actual economic benefits of the project as the time that the report is written; and
- e. Any other key information from the relevant project period.

ii. Performance Progress Reports- Semi-Annual Metrics

The Recipient agrees to provide EDA with performance data on a semi-annual basis for the periods ending **March 31** and **September 30**, or any portion thereof. Reports are due no later than 1 month following the end of the period. Required metrics will be mutually agreed on with the recipient at the project kick-off meeting, and must include the metrics outlined in the attachment entitled "science parks 2015 required metrics.pdf" in addition to those identified in the Recipient's proposal. Per the required metrics tables, certain metrics will require the Recipient to report for up to three years following the close-out of the Award on outcomes obtained as a result of this Award. In order to track the required metrics, the Recipient must employ a data management system/client management system which includes keeping a log to capture major activities. When a Performance Progress Report is also due, metrics may be attached to that report in a separate spreadsheet.

iii. Financial Reports

The Recipient shall submit a "Financial Status Report" (Form SF-425) on a semi-annual basis for the periods ending **March 31** and **September 30**, or any portion thereof, for the entire project period. Form SF-425 (and instructions for completing this form) is available at: http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants/grants_forms.html. Reports are due no later than 1 month following the end of the period.

A final Form SF-425 must be submitted no more than 90 calendar days after the expiration date of the Award (e.g., the Award end date specified on the Form CD-450 or Form CD-451). Final financial reports should follow the guidance outlined by the form instructions for submitting mid-term financial reports, but should ensure that all fields accurately reflect the total outlays for the entire project period, and that all matching and program income (if applicable) is fully reported. Final grant rate and determinations of final balances owed to the government will be determined by the information on the final Form SF-425, so it is imperative that this final financial form is submitted in a timely and accurate manner.

5. ALLOWABLE COSTS AND AUTHORIZED BUDGET

Total allowable costs will be determined at the conclusion of the award period in accordance with the administrative authorities applicable pursuant to the *Financial Assistance Award* (Form CD-450), including the applicable requirements as set forth in 2 C.F.R part 200, after Final Financial Documents are submitted.

6. FEDERAL SHARE

The EDA participation in total eligible project costs will be limited to the EDA grant amount or the EDA share of total allowable project costs, based on the area's grant rate eligibility at the time of award, whichever is less.

7. MATCHING SHARE

The Recipient agrees to provide the Recipient's non-Federal Matching Share contribution, if applicable, for eligible project expenses in proportion to the Federal share requested for such project expenses. The Recipient also certifies that, in accepting the Financial Assistance Award, the Recipient's Matching Share of the project costs is committed and unencumbered, from authorized sources, and shall be available as needed for the project.

8. REFUND CHECKS, INTEREST, OR UNUSED FUNDS

Treasury has given the EDA two options for having payments deposited to EDA's account:

a. Option 1: Pay.Gov

This option allows the payee to pay EDA through the Internet. The payee will have the option to make a one-time payment or to set up an account to make regular payments.

b. Option 2: Paper Check Conversion

All checks must identify on their face the name of the DOC agency funding the award, award number, and no more than a two-word description to identify the reason for the refund or check. A copy of the check should be provided to the EDA Project Officer. This option allows the payee to send a check to NOAA's Accounting Office, who processes EDA's accounting functions at the following address:

U.S. Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Finance Office, AOD, EDA Grants
20020 Century Boulevard
Germantown, MD 20874

The accounting staff will scan the checks in to an encrypted file and transfer to the Federal Reserve Bank, where the funds will be deposited in EDA's account. While this process will not be an issue with most payees, there are occasionally issues for entities remitting funds to EDA via check. If you are remitting funds to EDA via check, please make note of the following:

- If a check is sent to EDA, it will be converted into an electronic funds transfer by copying the check and using the account information to electronically debit your account for the amount of the check. The debit from your account will usually occur within 24 hours and will appear on your regular account statement.
- EDA will not return your original check; the original will be destroyed and a copy will be maintained in our office. If the Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) cannot be processed for technical reasons, the copy will be processed in place of the original check. If the EFT cannot be completed because of insufficient funds, EDA will charge you a one-time fee of \$25.00, which will be collected by EFT.

9. PROCUREMENT

The Recipient agrees that all procurement transactions shall be conducted in accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.317 – 200.326, as applicable.

10. NONRELOCATION

In signing this award of financial assistance, Recipient(s) attests that EDA funding is not intended by the Recipient to assist its efforts to induce the relocation, or the movement of existing jobs from one region to another region in competition with those jobs. In the event that EDA determines that its assistance was used for such purposes, EDA retains the right to pursue appropriate enforcement action in accord with the Standard Terms and Conditions of the Award, including suspension of disbursements and termination of the award for convenience or cause, which may include the establishment of a debt requiring the Recipient to reimburse EDA.

11. PERFORMANCE MEASURES

The Recipient agrees to report on program performance measures and program outcomes in such form and at such intervals as may be prescribed by EDA in compliance with the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) of 1993, and the Government Performance and Results Modernization Act of 2010. Recipients are to retain sufficient documentation so that they can submit these required reports. Failure to submit this required report can adversely impact the ability of the Recipient to secure future funding from EDA. Recipients must retain records for 9 years in accordance with EDA's general GPRA requirements.

Performance measures and reporting requirements that apply to program activities funded by this investment will be provided in a separate GPRA information collection document, if applicable. EDA staff will contact Recipients in writing within a reasonable period prior to the time of submission of the reports with information on how this data should be submitted.

As part of validating performance information and as a general method of monitoring the Award, EDA reserves the right to make site visits as EDA sees necessary. EDA will provide at least two weeks of notice for any such site visits, except for in exigent circumstances. Such site visits could include interviews or visits with project beneficiaries, defined as those receiving services by the Awardee.

As part of evaluating the RIS program, EDA may conduct a survey and/or evaluation(s) during or after the program. Such evaluations may be conducted by outside parties hired by EDA or by EDA staff. Recipients agree to participate in the evaluation by answering evaluator's questions and furnishing information. Evaluators will respect the confidentiality of business information as appropriate. Recipients agree to provide client management system information to facilitate evaluations as necessary. If EDA chooses to conduct a survey, EDA may require Recipient client email addresses to permit such a survey in order to identify program impact across the program's beneficiaries.

12. REAFFIRMATION OF APPLICATION

Recipient(s) acknowledges that Recipient's application for this Award may have been submitted to the Government and signed by Recipient(s), or by an authorized representative of Recipient, electronically. Regardless of the means by which Recipient(s) submitted its application to the Government or whether Recipient or an authorized representative of Recipient submitted its application to the Government, the Recipient(s) hereby reaffirms and states that:

- i. all data in said application and documents submitted with the application are true and correct as of the date of this Award and were true and correct as of the date of said submission;
- ii. said application was, as of the date of this Award and as of the date of said application, duly authorized as required by local law by the governing body of the Recipient(s); and
- iii. that Recipient will comply with the Assurances and Certifications submitted with or attached to said application.

The term "application" includes all documentation and any information provided to the Government as part of, and in furtherance to, the request for funding, including submissions made in response to information requested by the Government after submission of the initial application.

13. DUTY TO REFRAIN FROM EMPLOYING CERTAIN GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

For the two-year period beginning on the date the Government executes this Award, the Recipient(s) agrees that it will not employ, offer any office or employment to, or retain for professional services any person who, on the date the Government executes this Award or within the one-year period ending on that date: (a) Served as an officer, attorney, agent, or employee of the Government; and (b) Occupied a position or engaged in activities that the Assistant Secretary determines involved discretion with respect to the Award of Investment Assistance.

The two-year period and associated restrictions referenced above also shall apply beginning on the date the Government executes any cost amendment to this Award that provides additional funds to the Recipient(s).

14. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA)

EDA is responsible for meeting its Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 U.S.C. § 522) responsibilities for its records. DOC regulations at 15 C.F.R. Part 4 set forth the requirements and procedures that EDA must follow in order to make the requested material, information, and records publicly available. Unless prohibited by law and to the extent required under the FOIA, contents of applications and other information submitted by applicants may be released in response to a FOIA request. Applicants should be aware that EDA may make certain application information publicly available. Accordingly, the applicant should notify EDA if it believes any application information to be confidential.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS



December 26, 2014

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS

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PREFACE

This document sets out the standard terms and conditions generally applicable to U.S. Department of Commerce (“DOC” or “Commerce”) financial assistance awards (hereinafter referred to as the “DOC ST&Cs” or “Standard Terms”). A non-Federal entity¹ receiving a DOC financial assistance award must, in addition to the assurances made as part of the application, comply and require each of its contractors and subcontractors employed in the completion of the project to comply with all applicable statutes, regulations, executive orders (E.O.s), Office of Management and Budget (OMB) circulars, provisions of the OMB Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (codified at 2 C.F.R. Part 200) (OMB Uniform Guidance), provisions of these Standard Terms, any other incorporated terms and conditions, and approved applications.²

This award is subject to the laws and regulations of the United States. Any inconsistency or conflict in terms and conditions specified in the award will be resolved according to the following order of precedence: public laws, regulations, applicable notices published in the *Federal Register*, E.O.s, OMB circulars, DOC ST&Cs, agency standard award conditions (if any), and special award conditions. A special award condition may amend or take precedence over a Standard Term on a case-by-case basis, when allowed by the DOC ST&Cs.

Some of the Standard Terms herein contain, by reference or substance, a summary of the pertinent statutes, regulations published in the *Federal Register* or Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.), E.O.s, OMB circulars, or the certifications and assurances provided by applicants through Standard Forms (e.g., SF-424, SF-424B, or SF-424D) or through DOC forms (e.g., Form CD-511). To the extent that it is a summary, such Standard Term provision is not in derogation of, or an amendment to, any such statute, regulation, E.O., OMB circular, certification, or assurance.

¹ Please note that the OMB Uniform Guidance uses the term “non-Federal entity” to generally refer to an entity that carries out a Federal award as a recipient or subrecipient. Because some of the provisions of these DOC ST&Cs apply to recipients rather than subrecipients, or vice versa, for clarity, these DOC ST&Cs use the terms “non-Federal entity”, “recipient”, and “subrecipient”. In addition, the OMB Uniform Guidance uses the term “pass-through entity” to refer to a non-Federal entity that makes a subaward.

“Non-Federal entity” is defined at 2 C.F.R. § 200.69 as “a state, local government, Indian tribe, institution of higher education (IHE), or nonprofit organization that carries out a Federal award as a recipient or subrecipient.”

“Recipient” is defined at 2 C.F.R. § 200.86 as “a non-Federal entity that receives a Federal award directly from a Federal awarding agency to carry out an activity under a Federal program. The term recipient does not include subrecipients.”

“Subrecipient” is defined at 2 C.F.R. § 200.93 as “a non-Federal entity that receives a subaward from a pass-through entity to carry out part of a Federal program; but does not include an individual that is a beneficiary of such program. A subrecipient may also be a recipient of other Federal awards directly from a Federal awarding agency.”

“Pass-through entity” is defined as 2 C.F.R. § 200.74 as “a non-Federal entity that provides a subaward to a subrecipient to carry out part of a Federal program.”

² As set forth in 2 C.F.R. § 200.101(c), Federal agencies may apply 2 C.F.R. Part 200, subparts A through E, to for-profit entities, foreign public entities, or foreign organizations, except where the Federal awarding agency determines that the application of these subparts would be inconsistent with the international obligations of the United States or the statute or regulations of a foreign government.

A. PROGRAMMATIC REQUIREMENTS

.01 Performance (Technical) Reports

- a. Recipients must use OMB-approved governmentwide standard information collections when providing financial and performance information and, as appropriate and in accordance with the above-mentioned information collections, are required to relate financial data to the performance accomplishments of the Federal award. When applicable, recipients must also provide cost information to demonstrate cost effective practices (e.g., through unit cost data). The recipient's performance will be measured in a way that will help the Federal awarding agency and other non-Federal entities to improve program outcomes, share lessons learned, and spread the adoption of promising practices. As described in 2 C.F.R. § 200.210 "Information contained in a Federal award," the Federal awarding agency will identify the timing and scope of expected performance by the award recipient as related to the outcomes intended to be achieved by the Federal program.
- b. Recipients must submit performance (technical) reports, which may be Form SF-PPR "Performance Progress Report" or any successor form, or another format as required by the Federal awarding agency, electronically or in hard copy (no more than an original and two copies), in accordance with the award conditions, to the Federal Program Officer. Performance reports should be submitted in the same frequency as the Form SF-425 "Federal Financial Report", unless otherwise authorized by the Grants Officer.
- c. Performance (technical) reports shall contain the information prescribed in the OMB Uniform Guidance, specifically 2 C.F.R. § 200.328 ("Monitoring and reporting program performance"), unless otherwise specified in the award conditions.

.02 Reporting on Real Property

The Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity (as defined at 2 C.F.R. § 200.74) must require a non-Federal entity to submit reports (using Form SF-429 "Real Property Status Report" or any successor form) at least annually on the status of real property in which the Federal government retains an interest, unless the Federal interest in the real property extends 15 years or longer. In those instances where the Federal interest attached is for a period of 15 years or more, the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity, at its option, may require the non-Federal entity to report at various multi-year frequencies (e.g., every two years or every three years, not to exceed a five-year reporting period; or a Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity may require annual reporting for the first three years of a Federal award and thereafter require reporting every five years).

.03 Unsatisfactory Performance

Failure to perform the work in accordance with the terms of the award and maintain satisfactory performance as determined by the Federal awarding agency may result in the imposition of additional award conditions pursuant to 2 C.F.R. § 200.207 ("Specific conditions") or other

appropriate enforcement action as specified in 2 C.F.R. § 200.338 (“Remedies for noncompliance”). *See also* DOC ST&C A.06 “Non-Compliance with Award Provisions.”

.04 Programmatic Changes

In accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.308 (“Revisions of budget and program plans”), the recipient shall report programmatic changes, including all changes to the scope of the award, to the Program Officer, who forwards the request to the Grants Officer. In addition, the recipient shall request prior approvals in accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.407 (“Prior written approval (prior approval)”).

.05 Other Federal Awards with Similar Programmatic Activities

The non-Federal entity shall immediately provide written notification to the Federal Program Officer and the Grants Officer in the event that, subsequent to receipt of the DOC award, other financial assistance is received to support or fund any portion of the scope of work incorporated into the DOC award. DOC will not pay for costs that are funded by other sources.

.06 Non-Compliance with Award Provisions

Failure to comply with the provisions of an award may be considered grounds for appropriate enforcement action pursuant to 2 C.F.R. § 200.338 (“Remedies for noncompliance”), including but not limited to: the imposition of additional award conditions in accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.207 (“Specific conditions”); temporarily withholding award payments pending the correction of the deficiency; the disallowance of award costs and the establishment of an accounts receivable; wholly or partially suspending or terminating an award; initiating suspension or debarment proceedings in accordance with 2 C.F.R. parts 180 and 1326; and such other remedies as may be legally available. *See also* 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.339 (“Termination”) through 200.342 (“Effects of suspension and termination”). In addition, the failure to comply with the provisions of a DOC award may adversely impact the availability of funding under other active DOC or Federal awards and may also have a negative impact on a recipient’s eligibility for future DOC or Federal awards.

.07 Prohibition against Assignment by the Non-Federal Entity

The non-Federal entity shall not transfer, pledge, mortgage, or otherwise assign the award, or any interest therein, or any claim arising thereunder, to any party or parties, banks, trust companies, or other financing or financial institutions without the express written approval of the Grants Officer.

.08 Disclaimer Provisions

- a. The United States expressly disclaims any and all responsibility or liability to the non-Federal entity or third persons for the actions of the non-Federal entity or third persons

resulting in death, bodily injury, property damages, or any other losses resulting in any way from the performance of this award or any subaward, contract, or subcontract under this award.

- b. The acceptance of this award or any subaward by the non-Federal entity does not in any way constitute an agency relationship between the United States and the non-Federal entity.

B. FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS

.01 Financial Management

- a. In accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.302(a) (“Financial Management”), each State must expend and account for the Federal award in accordance with State laws and procedures for expending and accounting for the State’s own funds. In addition, the State’s and any other non-Federal entity’s financial management systems, including records documenting compliance with Federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the Federal award, must be sufficient to permit the preparation of reports required by general and program-specific terms and conditions; and the tracing of funds to a level of expenditures adequate to establish that such funds have been used in accordance with Federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions applicable to the Federal award. *See also* 2 C.F.R. § 200.450 (“Lobbying”) for additional management requirements to verify that Federal funds are not used for unallowable lobbying costs.
- b. The financial management system of each non-Federal entity must provide all information required by 2 C.F.R. § 200.302(b). *See also* 2 C.F.R. §§200.333 (“Retention requirements for records”); 200.334 (“Requests for transfer of records”); 200.335 (“Methods for collection, transmission and storage of information”); 200.336 (“Access to records”); and 200.337 (“Restrictions on public access to records”).

.02 Financial Reports

- a. In accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.327 (“Financial reporting”), the recipient shall submit a “Federal Financial Report” (Form SF-425 or any successor form) on a semi-annual basis for the periods ending March 31 and September 30, or any portion thereof, unless otherwise specified in a special award condition. Reports are due no later than 30 days following the end of each reporting period. A final Form SF-425 shall be submitted within 90 days after the expiration of the period of performance.
- b. The reports must be submitted to the Federal awarding agency as directed by the Grants Officer electronically, or in hard copy (no more than an original and two copies), in accordance with the award conditions.

.03 Award Payments

- a. Consistent with 2 C.F.R. § 200.305(a) (“Payment”), for States, payments are governed by Treasury-State Cash Management Improvement Act (CMIA) agreements and default procedures codified at 31 C.F.R. Part 205 “Rules and Procedures for Efficient Federal-State Funds Transfers” and Treasury Financial Manual Volume I, 4A-2000 “Overall Disbursing Rules for All Federal Agencies”.
- b. Consistent with 2 C.F.R. § 200.305(b), for non-Federal entities other than States, payment methods must minimize the amount of time elapsing between the transfer of funds from the U.S. Treasury or the pass-through entity and the disbursement by the non-Federal entity.
 1. The Grants Officer determines the appropriate method of payment and, unless otherwise specified in a special award condition, the advance method of payment shall be authorized. Advances shall be limited to the minimum amounts necessary to meet immediate disbursement needs. DOC policy requires that in the usual case, non-Federal entities time advance payment requests so that Federal funds are on hand for a maximum of three calendar days before being disbursed by the non-Federal entity for eligible award costs. In no case should advances exceed the amount of cash required for a 30-day period. Interest earned on Federal advance payments deposited in interest-bearing accounts must be remitted annually to the Department of Health and Human Services, Payment Management System, Rockville, MD 20852. Interest amounts up to \$500 per year may be retained by the non-Federal entity for administrative expenses.
 2. If a non-Federal entity demonstrates an unwillingness or inability to establish procedures that will minimize the time elapsing between the transfer of funds and disbursement by the non-Federal entity or if a non-Federal entity otherwise fails to continue to qualify for the advance method of payment, the Grants Officer may change the method of payment to reimbursement only.
- c. Unless otherwise provided for in the award terms, payments under this award will be made using the Department of Treasury’s Automated Standard Application for Payment (ASAP) system. Under the ASAP system, payments are made through preauthorized electronic funds transfers directly to the non-Federal entity’s bank account, in accordance with the requirements of the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996. In order to receive payments under ASAP, non-Federal entities are required to enroll with the Department of Treasury, Financial Management Service, Regional Financial Centers, which allows them to use the on-line and Voice Response System (VRS) method of withdrawing funds from their ASAP established accounts. The following information will be required to make withdrawals under ASAP:
 1. ASAP account number – the Federal award identification number found on the cover sheet of the award;
 2. Agency Location Code (ALC); and

3. Region Code.

Non-Federal entities enrolled in the ASAP system do not need to submit a Form SF-270 “Request for Advance or Reimbursement”, for payments relating to their award. Awards paid under the ASAP system will contain a special award condition, clause, or provision describing enrollment requirements and any controls or withdrawal limits set in the ASAP system.

When the Form SF-270 “Request for Advance or Reimbursement” (or successor form) is used to request payment, the non-Federal entity shall submit the request no more frequently than monthly, and advances shall be approved for periods to cover only expenses anticipated over the next 30 days. In these cases, the non-Federal entity must complete the Form SF-3881 “ACH Vendor Miscellaneous Payment Enrollment Form” (or successor form) and Form SF-270 and submit these forms to the Grants Officer. Form SF-3881 enrollment must be completed before the first award payment can be made via a Form SF-270 request.

- d. The Federal award identification number must be included on all payment-related correspondence, information, and forms.

.04 Federal and Non-Federal Sharing

- a. Awards that include Federal and non-Federal sharing incorporate a budget consisting of shared allowable costs. If actual allowable costs are less than the total approved budget, the Federal and non-Federal cost shares shall be calculated by applying the approved Federal and non-Federal cost share ratios to actual allowable costs. If actual allowable costs exceed the total approved budget, the Federal share shall not exceed the total Federal dollar amount authorized by the award.
- b. The non-Federal share, whether in cash or in-kind, is to be paid out at the same general rate as the Federal share. Exceptions to this requirement may be granted by the Grants Officer based on sufficient documentation demonstrating previously determined plans for, or later commitment of, cash or in-kind contributions. In any case, the non-Federal entity must meet its cost share commitment over the life of the award; failure to do so may result in the assignment of special award conditions or other further action as specified in Standard Term A.06 “Non-Compliance with Award Provisions”. In addition, under 2 C.F.R. § 200.306(c) “(Cost sharing or matching)”, unrecovered indirect costs, including indirect costs on cost sharing or matching, may be included as part of cost sharing or matching only with the written prior approval of the Federal awarding agency. The non-Federal entity must create and maintain sufficient records justifying all non-federal sharing requirements to facilitate questions and audits, see Section F of these Standard Terms, “Audits,” for audit requirements. *See* 2 C.F.R. § 200.306 for additional requirements regarding cost sharing.
- c. Under Federal research proposals, voluntary committed cost sharing is not expected. It cannot be used as a factor during the merit review of applications or proposals, but may be considered if it is both in accordance with Federal awarding agency regulations and specified

in a notice of funding opportunity. Criteria for considering voluntary committed cost sharing and any other program policy factors that may be used to determine who may receive a Federal award must be explicitly described in the notice of funding opportunity. Furthermore, only mandatory cost sharing or cost sharing specifically committed in the project budget must be included in the organized research base for computing the indirect (F&A) cost rate or reflected in any allocation of indirect costs. *See also* 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.414 (“Indirect (F&A) costs”), 200.203 (“Notices of funding opportunities”), and Appendix I to 2 C.F.R. Part 200—Full Text of Notice of Funding Opportunity.

.05 Budget Changes and Transfer of Funds among Categories

- a. Recipients are required to report deviations from budget or project scope or objective, and request prior approvals from Federal awarding agencies for budget and program plan revisions, in accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.308 (“Revision of budget and program plans”). Requests for such budget or project changes must be submitted to the Grants Officer who shall make the final determination on such requests and notify the non-Federal entity in writing.
- b. In accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.308(e), transfers of funds by the recipient among direct cost categories are permitted for awards in which the Federal share of the project is \$150,000 or less. For awards in which the Federal share of the project exceeds \$150,000, transfers of funds among direct cost categories must be approved in writing by the Grants Officer when the cumulative amount of such direct costs transfers exceeds 10 percent of the total budget as last approved by the Grants Officer. The 10 percent threshold applies to the total Federal and non-Federal funds authorized by the Grants Officer at the time of the transfer request. This is the accumulated amount of Federal funding obligated to date by the Grants Officer along with any non-Federal share. The same requirements apply to the cumulative amount of transfer of funds among programs, functions, and activities. This transfer authority does not authorize the recipient to create new budget categories within an approved budget without Grants Officer approval. Any transfer that causes any Federal appropriation, or part thereof, to be used for an unauthorized purpose will not be permitted. In addition, this provision does not prohibit the recipient from requesting Grants Officer approval for revisions to the budget. *See* 2 C.F.R. § 200.308 (as applicable) for specific requirements concerning budget revisions and transfer of funds between budget categories.

.06 Indirect or Facilities and Administrative Costs

- a. Indirect costs (or facilities and administration (F&A)) costs for major institutions of higher education and major nonprofit organizations) can generally be defined as costs incurred for a common or joint purpose benefitting more than one cost objective, and not readily assignable to the cost objectives specifically benefitted, without effort disproportionate to the results achieved. Indirect (F&A) costs will not be allowable charges against an award unless permitted under the award and specifically included as a line item in the award’s approved budget. *See* the definition of indirect (F&A) costs at 2 C.F.R. § 200.56 (“Indirect (facilities & administrative (F&A)) costs”).

- b. Excess indirect costs may not be used to offset unallowable direct costs.
- c. Cognizant Agency for Indirect (F&A) Costs.

OMB established the cognizant agency concept, under which a single agency represents all others in dealing with non-Federal entities in common areas. The cognizant agency for indirect costs reviews and approves non-Federal entities' indirect cost rates.

1. Determining the Cognizant Agency for Non-Federal Entities that are State, local, and Indian Tribal Governments; Institutions of Higher Education; Hospitals; and Non-Profit Organizations (Non-Commercial Organizations). In accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.19 (“Cognizant agency for indirect costs”), the cognizant agency for indirect costs is the Federal agency responsible for reviewing, negotiating, and approving cost allocation plans or indirect cost proposals on behalf of all Federal agencies. Approved rates must be accepted by other agencies, unless required by Federal statute or regulation or when approved by a Federal agency awarding head or delegate in accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.414(c) (“Indirect (F&A) costs”).

If indirect costs are permitted and the non-Federal entity would like to include indirect costs in its budget, but the non-Federal entity has not previously established an indirect cost rate with a Federal agency, the requirements for determining the relevant cognizant agency and developing and submitting indirect (F&A) cost rate proposals and cost allocation plans are contained in Appendices III – VII to 2 C.F.R. Part 200 as follows:

- i. Appendix III to 2 C.F.R. Part 200 – Indirect (F&A) Costs Identification and Assignment, and Rate Determination for Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs);
 - ii. Appendix IV to 2 C.F.R. Part 200 – Indirect (F&A) Costs Identification and Assignment, and Rate Determination for Nonprofit Organizations;
 - iii. Appendix V to 2 C.F.R. Part 200 – State/Local Government and Indian Tribe-Wide Central Service Cost Allocation Plans;
 - iv. Appendix VI to 2 C.F.R. Part 200 – Public Assistance Cost Allocation Plans;
 - v. Appendix VII to 2 C.F.R. Part 200 – States and Local Government and Indian Tribe Indirect Cost Proposals.
2. Commercial Organizations. For commercial organizations, the term “cognizant Federal agency” generally is defined as the agency that provides the largest dollar amount of negotiated contracts, including options. *See* 48 C.F.R. § 42.003. If the only Federal funds received by a commercial organization are DOC award funds, then DOC becomes the cognizant Federal agency for the purpose of indirect cost negotiations. For those organizations for which DOC is cognizant, DOC or its designee will negotiate a rate in accordance with the provisions of 2 C.F.R. § 200.414 using the cost principles found in 48 C.F.R. Part 31, “Contract Cost Principles and Procedures.” For guidance on how to put an indirect cost plan together go to:

<http://www.dol.gov/oasam/programs/boc/costdeterminationguide/main.htm>

3. General Review Procedures Where DOC is the Cognizant Agency.

- i. Within 90 days of the award start date the non-Federal entity shall submit to the Grants Officer of the relevant funding bureau any documentation (indirect cost proposal, cost allocation plan, etc.) necessary to allow the agency to perform the indirect cost rate proposal review.
 - ii. The non-Federal entity can use the fixed rate proposed in the indirect cost plan as a provisional rate until such time as the DOC provides a response to the submitted plan.
4. When DOC is not the oversight or cognizant Federal agency, the non-Federal entity shall provide the Grants Officer with a copy of a negotiated rate agreement or a copy of the transmittal letter submitted to the cognizant or oversight Federal agency requesting a negotiated rate agreement.
- d. If the non-Federal entity fails to submit required documentation to DOC within 90 days of the award start date, the Grants Officer may amend the award to preclude the recovery of any indirect costs under the award. If the DOC, oversight, or cognizant Federal agency determines there is a finding of good and sufficient cause to excuse the non-Federal entity's delay in submitting the documentation, an extension of the 90-day due date may be approved by the Grants Officer.
 - e. The maximum dollar amount of allocable indirect costs for which DOC will reimburse the recipient shall be the lesser of:
 1. The line item amount for the Federal share of indirect costs contained in the approved award budget, including all budget revisions approved in writing by the Grants Officer; or
 2. The Federal share of the total indirect costs allocable to the award based on the indirect cost rate approved by the cognizant agency for indirect costs and applicable to the period in which the cost was incurred, provided that the rate is approved on or before the award end date.
 - f. In accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.414(g), any non-Federal entity that has a negotiated indirect cost rate may apply to the entity's cognizant agency for indirect costs for a one-time extension of a currently negotiated indirect cost rate for a period of up to four years, reducing the frequency of rate calculations and negotiations between an institution and its cognizant agency.
 - g. In addition, in accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.414(f), any non-Federal entity that has never received a negotiated indirect cost rate, except for those non-Federal entities described in Paragraph D.1.b of Appendix VII to 2 C.F.R. Part 200 (specifically, a governmental department or agency that receives more than \$35 million in direct Federal funding), may elect to charge a de minimis rate of 10 percent of modified total direct costs.

.07 Incurring Costs or Obligating Federal Funds Before and After the Period of Performance

- a. In accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.309 (“Period of performance”), a non-Federal entity may charge to the Federal award only allowable costs incurred during the period of performance, which is the period established in the award document during which Federal sponsorship begins and ends and, as defined at 2 C.F.R. § 200.77, is “the time during which the non-Federal entity may incur new obligations to carry out the work authorized under the Federal award”. The period of performance may sometimes be referred to as the “project period” or “award period”.
- b. In accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.458 (“Pre-award costs”), pre-award costs are allowable only to the extent that they would have been allowable if incurred after the date of the Federal award and only with the written approval of the Federal awarding agency.
- c. The non-Federal entity shall not incur costs or obligate funds for any purpose pertaining to the operation of the project, program, or activities beyond the period of performance. The only costs that are authorized for a period of up to 90 days following the end of the period of performance are those strictly associated with close-out activities. Close-out activities are normally limited to the preparation of final progress, financial, and required project audit reports unless otherwise approved in writing by the Grants Officer. The Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity may approve extensions of the 90-day closeout period upon a request by the non-Federal entity as provided in 2 C.F.R. § 200.343 (“Closeout”).
- d. Unless otherwise authorized in 2 C.F.R § 200.343(a) or a special award condition, any extension of the period of performance can only be authorized by the Grants Officer in writing. Verbal or written assurances of funding from anyone other than the Grants Officer shall not constitute authority to obligate funds for programmatic activities beyond the end of the period of performance.
- e. The DOC has no obligation to provide any additional prospective funding. Any amendment of the award to increase funding and to extend the period of performance is at the sole discretion of DOC.

.08 Tax Refunds

Refunds of Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) or Federal Unemployment Tax Act (FUTA) taxes received by the non-Federal entity during or after the period of performance must be refunded or credited to DOC where the benefits were financed with Federal funds under the award. The non-Federal entity agrees to contact the Grants Officer immediately upon receipt of these refunds and further agrees to refund portions of FICA/FUTA taxes determined to belong to the Federal Government, including refunds received after the period of performance ends.

C. INTERNAL CONTROLS

Consistent with 2 C.F.R. § 200.303 (“Internal controls”), each non-Federal entity must:

1. Establish and maintain effective internal control over the Federal award that provides reasonable assurance that the non-Federal entity is managing the Federal award in compliance with Federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the Federal award. These internal controls should be in compliance with guidance in “Standards for Internal Control in the Federal Government” issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (available online at <http://www.gao.gov/assets/80/76455.pdf>) and the “Internal Control Integrated Framework”, issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO) (available online at <http://www.coso.org/documents/Internal%20Control-Integrated%20Framework.pdf>).
2. Comply with Federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of Federal awards.
3. Evaluate and monitor the non-Federal entity’s compliance with Federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of Federal awards.
4. Take prompt action when instances of noncompliance are identified including noncompliance identified in audit findings; and
5. Take reasonable measures to safeguard protected personally identifiable information and other information the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity designates as sensitive or the non-Federal entity considers sensitive consistent with applicable Federal, state and local laws regarding privacy and obligations of confidentiality.

D. PROPERTY STANDARDS

.01 Standards

Each non-Federal entity must comply with the Property Standards set forth in 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.310 (“Insurance coverage”) through 200.316 (“Property trust relationship”).

.02 Real and Personal Property

- a. In accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.316, real property, equipment, and intangible property acquired or improved with a Federal award must be held in trust by the non-Federal entity as trustee for the beneficiaries of the project or program under which the property was acquired or improved. This trust relationship exists throughout the duration of the property’s estimated useful life, as determined by the Grants Officer in consultation with the Program Office, during which time the Federal Government retains an undivided, equitable reversionary interest in the property (Federal Interest). During the duration of the Federal Interest, the non-Federal entity shall comply with all use and disposition requirements and restrictions as

set forth in 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.310 through 200.316, as applicable, and in the terms and conditions of the Federal award.

- b. The Grants Officer may require a non-Federal entity to execute a security interest or other public notice of record to indicate that real or personal property acquired or improved in whole or in part with Federal funds is subject to the Federal Interest, and that certain use and disposition requirements apply to the property. The security interest or other public notice must be acceptable in form and substance to the DOC and must be perfected and placed of record in accordance with applicable State and local law, with continuances re-filed as appropriate. In such cases, the Grants Officer may further require the non-Federal entity to provide the DOC with a written statement from a licensed attorney in the jurisdiction where the property is located certifying that the Federal Interest has been protected, as required under the award and in accordance with applicable State and local law. The attorney's statement, along with a copy of the instrument reflecting the recordation of the Federal Interest, shall be returned to the Grants Officer. The Grants Officer may elect not to release any or a portion of the Federal award funds until the non-Federal entity has complied with this provision and any other applicable award terms or conditions, unless other arrangements satisfactory to the Grants Officer are made.
- c. In accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.329 ("Reporting on real property"), the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity must require a non-Federal entity to submit reports (using Form SF-429 "Real Property Status Report" or any successor form) at least annually on the status of real property in which the Federal government retains an interest, unless the Federal interest in the real property extends 15 years or longer. In those instances where the Federal Interest attached is for a period of 15 years or more, the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity, at its option, may require the non-Federal entity to report at various multi-year frequencies (e.g., every two years or every three years, not to exceed a five-year reporting period; or a Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity may require annual reporting for the first three years of a Federal award and thereafter require reporting every five years). The Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity may also require a non-Federal entity to periodically submit reports (using Form SF-428 "Tangible Personal Property Report" or any successor form) concerning tangible personal property in which the Federal Government retains an interest. In addition, the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity may require a non-Federal entity to submit Form SF-429 and/or Form SF-428 in connection with a non-Federal entity's request to acquire, encumber, dispose of, or take any other action pertaining to real property or tangible personal property acquired or improved, in whole or in part, under a DOC financial assistance award or to Federally-owned property provided under a DOC award.

.03 Intellectual Property Rights

- a. General. The rights to any work produced or purchased under a Federal award are determined by 2 C.F.R. § 200.315 ("Intangible property"). The non-Federal entity owns any work produced or purchased under a Federal award subject to the DOC's royalty-free, nonexclusive, and irrevocable right to obtain, reproduce, publish, or otherwise use the work

or authorize others to receive, reproduce, publish, or otherwise use the work for Government purposes. In accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.315(d), the Federal Government has the right to obtain, reproduce, publish, or otherwise use the data produced under a Federal award and authorize others to receive, reproduce, publish, or otherwise use such data for Federal purposes.

- b. Inventions. Unless otherwise provided by law, the rights to any invention made by a non-Federal entity under a Federal award are determined by the Bayh-Dole Act, Pub. L. No. 96-517, as amended, and as codified in 35 U.S.C. § 200 *et seq.*, except as otherwise required by law. The specific requirements governing the development, reporting, and disposition of rights to inventions and patents resulting from Federal awards are described in more detail in 37 C.F.R. Part 401 and in particular, in the standard patent rights clause in 37 C.F.R. § 401.14, which is hereby incorporated by reference into this award.

1. Ownership.

- i. Non-Federal entity. The non-Federal entity has the right to elect to retain title to any invention it makes (conceived or first actually reduced to practice) or is made by its employees. A non-Federal entity that is a non-profit organization, which includes a university or other institution of higher learning, may not assign to a third party its rights to such an invention without the permission of DOC unless that assignment is to a patent management organization (e.g., a university's Research Foundation). The non-Federal entity's ownership rights are subject to the Government's nonexclusive, nontransferable, irrevocable, paid-up license and other rights.
- ii. Department. If the non-Federal entity elects not to retain title, fails to disclose the invention to the Federal awarding agency within the required time limits, or does not file a patent application within the time limits set forth in the standard patent rights clause, the DOC may request an assignment of all rights, which is normally subject to a limited royalty free nonexclusive revocable license for the non-Federal entity. The DOC owns any invention made solely by its employees, but may license the non-Federal entity in accordance with the procedures in 37 C.F.R. Part 404.
- iii. Inventor/Employee. If neither the non-Federal entity nor the DOC is interested in owning an invention by a non-Federal entity employee, the non-Federal entity, with the written concurrence of the DOC, may allow the inventor/employee to retain ownership of the invention subject to certain restrictions as described in 37 C.F.R. § 401.9.
- iv. Joint inventions. Inventions made jointly by a non-Federal entity and a DOC employee will be owned jointly by the non-Federal entity and the DOC. However, the DOC may transfer or license its rights to the non-Federal entity as authorized by 35 U.S.C. § 202(e) and 37 C.F.R. § 401.10 if the non-Federal entity is willing to patent and license the invention usually in exchange for a share of "net" royalties

based on the number of inventors (e.g., 50-50 if there is one non-Federal entity inventor and one DOC employee inventor). The agreement will be prepared by the DOC and may include other provisions, such as a royalty free license to the Government and certain other entities. The provision at 35 U.S.C. § 202(e) also authorizes the non-Federal entity to transfer its rights to the Government, which can agree to share royalties similarly as described above.

2. Responsibilities - iEdison. The non-Federal entity has responsibilities and duties set forth in the standard patent rights clause, which are not described below. The non-Federal entity is expected to comply with all the requirements of the standard patent rights clause and 37 C.F.R. Part 401. Non-Federal entities are required to submit their disclosures, elections, and requests for waiver from any requirement for substantial U.S. manufacture, electronically using the Interagency Edison extramural invention reporting system (iEdison) at www.iedison.gov. Non-Federal entities may obtain a waiver of this electronic submission requirement by providing to DOC compelling reasons for allowing the submission of paper copies of reports related to inventions.
 - c. Patent Notification Procedures. Pursuant to E.O. 12889 (58 FR 69681, 1993), the DOC is required to notify the owner of any valid patent covering technology whenever the DOC or a non-Federal entity, without making a patent search, knows (or has demonstrable reasonable grounds to know) that technology covered by a valid United States patent has been or will be used without a license from the owner. To ensure proper notification, if the non-Federal entity uses or has used patented technology under this award without a license or permission from the owner, the non-Federal entity must notify the Grants Officer.
- This notice does not constitute authorization or consent by the Government to any copyright or patent infringement occurring under the award.
- d. A non-Federal entity may copyright any work produced under a Federal award, subject to the DOC's royalty-free, nonexclusive, and irrevocable right to obtain, reproduce, publish, or otherwise use the work, or authorize others to do so for Government purposes. Works jointly authored by DOC and non-Federal entity employees may be copyrighted, but only the part of such works authored by the non-Federal entity is protectable in the United States because, under 17 U.S.C. § 105, works produced by Government employees are not copyrightable in the United States. On occasion and as permitted under 17 U.S.C. § 105, DOC may require the non-Federal entity to transfer to DOC a copyright in a particular work for Government purposes or when DOC is undertaking primary dissemination of the work.
 - e. Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). In response to a FOIA request for research data relating to published research findings (as defined by 2 C.F.R. § 200.315(e)(2)) produced under a Federal award that were used by the Federal government in developing an agency action that has the force and effect of law, the Federal awarding agency will request, and the non-Federal entity must provide, within a reasonable time, the research data so that they can be made available to the public through the procedures established under the FOIA.

E. PROCUREMENT STANDARDS

1. States. Pursuant to 2 C.F.R. § 200.317 (“Procurements by states”), when procuring property and services under this Federal award, a State must follow the same policies and procedures it uses for procurements from its non-Federal funds. The State must comply with 2 C.F.R. § 200.322 (“Procurement of recovered materials”), and ensure that every purchase order or other contract includes any clauses required by 2 C.F.R. § 200.326 (“Contract provisions”).
2. Other Non-Federal Entities. All other non-Federal entities, including subrecipients of a State, must follow the requirements of 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.318 (“General procurement standards”) through 200.326 (“Contract provisions”). This includes the requirement that non-Federal entities maintain written standards of conduct covering conflicts of interest and governing the performance of their employees engaged in the selection, award, and administration of contracts. No employee, officer, or agent may participate in the selection, award, or administration of a contract supported by a Federal award if he or she has a real or apparent conflict of interest.

F. AUDITS

Under the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, 5 U.S.C. App. 3, §§ 1 *et seq.*, an audit of the award may be conducted at any time. The Inspector General of the DOC, or any of his or her duly authorized representatives, shall have the right to access any pertinent books, documents, papers, and records of the non-Federal entity, whether written, printed, recorded, produced, or reproduced by any electronic, mechanical, magnetic, or other process or medium, in order to make audits, inspections, excerpts, transcripts, or other examinations as authorized by law. This right also includes timely and reasonable access to the non-Federal entity’s personnel for the purpose of interview and discussion related to such documents. *See* 2 C.F.R. § 200.336 (“Access to records”). When the DOC Office of Inspector General (OIG) requires a program audit on a DOC award, the OIG will usually make the arrangements to audit the award, whether the audit is performed by OIG personnel, an independent accountant under contract with DOC, or any other Federal, State, or local audit entity.

.01 Organization-Wide, Program-Specific, and Project Audits

- a. Organization-wide or program-specific audits shall be performed in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996, as implemented by Subpart F to 2 C.F.R. Part 200, “Audits Requirements.” Non-Federal entities that are subject to the provisions of 2 C.F.R. Part 200 and that expend \$750,000 or more in a year in Federal awards shall have an audit conducted for that year in accordance with the relevant requirements. Within the earlier of 30 calendar days after receipt of the auditor’s report(s), or nine months after the end of the audit period, a copy of the audit shall be submitted electronically to the Federal Audit Clearinghouse website at: <http://harvester.census.gov/sac/>. If it is necessary to submit by paper, the address for submission is:

Federal Audit Clearinghouse
Bureau of the Census
1201 E. 10th Street
Jeffersonville, IN 47132

Within 90 days of the end of the fiscal year of a non-Federal entity subject to Subpart F of 2 C.F.R. Part 200, the entity is responsible for notifying the Grants Officer of the amount of Federal awards, including all DOC and non-DOC awards, the non-Federal entity expended during its fiscal year.

- b. Unless otherwise specified in the terms and conditions of the award, non-Federal entities that are not subject to Subpart F of 2 C.F.R. Part 200 (e.g., for-profit entities) and that expend \$750,000 or more in DOC funds during their fiscal year must have an audit conducted for that year in accordance with Subpart F of 2 C.F.R. Part 200. The audit shall be completed and submitted to the Grants Officer within the earlier of 30 calendar days of the non-Federal entity's receipt of the audit report or nine months following the end of the non-Federal entity's fiscal year.

For-profit entities that expend less than \$750,000 in DOC funds in a given fiscal year are not required to have an annual audit for that year but must make their award-related records available to DOC or other designated officials for review and audit. Failure to provide audit reports within the timeframes specified above may result in appropriate enforcement action, up to and including termination of the award, and may jeopardize eligibility for receiving future DOC awards.

- c. Some DOC programs have specific audit guidelines that will be incorporated into the award. When DOC does not have a program-specific audit guide available for the program, the auditor will follow the requirements for a program-specific audit as described in 2 C.F.R. § 200.507 ("Program-specific audits"). The non-Federal entity may include a line item in the budget for the cost of the audit for approval. A copy of the program-specific audit shall be submitted to the Grants Officer.
- d. Non-Federal entities are responsible for compliance with the above audit requirements and for informing the Grants Officer of the status of their audit, including when the relevant audit has been completed and submitted in accordance with the requirements of this section. In accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.331(d)(3), pass-through entities are responsible for issuing a management decision for any audit findings pertaining to the Federal award provided to a subrecipient.

.02 Audit Resolution Process

- a. An audit of the award may result in the disallowance of costs incurred by the non-Federal entity and the establishment of a debt (account receivable) due DOC. For this reason, the non-Federal entity should take seriously its responsibility to respond to all audit findings and

recommendations with adequate explanations and supporting evidence whenever audit results are disputed.

- b. In accordance with the *Federal Register* notice dated January 27, 1989 (54 FR 4053), a non-Federal entity whose award is audited has the following opportunities to dispute the proposed disallowance of costs and the establishment of a debt:
 1. The non-Federal entity has 30 days from the date of the transmittal of the draft audit report to submit written comments and documentary evidence.
 2. The non-Federal entity has 30 days from the date of the transmittal of the final audit report to submit written comments and documentary evidence. There will be no extension of this deadline.
 3. The DOC shall review the documentary evidence submitted by the non-Federal entity and shall notify the non-Federal entity of the results in an *Audit Resolution Determination Letter*. The non-Federal entity has 30 days from the date of receipt of the *Audit Resolution Determination Letter* to submit a written appeal, unless this deadline is extended in writing by the DOC. The appeal is the last opportunity for the non-Federal entity to submit written comments and documentary evidence to the DOC to dispute the validity of the audit resolution determination.
 4. An appeal of the Audit Resolution Determination does not prevent the establishment of the audit-related debt nor does it prevent the accrual of interest on the debt. If the Audit Resolution Determination is overruled or modified on appeal, appropriate corrective action will be taken retroactively. An appeal will stay the offset of funds owed by the auditee against funds due to the auditee.
 5. The DOC shall review the non-Federal entity's appeal and notify the non-Federal entity of the results in an *Appeal Determination Letter*. After the opportunity to appeal has expired or after the appeal determination has been rendered, DOC will not accept any further documentary evidence from the non-Federal entity. No other administrative appeals are available in DOC.

G. DEBTS

.01 Payment of Debts Owed the Federal Government

- a. The non-Federal entity must promptly pay any debts determined to be owed the Federal Government. Any funds paid to the non-Federal entity in excess of the amount to which the non-Federal entity is finally determined to be entitled under the terms of the Federal award constitute a debt to the Federal government. In accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.345 ("Collection of amounts due"), if not paid within 90 calendar days after demand, DOC may reduce a debt owed to the Federal Government by:

1. Making an administrative offset against other requests for reimbursement;
 2. Withholding advance payments otherwise due to the non-Federal entity; or
 3. Taking any other action permitted by Federal statute.
- b. DOC debt collection procedures are set out in 15 C.F.R. Part 19. In accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.345 and 31 U.S.C. § 3717, failure to pay a debt owed to the Federal Government shall result in the assessment of interest, penalties and administrative costs in accordance with the provisions of 31 U.S.C. § 3717 and 31 C.F.R. § 901.9. Commerce entities will transfer any Commerce debt that is more than 180 days delinquent to the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Financial Management Service for debt collection services, a process known as "cross-servicing," pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3711(g), 31 C.F.R. § 285.12, and 15 C.F.R. § 19.9, and may result in DOC taking further action as specified in DOC ST&C A.06 "Non-Compliance With Award Provisions." Funds for payment of a debt must not come from other Federally-sponsored programs, and the DOC may conduct on-site visits, audits, and other reviews to verify that other Federal funds have not been used to pay a debt.

.02 Late Payment Charges

- a. Interest shall be assessed on the delinquent debt in accordance with section 3717(a) of the Debt Collection Act of 1982, as amended (31 U.S.C. §§ 3701 *et seq.*). The minimum annual interest rate to be assessed is the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Current Value of Funds Rate (CVFR). The CVFR is available online at <http://www.fms.treas.gov/cvfr/index.html> and also published by the Department of the Treasury in the *Federal Register* (<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/browse/collection.action?collectionCode=FR>) and in the *Treasury Financial Manual Bulletin*. The assessed rate shall remain fixed for the duration of the indebtedness.
- b. Penalties shall accrue at a rate of not more than six percent per year or such other higher rate as authorized by law.
- c. Administrative charges, i.e., the costs of processing and handling a delinquent debt, shall be determined by the Commerce entity collecting the debt, as directed by the Office of the Chief Financial Officer and Assistant Secretary for Administration.

.03 Barring Delinquent Federal Debtors from Obtaining Federal Loans or Loan Insurance Guarantees

Pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3720B and 31 C.F.R. § 901.6, unless waived, the DOC is not permitted to extend financial assistance in the form of a loan, loan guarantee, or loan insurance to any person delinquent on a nontax debt owed to a Federal agency. This prohibition does not apply to disaster loans.

.04 Effect of Judgment Lien on Eligibility for Federal Grants, Loans, or Programs

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 3201(e), unless waived by the DOC, a debtor who has a judgment lien against the debtor's property for a debt to the United States shall not be eligible to receive any grant or loan that is made, insured, guaranteed, or financed directly or indirectly by the United States or to receive funds directly from the Federal Government in any program, except funds to which the debtor is entitled as beneficiary, until the judgment is paid in full or otherwise satisfied.

H. GOVERNMENTWIDE DEBARMENT AND SUSPENSION

The non-Federal entity shall comply with the provisions of 2 C.F.R. Part 1326, "Nonprocurement Debarment and Suspension" (published in the *Federal Register* on December 21, 2006, 71 FR 76573), which generally prohibit entities that have been debarred, suspended, or voluntarily excluded from participating in Federal nonprocurement transactions either through primary or lower tier covered transactions, and which sets forth the responsibilities of recipients of Federal financial assistance regarding transactions with other persons, including subrecipients and contractors.

I. LOBBYING RESTRICTIONS

.01 Statutory Provisions

Non-Federal entities shall comply with 2 C.F.R. § 200.450 ("Lobbying"), which incorporates the provisions of 31 U.S.C. § 1352; the "New Restrictions on Lobbying" published at 55 FR 6736 (February 26, 1990); and OMB guidance and notices on lobbying restrictions. In addition, non-Federal entities must comply with the DOC regulations published at 15 C.F.R. Part 28, which implement the "New Restrictions on Lobbying". These provisions prohibit the use of Federal funds for lobbying the executive or legislative branches of the Federal Government in connection with the award, and require the disclosure of the use of non-Federal funds for lobbying. Lobbying includes attempting to improperly influence, meaning any influence that induces or tends to induce a Federal employee or officer to give consideration or to act regarding a Federal award or regulatory matter on any basis other than the merits of the matter, either directly or indirectly. Costs incurred on to improperly influence are unallowable. *See* 2 C.F.R. § 200.450(b) and (c).

.02 Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

Any non-Federal entity that receives more than \$100,000 in Federal funding shall submit a completed Form SF-LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities," regarding the use of non-Federal funds for lobbying. The Form SF-LLL shall be submitted within 30 days following the end of the calendar quarter in which there occurs any event that requires disclosure or that materially affects

the accuracy of the information contained in any disclosure form previously filed. The non-Federal entity must submit any required Forms SF-LLL, including those received from subrecipients, contractors, and subcontractors, to the Grants Officer.

J. CODES OF CONDUCT AND SUBAWARD, CONTRACT, AND SUBCONTRACT PROVISIONS

.01 Conflicts of Interest and Codes of Conduct

- a. General conflicts of interest requirements. In accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.112 (“Conflicts of interest”), each non-Federal entity must comply with the conflicts of interest policy provided by the Grants Officer. Any non-Federal entity must disclose in writing any potential conflicts of interest to the DOC or pass-through entity. In addition, pursuant to the certification in Form SF-424B, paragraph 3 and Form SF-424D, paragraph 7, as applicable, the recipient must maintain written standards of conduct to establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain in the administration of an award.
- b. Procurement-related conflicts of interest. In addition, in accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.318 (“General procurement standards”), non-Federal entities must maintain written standards of conduct covering conflicts of interest and governing the performance of their employees engaged in the selection, award and administration of contracts. *See* Section E. of these DOC ST&Cs entitled “Procurement Standards.”

.02 Applicability of Award Provisions to Subrecipients

- a. The recipient or pass-through entity shall require all subrecipients, including lower tier subrecipients, under the award to comply with the provisions of the award, including applicable provisions of the OMB Uniform Guidance (2 C.F.R. Part 200), and all associated terms and conditions. *See* 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.330 (“Subrecipient and contractor determinations”) through 200.332, (“Subrecipient Monitoring and Management”) and 2 C.F.R. § 200.101(b)(1) (“Applicability”), which describes the applicability of 2 C.F.R. Part 200 to various types of Federal awards.
- b. In accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.331 (“Requirements for pass-through entities”), all pass-through entities must:
 1. Subaward identification. Clearly identify every subaward to the subrecipient at the time of the subaward, including changes in subsequent subaward modification. In accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.331(a), required information includes:
 - i. All Federal Award Information data elements set out at 2 C.F.R. § 200.331(a)(1);

- ii. All requirements imposed by the pass-through entity on the subrecipient so that the Federal award is used in accordance with Federal statutes, regulations and the terms and conditions of the Federal award;
 - iii. Any additional requirements that the pass-through entity imposes on the subrecipient in order for the pass-through entity to meet its own responsibility to the Federal awarding agency, including identification of required financial and performance reports;
 - iv. Indirect cost rate information in accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.331(a)(4);
 - v. Access requirements to the subrecipient's records and financial statements in accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.331(a)(5); and
 - vi. Appropriate terms and conditions concerning closeout of the subaward.
2. Risk-Based Subrecipient Evaluations. Evaluate each subrecipient's risk of noncompliance with Federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the subaward for purposes of determining the appropriate subrecipient monitoring in accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.331(b).
3. Subaward conditions. Consider imposing specific subaward conditions upon a subrecipient if appropriate as described in 2 C.F.R. § 200.207 ("Specific conditions").
4. Subrecipient Monitoring. In accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.331(d), monitor the activities of the subrecipient as necessary to ensure that the subaward is used for authorized purposes, in compliance with Federal requirements; and that the subaward performance goals are achieved. Subrecipient monitoring must include:
 - i. Reviewing financial and programmatic reports required by the pass-through entity;
 - ii. Following-up and ensuring that the subrecipient takes timely and appropriate action on all deficiencies pertaining to the Federal award provided to the subrecipient from the pass-through entity detected through audits, on-site reviews, and other means; and
 - iii. Issuing a management decision for audit findings pertaining to the Federal award provided to the subrecipient from the pass-through entity as required by 2 C.F.R. § 200.521 ("Management decision").
5. Utilizing Risk-Based Monitoring Tools. In accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.331(e), depending on the recipient's evaluation of each subrecipient's risk, utilize appropriate monitoring tools, including training and technical assistance, performing on-site reviews, and arranging agreed-upon-procedures engagements as described in 2 C.F.R. § 200.425 ("Audit Services").

6. Subrecipient Audits. Verify that every subrecipient is audited as required by 2 C.F.R. Part 200, Subpart F “Audit requirements” when it is expected that the subrecipient’s Federal awards expended during the respective fiscal year equaled or exceeded the threshold set forth in 2 C.F.R. § 200.501 (“Audit requirements”).
7. Necessary adjustments to the pass-through entity’s records. Consider whether the results of the subrecipient’s audits, on-site reviews, or other monitoring indicate conditions that necessitate adjustments to the pass-through entity’s own records.
8. Enforcement action. Considering taking enforcement action against noncompliant subrecipients as described in 2 C.F.R. § 200.338 and in applicable program regulations.

See also 2 C.F.R. § 200.331 for the full text of requirements for pass-through entities.

.03 Competition and Codes of Conduct for Subawards

- a. The non-Federal entity must be alert to organizational conflicts of interest as well as other practices among subrecipients that may restrict or eliminate competition.
- b. The non-Federal entity shall maintain written standards of conduct covering conflicts of interest and governing the performance of its employees engaged in the selection, award, and administration of subawards. No employee, officer, or agent shall participate in the selection, award, or administration of a subaward supported by Federal funds if a real or apparent conflict of interest would be involved. Such a conflict would arise when the employee, officer, or agent, any member of his or her immediate family, his or her partner, or an organization in which he/she serves as an officer or which employs or is about to employ any of the parties mentioned in this section, has a financial interest or other interest in the organization selected or to be selected for a subaward. The officers, employees, and agents of the non-Federal entity shall neither solicit nor accept anything of monetary value from subrecipients. However, the non-Federal entity may set standards for situations in which the financial interest is not substantial or the gift is an unsolicited item of nominal value. The standards of conduct shall provide for disciplinary actions to be applied for violations of such standards by officers, employees, or agents of the recipient.
- c. A financial interest may include employment, stock ownership, a creditor or debtor relationship, or prospective employment with the organization selected or to be selected for a subaward. An appearance of impairment of objectivity could result from an organizational conflict where, because of other activities or relationships with other persons or entities, a person is unable or potentially unable to render impartial assistance or advice. It could also result from non-financial gain to the individual, such as benefit to reputation or prestige in a professional field.

.04 Applicability of Provisions to Subawards, Contracts, and Subcontracts

- a. The non-Federal entity shall include the following notice in each request for applications or bids for a subaward, contract, or subcontract, as applicable:

Applicants/bidders for a lower tier covered transaction (except procurement contracts for goods and services under \$25,000 not requiring the consent of a DOC official) are subject to Subpart C of 2 C.F.R. Part 180, “OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Government-wide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement).” In addition, applicants/bidders for a lower tier covered transaction for a subaward, contract, or subcontract greater than \$100,000 of Federal funds at any tier are subject to 15 C.F.R. Part 28, “New Restrictions on Lobbying.” Applicants/bidders should familiarize themselves with these provisions, including the certification requirement. Therefore, applications for a lower tier covered transaction must include a Form CD-512, “Certification Regarding Lobbying--Lower Tier Covered Transactions,” completed without modification.

- b. The non-Federal entity shall include a term or condition in all lower tier covered transactions (subawards, contracts, and subcontracts), that the award is subject to Subpart C of 2 C.F.R. Part 180, “OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Government-wide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement).”

- c. Required subaward and contractual provisions.

1. The non-Federal entity shall include a statement in all lower tier covered transactions (subawards, contracts, and subcontracts) exceeding \$100,000 in Federal funds, that the subaward, contract, or subcontract is subject to 31 U.S.C § 1352, as implemented at 15 C.F.R. Part 28, “New Restrictions on Lobbying.” The non-Federal entity shall further require the subrecipient, contractor, or subcontractor to submit a completed “Disclosure of Lobbying Activities” (Form SF-LLL) regarding the use of non-Federal funds for lobbying. The Form SF-LLL shall be submitted within 15 days following the end of the calendar quarter in which there occurs any event that requires disclosure or that materially affects the accuracy of the information contained in any disclosure form previously filed. The Form SF-LLL shall be submitted from tier to tier until received by the recipient. The recipient must submit all disclosure forms received, including those that report lobbying activity on its own behalf, to the Grants Officer within 30 days following the end of the calendar quarter.
2. In addition to other provisions required by the Federal agency or non-Federal entity, in accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.326 (“Contract provisions”), all contracts made by the non-Federal entity under the Federal award must contain the applicable provisions set out at 2 C.F.R. Part 200, Appendix II, “Contract Provisions for Non-Federal Entity Contracts Under Federal Awards”, which address various contractual requirements including remedies, termination for cause and convenience, Equal Employment Opportunity, the

Davis-Bacon Act, the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act, rights to inventions, environmental quality, energy efficiency, debarment and suspension, the Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment, and procurement of recovered materials. *See* Appendix II to 2 C.F.R. Part 200 for a full explanation of these requirements.

.05 Pilot Program for Enhancement of Employee Whistleblower Protections

The National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 (Pub. L. No. 112-239, enacted January 2, 2013 and codified at 41 U.S.C. § 4712) includes a pilot program of whistleblower protection. It applies to all DOC awards, subawards, or contracts under awards issued beginning July 1, 2013 through January 1, 2017. The following term implements that law:

In accordance with 41 U.S.C. § 4712, an employee of a non-Federal entity or contractor under a Federal award or subaward may not be discharged, demoted, or otherwise discriminated against as a reprisal for disclosing to a person or body information that the employee reasonably believes is evidence of gross mismanagement of a Federal award, subaward, or a contract under a Federal award or subaward, a gross waste of Federal funds, an abuse of authority relating to a Federal award or subaward or contract under a Federal award or subaward, a substantial and specific danger to public health or safety, or a violation of law, rule, or regulation related to a Federal award, subaward, or contract under a Federal award or subaward. These persons or bodies include:

- a. A Member of Congress or a representative of a committee of Congress.
- b. An Inspector General.
- c. The Government Accountability Office.
- d. A Federal employee responsible for contract or grant oversight or management at the relevant agency.
- e. An authorized official of the Department of Justice or other law enforcement agency.
- f. A court or grand jury.
- g. A management official or other employee of the contractor, subcontractor, or grantee who has the responsibility to investigate, discover, or address misconduct.

Non-Federal entities and contractors under Federal awards and subawards shall inform their employees in writing of the rights and remedies provided under 41 U.S.C. § 4712, in the predominant native language of the workforce.

.06 Small Businesses, Minority Business Enterprises and Women's Business Enterprises

In accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.321 (“Contracting with small and minority businesses, women’s business enterprises, and labor surplus area firms”), the non-Federal entity must take all necessary affirmative steps to assure that minority businesses, women’s business enterprises, and labor surplus areas firms are used when possible. DOC encourages non-Federal entities to

utilize small businesses, minority business enterprises and women's business enterprises in contracts under financial assistance awards. The Minority Business Development Agency within the DOC will assist non-Federal entities in matching qualified minority business enterprises with contract opportunities. For further information visit MBDA's website at <http://www.mbda.gov>. If you do not have access to the Internet, you may contact MBDA via telephone or mail:

U.S. Department of Commerce
Minority Business Development Agency
Herbert C. Hoover Building
14th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20230
(202) 482-0101

.07 Subaward and/or Contract to a Federal Agency

- a. The non-Federal entity, contractor, and/or subcontractor shall not sub-grant or sub-contract any part of the approved project to any agency or employee of DOC and/or other Federal department, agency, or instrumentality without the prior written approval of the Grants Officer.
- b. The non-Federal entity must submit requests for approval of such action to the Federal Program Officer who shall review and make a recommendation to the Grants Officer. The Grants Officer must forward all requests to the Federal Assistance Law Division in the Office of the Department of Commerce Assistant General Counsel for Finance and Litigation for review prior to making the final determination. The Grants Officer will notify the non-Federal entity in writing of the final determination.

K. NATIONAL POLICY REQUIREMENTS

.01 Non-Discrimination Requirements

No person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, national origin, handicap, age, religion, or sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance. The non-Federal entity agrees to comply with the non-discrimination requirements below:

a. Statutory Provisions

1. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. §§ 2000d *et seq.*) and DOC implementing regulations published at 15 C.F.R. Part 8 prohibiting discrimination on the grounds of race, color, or national origin under programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance;

2. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. §§ 1681 *et seq.*) prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sex under Federally assisted education programs or activities;
3. The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. §§ 12101 *et seq.*) prohibiting discrimination on the basis of disability under programs, activities, and services provided or made available by State and local governments or instrumentalities or agencies thereto, as well as public or private entities that provide public transportation;
4. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. § 794), and DOC implementing regulations published at 15 C.F.R. Part 8b prohibiting discrimination on the basis of handicap under any program or activity receiving or benefiting from Federal assistance.

For purposes of complying with the accessibility standards set forth in 15 C.F.R. § 8b.18(c), non-federal entities must adhere to the regulations, published by the U.S. Department of Justice, implementing Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) (28 C.F.R. part 35; 75 FR 56164, as amended by 76 FR 13285) and Title III of the ADA (28 C.F.R. part 36; 75 FR 56164, as amended by 76 FR 13286). The revised regulations adopted new enforceable accessibility standards called the “2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design” (2010 Standards), which replace and supersede the former Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards for new construction and alteration projects.

5. The Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§ 6101 *et seq.*), and DOC implementing regulations published at 15 C.F.R. Part 20 prohibiting discrimination on the basis of age in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance; and
6. Any other applicable non-discrimination law(s).

b. Other Provisions

1. Parts II and III of E.O. 11246, “Equal Employment Opportunity,” (30 FR 12319, 1965),³ which requires Federally assisted construction contracts to include the nondiscrimination provisions of §§ 202 and 203 of E.O. 11246 and Department of Labor regulations implementing E.O. 11246 (41 C.F.R. § 60-1.4(b), 1991).
2. E.O. 13166 (65 FR 50121, 2000), “Improving Access to Services for Persons With Limited English Proficiency,” requiring Federal agencies to examine the services provided, identify any need for services to those with limited English proficiency (LEP), and develop and implement a system to provide those services so LEP persons can have

³ As amended by E.O. 11375 (32 FR 14303, 1967) and E.O. 12086 (43 FR 46501, 1978).

meaningful access to them. The DOC issued policy guidance on March 24, 2003 (68 FR 14180) to articulate the Title VI prohibition against national origin discrimination affecting LEP persons and to help ensure that non-Federal entities provide meaningful access to their LEP applicants and beneficiaries.

c. Title VII Exemption for Religious Organizations

Generally, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. §§ 2000e *et seq.*, provides that it shall be an unlawful employment practice for an employer to discharge any individual or otherwise to discriminate against an individual with respect to compensation, terms, conditions, or privileges of employment because of such individual's race, color, religion, sex, or national origin. However, Title VII, 42 U.S.C. § 2000e-1(a), expressly exempts from the prohibition against discrimination on the basis of religion, a religious corporation, association, educational institution, or society with respect to the employment of individuals of a particular religion to perform work connected with the carrying on by such corporation, association, educational institution, or society of its activities.

.02 Environmental Requirements

Environmental impacts must be considered by Federal decision makers in their decisions whether or not to approve: (1) a proposal for Federal assistance; (2) the proposal with mitigation; or (3) a different proposal having less adverse environmental impacts. Federal environmental laws require that the funding agency initiate an early planning process that considers potential impacts that projects funded with Federal assistance may have on the environment. Each non-Federal entity must comply with all environmental standards, to include those prescribed under the following statutes and E.O.s, and shall identify to the awarding agency any impact the award may have on the environment. In some cases, award funds can be withheld by the Grants Officer under a special award condition requiring the non-Federal entity to submit additional environmental compliance information sufficient to enable the DOC to make an assessment on any impacts that a project may have on the environment.

a. The National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. §§ 4321 *et seq.*)

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) implementing regulations (40 C.F.R. Parts 1500 through 1508) require that an environmental analysis be completed for all major Federal actions significantly affecting the environment. NEPA applies to the actions of Federal agencies and may include a Federal agency's decision to fund non-Federal projects under grants and cooperative agreements when the award activities remain subject to Federal authority and control. Non-Federal entities are required to identify to the awarding agency any impact an award will have on the quality of the human environment, and assist the agency in complying with NEPA. Non-Federal entities may also be requested to assist DOC in drafting an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement if DOC determines such documentation is required. Until such time as the appropriate NEPA documentation is complete and in the event that any additional information is required during the period of performance to assess project environmental impacts, funds can be

withheld by the Grants Officer under a special award condition requiring the non-Federal entity to submit the appropriate NEPA documentation sufficient to enable DOC to make an assessment on any impacts that a project may have on the environment.

b. The National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. §§ 470 *et seq.*)

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) (16 U.S.C. § 470f) and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation implementing regulations (36 C.F.R. Part 800) require that Federal agencies take into account the effects of their undertakings on historic properties. Non-Federal entities are required to identify to the awarding agency any effects the award may have on properties included on or eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. Non-Federal entities may also be requested to assist DOC in consulting with State or Tribal Historic Preservation Officers or other applicable interested parties necessary to identify, assess, and resolve adverse effects to historic properties. Until such time as the appropriate NHPA consultations and documentation are complete and in the event that any additional information is required during the period of performance in order to assess project impacts on historic properties, funds can be withheld by the Grants Officer under a special award condition requiring the non-Federal entity to submit any information sufficient to enable DOC to make the requisite assessment under the NHPA.

c. Executive Order 11988 (“Floodplain Management”) and Executive Order 11990 (“Protection of Wetlands”)

Non-Federal entities must identify proposed actions in Federally defined floodplains and wetlands to enable DOC to make a determination whether there is an alternative to minimize any potential harm.

d. Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. §§ 7401 *et seq.*), Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. §§ 1251 *et seq.*) (Clean Water Act), and Executive Order 11738 (“Providing for administration of the Clean Air Act and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act with respect to Federal contracts, grants or loans”)

Non-Federal entities must comply with the provisions of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. §§ 7401 *et seq.*), Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. §§ 1251 *et seq.*), and E.O. 11738 (38 FR 25161, 1973), and shall not use a facility on the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) List of Violating Facilities (this list is incorporated into the Excluded Parties List System located at <https://www.sam.gov/portal/public/SAM/>) in performing any award that is nonexempt under 2 C.F.R. § 1532, and shall notify the Program Officer in writing if it intends to use a facility that is on the EPA List of Violating Facilities or knows that the facility has been recommended to be placed on the List.

e. The Flood Disaster Protection Act (42 U.S.C. §§ 4002 *et seq.*)

Flood insurance, when available, is required for Federally assisted construction or acquisition in flood-prone areas.

f. The Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. §§ 1531 *et seq.*)

Non-Federal entities must identify any impact or activities that may involve a threatened or endangered species. Federal agencies have the responsibility to ensure that no adverse effects to a protected species or habitat occur from actions under Federal assistance awards and conduct the reviews required under the Endangered Species Act, as applicable.

g. The Coastal Zone Management Act (16 U.S.C. §§ 1451 *et seq.*)

Funded projects must be consistent with a coastal State's approved management program for the coastal zone.

h. The Coastal Barriers Resources Act (16 U.S.C. §§ 3501 *et seq.*)

Only in certain circumstances can Federal funding be provided for actions within a Coastal Barrier System.

i. The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. §§ 1271 *et seq.*)

This Act applies to awards that may affect existing or proposed components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers system.

j. The Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, (42 U.S.C. §§ 300f *et seq.*)

This Act precludes Federal assistance for any project that the EPA determines may contaminate a sole source aquifer so as to threaten public health.

k. The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (42 U.S.C. §§ 6901 *et seq.*)

This Act regulates the generation, transportation, treatment, and disposal of hazardous wastes, and also provides that non-Federal entities give preference in their procurement programs to the purchase of recycled products pursuant to EPA guidelines.

l. The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA, commonly known as Superfund) (42 U.S.C. §§ 9601 *et seq.*) and the Community Environmental Response Facilitation Act (42 U.S.C. § 9601 *note et seq.*)

These requirements address responsibilities related to hazardous substance releases, threatened releases and environmental cleanup. There are also reporting and community involvement requirements designed to ensure disclosure of the release or disposal of regulated substances and cleanup of hazards to state and local emergency responders.

m. Executive Order 12898 (“Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low Income Populations”)

Federal agencies are required to identify and address the disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of Federal programs, policies, and activities on low income and minority populations.

.03 OTHER NATIONAL POLICY REQUIREMENTS

a. Criminal and Prohibited Activities

1. The Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act (31 U.S.C. § 3801 *et seq.*), provides for the imposition of civil penalties against persons who make false, fictitious, or fraudulent claims to the Federal Government for money (including money representing grants, loans, or other benefits).
2. The False Claims Amendments Act of 1986 and the False Statements Accountability Act of 1996 (18 U.S.C. §§ 287 and 1001, respectively), provide that whoever makes or presents any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement, representation, or claim against the United States shall be subject to imprisonment of not more than five years and shall be subject to a fine in the amount provided by 18 U.S.C. § 287.
3. The Civil False Claims Act (31 U.S.C. §§ 3729 - 3733), provides that suits can be brought by the government, or a person on behalf of the government, for false claims made under Federal assistance programs.
4. The Copeland “Anti-Kickback” Act (18 U.S.C. § 874), prohibits a person or organization engaged in a Federally supported project from enticing an employee working on the project from giving up a part of his compensation under an employment contract. The Copeland “Anti-Kickback” Act also applies to contractors and subcontractors pursuant to 40 U.S.C. § 3145.

b. Drug-Free Workplace

The non-Federal entity shall comply with the provisions of the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 (41 U.S.C. § 8102) and DOC implementing regulations published at 15 C.F.R. Part 29 “Government wide Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace (Financial Assistance),” which require that the non-Federal entity take steps to provide a drug-free workplace.

c. Foreign Travel

1. Each non-Federal entity shall comply with the provisions of the Fly America Act (49 U.S.C. § 40118). The implementing regulations of the Fly America Act are found at 41 C.F.R. §§ 301-10.131 through 301-10.143.

2. The Fly America Act requires that Federal travelers and others performing U.S. Government-financed air travel must use U.S. flag air carriers, to the extent that service by such carriers is available. Foreign air carriers may be used only in specific instances, such as when a U.S. flag air carrier is unavailable, or use of U.S. flag air carrier service will not accomplish the agency's mission.
3. One exception to the requirement to fly U.S. flag carriers is transportation provided under a bilateral or multilateral air transport agreement, to which the United States Government and the government of a foreign country are parties, and which the Department of Transportation has determined meets the requirements of the Fly America Act pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 40118(b). The United States Government has entered into bilateral/multilateral "Open Skies Agreements" (U.S. Government Procured Transportation) that allow federal funded transportation services for travel and cargo movements to use foreign air carriers under certain circumstances. There are multiple "Open Skies Agreements" currently in effect. For more information about the current bilateral and multilateral agreements, visit the GSA website <http://www.gsa.gov/portal/content/103191>. Information on the Open Skies agreements (U.S. Government Procured Transportation) and other specific country agreements may be accessed via the Department of State's website <http://www.state.gov/e/eeb/tra/>.
4. If a foreign air carrier is anticipated to be used for any portion of travel under a DOC financial assistance award the non-Federal entity must receive prior approval from the Grants Officer. When requesting such approval, the non-Federal entity must provide a justification in accordance with guidance provided by 41 C.F.R. § 301-10.142, which requires the non-Federal entity to provide the Grants Officer with the following: name; dates of travel; origin and destination of travel; detailed itinerary of travel; name of the air carrier and flight number for each leg of the trip; and a statement explaining why the non-Federal entity meets one of the exceptions to the regulations. If the use of a foreign air carrier is pursuant to a bilateral agreement, the non-Federal entity must provide the Grants Officer with a copy of the agreement or a citation to the official agreement available on the GSA website. The Grants Officer shall make the final determination and notify the non-Federal entity in writing. Failure to adhere to the provisions of the Fly America Act will result in the non-Federal entity not being reimbursed for any transportation costs for which any non-Federal entity improperly used a foreign air carrier.

d. Increasing Seat Belt Use in the United States

Pursuant to E.O. 13043 (62 FR 19217, 1997), non-Federal entities should encourage employees and contractors to enforce on-the-job seat belt policies and programs when operating company-owned, rented, or personally owned vehicles.

e. Research Involving Human Subjects

1. All proposed research involving human subjects must be conducted in accordance with 15 C.F.R. Part 27, “Protection of Human Subjects.” No research involving human subjects is permitted under this award unless expressly authorized by special award condition, or otherwise in writing by the Grants Officer.
2. Federal policy defines a human subject as a living individual about whom an investigator conducting research obtains (1) data through intervention or interaction with the individual, or (2) identifiable private information. Research means a systematic investigation, including research development, testing and evaluation, designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge.
3. DOC regulations at 15 C.F.R. Part 27 require that non-Federal entities maintain appropriate policies and procedures for the protection of human subjects. In the event it becomes evident that human subjects may be involved in this project, the non-Federal entity shall submit appropriate documentation to the Federal Program Officer for approval by the appropriate DOC officials. This documentation may include:
 - i. Documentation establishing approval of the project by an Institutional Review Board (IRB) approved for Federal-wide use under Department of Health and Human Services guidelines (*see also* 15 C.F.R. § 27.103);
 - ii. Documentation to support an exemption for the project under 15 C.F.R. § 27.101(b);
or
 - iii. Documentation of IRB approval of any modification to a prior approved protocol or to an informed consent form.
4. No work involving human subjects may be undertaken, conducted, or costs incurred and/or charged for human subjects research, until the appropriate documentation is approved in writing by the Grants Officer. In accordance with 15 C.F.R. § 27.118, if research involving human subjects is proposed after an award is made, the non-Federal entity must contact the Federal Program Officer and provide required documentation. Notwithstanding this prohibition, work may be initiated or costs incurred and/or charged to the project for protocol or instrument development related to human subjects research.

f. Federal Employee Expenses

Federal agencies are generally barred from accepting funds from a non-Federal entity to pay transportation, travel, or other expenses for any Federal employee. Use of award funds (Federal or non-Federal) or the non-Federal entity’s provision of in-kind goods or services, for the purposes of transportation, travel, or any other expenses for any Federal employee may raise appropriation augmentation issues. In addition, DOC policy prohibits the acceptance of gifts,

including travel payments for Federal employees, from non-Federal entities or applicants regardless of the source.

g. Minority Serving Institutions Initiative

Pursuant to E.O.s 13555 (“White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics”) (75 FR 65417, 2010), 13592 (“Improving American Indian and Alaska Native Educational Opportunities and Strengthening Tribal Colleges and Universities”) (76 FR 76603, 2011) , and 13532 (“Promoting Excellence, Innovation, and Sustainability at Historically Black Colleges and Universities”) (75 FR 9749, 2010), DOC is strongly committed to broadening the participation of minority serving institutions (MSIs) in its financial assistance programs. DOC’s goals include achieving full participation of MSIs in order to advance the development of human potential, strengthen the Nation’s capacity to provide high-quality education, and increase opportunities for MSIs to participate in and benefit from Federal financial assistance programs. DOC encourages all applicants and non-Federal entities to include meaningful participation of MSIs. Institutions eligible to be considered MSIs are listed on the Department of Education website.

h. Research Misconduct

The DOC adopts, and applies to financial assistance awards for research, the “Federal Policy on Research Misconduct” (Federal Policy) issued by the Executive Office of the President’s Office of Science and Technology Policy on December 6, 2000 (65 FR 76260). As provided for in the Federal Policy, research misconduct refers to the fabrication, falsification, or plagiarism in proposing, performing, or reviewing research, or in reporting research results. Research misconduct does not include honest errors or differences of opinion. Non-Federal entities that conduct extramural research funded by DOC must foster an atmosphere conducive to the responsible conduct of sponsored research by safeguarding against and resolving allegations of research misconduct. Non-Federal entities also have the primary responsibility to prevent, detect, and investigate allegations of research misconduct and, for this purpose, may rely on their internal policies and procedures, as appropriate, to do so. Non-Federal entities must notify the Grants Officer of any allegation that meets the definition of research misconduct and detail the entity’s inquiry to determine whether there is sufficient evidence to proceed with an investigation, as well as the results of any investigation. The DOC may take appropriate administrative or enforcement action at any time under the award, up to and including award termination and possible suspension or debarment, and referral to the Commerce OIG, the U.S. Department of Justice, or other appropriate investigative body.

i. Publications, Videos, and Acknowledgment of Sponsorship

1. Publication of results or findings in appropriate professional journals and production of video or other media is encouraged as an important method of recording, reporting and otherwise disseminating information and expanding public access to federally-funded projects (*e.g.*, scientific research).

2. Non-Federal entities may be required to submit a copy of any publication materials, including but not limited to print, recorded, or Internet materials, to the funding agency.
3. When releasing information related to a funded project, non-Federal entities must include a statement that the project or effort undertaken was or is sponsored by DOC.
4. Non-Federal entities are responsible for assuring that every publication of material based on, developed under, or otherwise produced under a DOC financial assistance award, except scientific articles or papers appearing in scientific, technical, or professional journals, contains the following disclaimer or other disclaimer approved by the Grants Officer:

This [report/video/etc.] was prepared by [non-Federal entity name] using Federal funds under award [number] from [name of operating unit], U.S. Department of Commerce. The statements, findings, conclusions, and recommendations are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the [name of operating unit] or the U.S. Department of Commerce.

j. Care and Use of Live Vertebrate Animals

Non-Federal entities must comply with the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966, as amended, (Pub. L. No. 89-544, 7 U.S.C. §§ 2131 *et seq.*) (animal acquisition, transport, care, handling, and use in projects), and implementing regulations (9 C.F.R. Parts 1, 2, and 3); the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. §§ 1531 *et seq.*); Marine Mammal Protection Act (16 U.S.C. §§ 1361 *et seq.*) (taking possession, transport, purchase, sale, export or import of wildlife and plants); the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act (16 U.S.C. §§ 4701 *et seq.*) (ensure preventive measures are taken or that probable harm of using species is minimal if there is an escape or release); and all other applicable statutes pertaining to the care, handling, and treatment of warm-blooded animals held for research, teaching, or other activities supported by Federal financial assistance. No research involving vertebrate animals is permitted under any DOC financial assistance award unless authorized by the Grants Officer.

k. Homeland Security Presidential Directive 12

If the performance of a grant award requires non-Federal entity personnel to have routine access to Federally-controlled facilities and/or Federally-controlled information systems (for purpose of this term “routine access” is defined as more than 180 days), such personnel must undergo the personal identity verification credential process. In the case of foreign nationals, the DOC will conduct a check with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services’ (USCIS) Verification Division, a component of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), to ensure the individual is in a lawful immigration status and that he or she is eligible for employment within the United States. Any items or services delivered under a financial assistance award shall comply with DOC personal identity verification procedures that implement Homeland Security Presidential Directive 12, “Policy for a Common Identification Standard for Federal Employees and Contractors”, FIPS PUB 201, and OMB Memorandum M-05-24. The non-Federal entity shall

ensure that its subrecipients and contractors (at all tiers) performing work under this award comply with the requirements contained in this term. The Grants Officer may delay final payment under an award if the subrecipient or contractor fails to comply with the requirements listed in the term below. The non-Federal entity shall insert the following term in all subawards and contracts when the subaward non-Federal entity or contractor is required to have routine physical access to a Federally-controlled facility or routine access to a Federally-controlled information system:

The subrecipient or contractor shall comply with DOC personal identity verification procedures identified in the subaward or contract that implement Homeland Security Presidential Directive 12 (HSPD-12), Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Guidance M-05-24, as amended, and Federal Information Processing Standards Publication (FIPS PUB) Number 201, as amended, for all employees under this subaward or contract who require routine physical access to a Federally-controlled facility or routine access to a Federally-controlled information system.

The subrecipient or contractor shall account for all forms of Government-provided identification issued to the subrecipient or contractor employees in connection with performance under this subaward or contract. The subrecipient or contractor shall return such identification to the issuing agency at the earliest of any of the following, unless otherwise determined by DOC: (1) When no longer needed for subaward or contract performance; (2) Upon completion of the subrecipient or contractor employee's employment; (3) Upon subaward or contract completion or termination.

I. Compliance with Department of Commerce Bureau of Industry and Security Export Administration Regulations

1. This clause applies to the extent that this financial assistance award involves access to export-controlled items.
2. In performing this financial assistance award, a non-Federal entity may gain access to items subject to export control (export-controlled items) under the Export Administration Regulations (EAR). The non-Federal entity is responsible for compliance with all applicable laws and regulations regarding export-controlled items, including the EAR's deemed exports and reexports provisions. The non-Federal entity shall establish and maintain effective export compliance procedures at DOC and non-DOC facilities throughout performance of the financial assistance award. At a minimum, these export compliance procedures must include adequate controls of physical, verbal, visual, and electronic access to export-controlled items, including by foreign nationals.
3. Definitions
 - i. Export-controlled items. Items (commodities, software, or technology), that are subject to the EAR (15 C.F.R. §§ 730-774), implemented by the DOC's Bureau of Industry and Security. These are generally known as "dual-use" items, items with a military and commercial application.

- ii. Deemed Export/Reexport. The EAR defines a deemed export as a release of export-controlled items (specifically, technology or source code) to a foreign national in the U.S. Such release is “deemed” to be an export to the home country of the foreign national (*see* 15 C.F.R. § 734.2(b)(2)(ii)). A release may take the form of visual inspection, oral exchange of information, or the application abroad of knowledge or technical experience acquired in the U.S. If such a release occurs abroad, it is considered a deemed reexport to the foreign national’s home country. Licenses from DOC may be required for deemed exports or reexports.
4. The non-Federal entity shall control access to all export-controlled items that it possesses or that comes into its possession in performance of this financial assistance award, to ensure that access to, or release of, such items are restricted, or licensed, as required by applicable Federal laws, E.O.s, and/or regulations, including the EAR.
5. As applicable, non-Federal entity personnel and associates at DOC sites will be informed of any procedures to identify and protect export-controlled items.
6. To the extent the non-Federal entity wishes to provide foreign nationals with access to export-controlled items, the non-Federal entity shall be responsible for obtaining any necessary licenses, including licenses required under the EAR for deemed exports or deemed reexports.
7. Nothing in the terms of this financial assistance award is intended to change, supersede, or waive the requirements of applicable Federal laws, E.O.s or regulations.
8. Compliance with this term will not satisfy any legal obligations the non-Federal entity may have regarding items that may be subject to export controls administered by other agencies such as the Department of State, which has jurisdiction over exports of munitions items subject to the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR) (22 C.F.R. §§ 120-130), including releases of such items to foreign nationals.
9. The non-Federal entity shall include this clause, including this paragraph (i), in all lower tier transactions (subawards, contracts, and subcontracts) under this financial assistance award that may involve access to export-controlled items.

m. The Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. § 7104(g)), as amended, and the implementing regulations at 2 C.F.R. Part 175

The Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 authorizes termination of financial assistance provided to a private entity, without penalty to the Federal Government, if any non-Federal entity engages in certain activities related to trafficking in persons. The DOC hereby incorporates the following award term required by 2 C.F.R. § 175.15(b). *See* <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CFR-2012-title2-vol1/pdf/CFR-2012-title2-vol1-sec175-15.pdf>.

Award Term from 2 C.F.R. § 175.15(b):

Trafficking in persons.

a. Provisions applicable to a recipient that is a private entity.

1. *You as the recipient, your employees, subrecipients under this award, and subrecipients' employees may not—*
 - i. *Engage in severe forms of trafficking in persons during the period of time that the award is in effect;*
 - ii. *Procure a commercial sex act during the period of time that the award is in effect; or*
 - iii. *Use forced labor in the performance of the award or subawards under the award.*
2. *We as the Federal awarding agency may unilaterally terminate this award, without penalty, if you or a subrecipient that is a private entity —*
 - i. *Is determined to have violated a prohibition in paragraph a.1 of this award term; or*
 - ii. *Has an employee who is determined by the agency official authorized to terminate the award to have violated a prohibition in paragraph a.1 of this award term through conduct that is either— (A) Associated with performance under this award; or (B) Imputed to you or the subrecipient using the standards and due process for imputing the conduct of an individual to an organization that are provided in 2 C.F.R. Part 180, “OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement),” as implemented by DOC at 2 C.F.R. Part 1326, “Nonprocurement Debarment and Suspension.”*

b. Provision applicable to a recipient other than a private entity. We as the Federal awarding agency may unilaterally terminate this award, without penalty, if a subrecipient that is a private entity—

1. *Is determined to have violated an applicable prohibition in paragraph a.1 of this award term; or*
2. *Has an employee who is determined by the agency official authorized to terminate the award to have violated an applicable prohibition in paragraph a.1 of this award term through conduct that is either—*
 - i. *Associated with performance under this award; or*
 - ii. *Imputed to the subrecipient using the standards and due process for imputing the conduct of an individual to an organization that are provided in 2 C.F.R. Part 180, “OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement),” as implemented by DOC at 2 C.F.R. Part 1326, “Nonprocurement Debarment and Suspension.”*

c. Provisions applicable to any recipient.

1. *You must inform us immediately of any information you receive from any source alleging a violation of a prohibition in paragraph a.1 of this award term.*
2. *Our right to terminate unilaterally that is described in paragraph a.2 or b of this section:*
 - i. *Implements section 106(g) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (TVPA), as amended (22 U.S.C. 7104(g)), and*
 - ii. *Is in addition to all other remedies for noncompliance that are available to us under this award.*
3. *You must include the requirements of paragraph a.1 of this award term in any subaward you make to a private entity.*

d. Definitions. For purposes of this award term:

1. *“Employee” means either:*
 - i. *An individual employed by you or a subrecipient who is engaged in the performance of the project or program under this award; or*
 - ii. *Another person engaged in the performance of the project or program under this award and not compensated by you including, but not limited to, a volunteer or individual whose services are contributed by a third party as an in-kind contribution toward cost sharing or matching requirements.*
2. *“Forced labor” means: labor obtained by any of the following methods: the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.*
3. *“Private entity”:*
 - i. *Means any entity other than a State, local government, Indian tribe, or foreign public entity, as those terms are defined in 2 C.F.R. § 175.25;*
 - ii. *Includes: (A) A nonprofit organization, including any nonprofit institution of higher education, hospital, or tribal organization other than one included in the definition of Indian tribe at 2 C.F.R. § 175.25(b); and (B) A for-profit organization.*
4. *“Severe forms of trafficking in persons,” “commercial sex act,” and “coercion” have the meanings given at section 103 of the TVPA, as amended (22 U.S.C. § 7102).*

n. The Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (Pub. L. No. 109-282, 31 U.S.C. § 6101 note)

1. **Searchable Website Requirements.** The Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (FFATA) requires information on Federal awards (Federal financial assistance and expenditures) be made available to the public via a single, searchable website. This information is available at www.USASpending.gov. Recipients and subrecipients must include the following required data elements in their application:

- Name of entity receiving award;
- Award amount;
- Transaction type, funding agency, Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number, and descriptive award title;
- Location of entity, primary location of performance (City/State/Congressional District/Country); and
- Unique identifier of entity.

See also 2 C.F.R. § 200.211 (“Public access to Federal award information”).

2. **Reporting Subawards and Executive Compensation.** Prime grant recipients awarded a new Federal grant greater than or equal to \$25,000 on or after October 1, 2010, other than those funded by the Recovery Act, are subject to FFATA subaward reporting requirements as outlined in the OMB guidance issued August 27, 2010. The prime recipient is required to file a FFATA subaward report by the end of the month following the month in which the prime recipient awards any sub-grant greater than or equal to \$25,000. *See* Pub. L. No. 109-282, as amended by section 6202(a) of Pub. L. No. 110-252 (*see* 31 U.S.C. 6101 note). The reporting requirements are located in Appendix A of 2 C.F.R. Part 170 and are available on the Government Printing Office’s (GPO’s) FDsys website: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CFR-2011-title2-vol1/pdf/CFR-2011-title2-vol1-part170-appA.pdf>.

Award Term from Appendix A of 2 C.F.R. Part 170:

Reporting Subawards and Executive Compensation

a. Reporting of first-tier subawards.

1. *Applicability. Unless you are exempt as provided in paragraph d. of this award term, you must report each action that obligates \$25,000 or more in Federal funds that does not include Recovery funds (as defined in section 1512(a)(2) of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Pub. L. No. 111–5) for a subaward to an entity (see definitions in paragraph e. of this award term).*

2. Where and when to report.

- i. You must report each obligating action described in paragraph a.1. of this award term to <http://www.fsrs.gov>.
- ii. For subaward information, report no later than the end of the month following the month in which the obligation was made. (For example, if the obligation was made on November 7, 2010, the obligation must be reported by no later than December 31, 2010.)

3. What to report. You must report the information about each obligating action that the submission instructions posted at <http://www.fsrs.gov> specify.

b. Reporting Total Compensation of Recipient Executives.

1. Applicability and what to report. You must report total compensation for each of your five most highly compensated executives for the preceding completed fiscal year, if—

- i. the total Federal funding authorized to date under this award is \$25,000 or more;
- ii. in the preceding fiscal year, you received—
 - (A) 80 percent or more of your annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts) and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act, as defined at 2 C.F.R. § 170.320 (and subawards); and
 - (B) \$25,000,000 or more in annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts) and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act, as defined at 2 C.F.R. § 170.320 (and subawards); and
- iii. The public does not have access to information about the compensation of the executives through periodic reports filed under section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. § 78m(a), 78o(d)) or section 6104 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. (To determine if the public has access to the compensation information, see the U.S. Security and Exchange Commission total compensation filings at <http://www.sec.gov/answers/execomp.htm>.)

2. Where and when to report. You must report executive total compensation described in paragraph b.1. of this award term:

- i. As part of your registration profile at <http://www.ccr.gov>.
- ii. By the end of the month following the month in which this award is made, and annually thereafter.

c. Reporting of Total Compensation of Subrecipient Executives.

1. **Applicability and what to report.** Unless you are exempt as provided in paragraph d. of this award term, for each first-tier subrecipient under this award, you shall report the names and total compensation of each of the subrecipient's five most highly compensated executives for the subrecipient's preceding completed fiscal year, if—
 - i. in the subrecipient's preceding fiscal year, the subrecipient received—
 - (A) 80 percent or more of its annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts) and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act, as defined at 2 C.F.R. § 170.320 (and subawards); and
 - (B) \$25,000,000 or more in annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts), and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act (and subawards); and
 - ii. The public does not have access to information about the compensation of the executives through periodic reports filed under section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m(a), 78o(d)) or section 6104 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. (To determine if the public has access to the compensation information, see the U.S. Security and Exchange Commission total compensation filings at <http://www.sec.gov/answers/excomp.htm>.)

See also 2 C.F.R. § 200.300(b).

2. **Where and when to report.** You must report subrecipient executive total compensation described in paragraph c.1. of this award term:
 - i. To the recipient.
 - ii. By the end of the month following the month during which you make the subaward. For example, if a subaward is obligated on any date during the month of October of a given year (i.e., between October 1 and 31), you must report any required compensation information of the subrecipient by November 30 of that year.

- d. Exemptions.** If, in the previous tax year, you had gross income, from all sources, under \$300,000, you are exempt from the requirements to report: i. Subawards, and ii. The total compensation of the five most highly compensated executives of any subrecipient.

- e. Definitions.** For purposes of this award term:

1. Entity means all of the following, as defined in 2 C.F.R. Part 25:

- i. *A Governmental organization, which is a State, local government, or Indian tribe;*
 - ii. *A foreign public entity;*
 - iii. *A domestic or foreign nonprofit organization;*
 - iv. *A domestic or foreign for-profit organization;*
 - v. *A Federal agency, but only as a subrecipient under an award or subaward to a non-Federal entity.*
2. *Executive means officers, managing partners, or any other employees in management positions.*
3. *Subaward:*
- i. *This term means a legal instrument to provide support for the performance of any portion of the substantive project or program for which you received this award and that you as the recipient award to an eligible subrecipient.*
 - ii. *The term does not include your procurement of property and services needed to carry out the project or program (for further explanation, see Sec. __.210 of the attachment to OMB Circular A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations").*
 - iii. *A subaward may be provided through any legal agreement, including an agreement that you or a subrecipient considers a contract.*
4. *Subrecipient means an entity that:*
- i. *Receives a subaward from you (the recipient) under this award; and*
 - ii. *Is accountable to you for the use of the Federal funds provided by the subaward.*
5. *Total compensation means the cash and noncash dollar value earned by the executive during the recipient's or subrecipient's preceding fiscal year and includes the following (for more information see 17 C.F.R. § 229.402(c)(2)):*
- i. *Salary and bonus.*
 - ii. *Awards of stock, stock options, and stock appreciation rights. Use the dollar amount recognized for financial statement reporting purposes with respect to the fiscal year in accordance with the Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123 (Revised 2004) (FAS 123R), Shared Based Payments.*
 - iii. *Earnings for services under non-equity incentive plans. This does not include group life, health, hospitalization or medical reimbursement plans that do not discriminate in favor of executives, and are available generally to all salaried employees.*
 - iv. *Change in pension value. This is the change in present value of defined benefit and actuarial pension plans.*
 - v. *Above-market earnings on deferred compensation which is not tax-qualified.*

- vi. *Other compensation, if the aggregate value of all such other compensation (e.g. severance, termination payments, value of life insurance paid on behalf of the employee, perquisites or property) for the executive exceeds \$10,000.*
3. Central Contractor Registration (CCR) and Universal Identifier requirements. In accordance with 2 C.F.R. Part 25, recipients must obtain a DUNS number and maintain an active registration in the CCR database. In addition, recipients must notify potential first-tier subrecipients that no entity may receive a first-tier subaward unless the entity has provided its DUNS number to the prime recipient. The requirements are located in Appendix A of 2 C.F.R. Part 25 and are available on GOP's FDsys website at: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CFR-2014-title2-vol1/pdf/CFR-2014-title2-vol1-part25.pdf>.

Award Term from Appendix A of 2 C.F.R. Part 25:

Central Contractor Registration and Universal Identifier Requirements

- a. ***Requirement for Central Contractor Registration (CCR).*** *Unless you are exempted from this requirement under 2 C.F.R. § 25.110, you as the recipient must maintain the currency of your information in the CCR until you submit the final financial report required under this award or receive the final payment, whichever is later. This requires that you review and update the information at least annually after the initial registration, and more frequently if required by changes in your information or another award term.*
- b. ***Requirement for Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) Numbers.*** *If you are authorized to make subawards under this award, you:*
 1. *Must notify potential subrecipients that no entity (see definition in paragraph C of this award term) may receive a subaward from you unless the entity has provided its DUNS number to you.*
 2. *May not make a subaward to an entity unless the entity has provided its DUNS number to you.*
- c. ***Definitions for purposes of this award term:***
 1. *Central Contractor Registration (CCR) means the Federal repository into which an entity must provide information required for the conduct of business as a recipient. Additional information about registration procedures may be found at the System for Award Management Internet site (currently at <https://www.sam.gov/portal/public/SAM/>).*
 2. *Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number means the nine-digit number established and assigned by Dun and Bradstreet, Inc. (D&B) to uniquely identify business entities. A DUNS number may be obtained from D&B by telephone*

(currently 866–705–5711) or the Internet (currently at <http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform>).

3. *Entity, as it is used in this award term, means all of the following, as defined at 2 C.F.R. part 25, subpart C:*
 - a. *A Governmental organization, which is a State, local government, or Indian Tribe;*
 - b. *A foreign public entity;*
 - c. *A domestic or foreign nonprofit organization;*
 - d. *A domestic or foreign for-profit organization; and*
 - e. *A Federal agency, but only as a subrecipient under an award or subaward to a non-Federal entity.*
4. *Subaward:*
 - a. *This term means a legal instrument to provide support for the performance of any portion of the substantive project or program for which you received this award and that you as the recipient award to an eligible subrecipient.*
 - b. *The term does not include your procurement of property and services needed to carry out the project or program (for further explanation, see Sec. __.210 of the attachment to OMB Circular A–133, “Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations”).*
 - c. *A subaward may be provided through any legal agreement, including an agreement that you consider a contract.*
5. *Subrecipient means an entity that:*
 - a. *Receives a subaward from you under this award; and*
 - b. *Is accountable to you for the use of the Federal funds provided by the subaward.*

See also 2 C.F.R. § 200.300(b).

n. Federal Financial Assistance Planning During a Funding Hiatus or Government Shutdown

This term sets forth initial guidance that will be implemented for Federal assistance awards in the event of a lapse in appropriations, or a government shutdown. The Grants Officer may issue further guidance prior to an anticipated shutdown.

1. Unless there is an actual rescission of funds for specific grant obligations, non-Federal entities under Federal financial assistance awards for which funds have been obligated generally will be able to continue to perform and incur allowable expenses under the award during a funding hiatus. Non-Federal entities are advised that ongoing activities by Federal employees involved in grant administration (including payment processing) or similar operational and administrative work cannot continue when there is a funding lapse. Therefore, there may be delays, including payment processing delays, in the event of a shutdown.
2. All award actions will be delayed during a government shutdown; if it appears that a non-Federal entity's performance under a grant or cooperative agreement will require agency involvement, direction, or clearance during the period of a possible government shutdown, the Program Officer or Grants Officer, as appropriate, may attempt to provide such involvement, direction, or clearance prior to the shutdown or advise non-Federal entities that such involvement, direction, or clearance will not be forthcoming during the shutdown. Accordingly, non-Federal entities whose ability to withdraw funds is subject to prior agency approval, which in general are non-Federal entities that have been designated high risk, non-Federal entities under construction awards, or are otherwise limited to reimbursements or subject to agency review, will be able to draw funds down from the relevant Automatic Standard Application for Payment (ASAP) account only if agency approval is given and coded into ASAP prior to any government shutdown or closure. This limitation may not be lifted during a government shutdown. Non-Federal entities should plan to work with the Grants Officer to request prior approvals in advance of a shutdown wherever possible. Non-Federal entities whose authority to draw down award funds is restricted may decide to suspend work until the government reopens.
3. The ASAP system should remain operational during a government shutdown. Non-Federal entities that do not require any Grants Officer or agency approval to draw down advance funds from their ASAP accounts should be able to do so during a shutdown. The 30-day limitation on the drawdown of advance funds will still apply notwithstanding a government shutdown and advanced funds held for more than 30 days will have to be returned with interest.

§ 13.10 Accommodation of intergovernmental concerns.

(a) If a state process provides a state process recommendation to the Department through its single point of contact, the Secretary either:

- (1) Accepts the recommendation;
- (2) Reaches a mutually agreeable solution with the state process; or
- (3) Provides the single point of contact with a written explanation of the decision in such form as the Secretary in his or her discretion deems appropriate. The Secretary may also supplement the written explanation by providing the explanation to the single point of contact by telephone, other telecommunication, or other means.

(b) In any explanation under paragraph (a)(3) of this section, the Secretary informs the single point of contact that:

(1) The Department will not implement its decision for at least ten days after the single point of contact receives the explanation; or

(2) The Secretary has reviewed the decision and determined that, because of unusual circumstances, the waiting period of at least ten days is not feasible.

(c) For purposes of computing the waiting period under paragraph (b)(1) of this section, a single point of contact is presumed to have received written notification 5 days after the date of mailing of such notification.

§ 13.11 Obligations in interstate situations.

(a) The Secretary is responsible for:

(1) Identifying proposed Federal financial assistance and direct Federal development that have an impact on interstate areas;

(2) Notifying appropriate officials and entities in states which have adopted a process and which select the Department's program or activity.

(3) Making efforts to identify and notify the affected state, areawide, regional, and local officials and entities in those states that have not adopted a process under the Order or do not select the Department's program or activity;

(4) Responding pursuant to §13.10 of this part if the Secretary receives a recommendation from a designated

areawide agency transmitted by a single point of contact, in cases in which the review, coordination, and communication with the Department have been delegated.

(b) The Secretary uses the procedures in §13.10 if a state process provides a state process recommendation to the Department through a single point of contact.

PART 14—UNIFORM ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS FOR GRANTS AND AGREEMENTS WITH INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION, HOSPITALS, OTHER NON-PROFIT, AND COMMERCIAL ORGANIZATIONS

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APPENDIX A TO PART 14—CONTRACT PROVISIONS

AUTHORITY: 5 U.S.C. 301; OMB Circular A-110 (64 FR 54926, October 8, 1999).

SOURCE: 63 FR 47156, Sept. 4, 1998, unless otherwise noted.

EDITORIAL NOTE: Nomenclature changes to part 14 appear at 66 FR 49828, Oct. 1, 2001.

Subpart A—General

§ 14.1 Purpose.

This part establishes uniform administrative requirements for Department of Commerce (DoC) grants and agreements awarded to institutions of higher education, hospitals, other non-profit, and commercial organizations. The Grants Officer shall incorporate this part by reference into financial assistance awards made to organizations to which it will be applied. The DoC shall not impose additional or inconsistent requirements, except as provided in

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§§14.4, and 14.14 or unless specifically required by Federal statute or executive order. This part applies to grants and agreements awarded to foreign governments, organizations under the jurisdiction of foreign governments, and international organizations unless otherwise determined by the Grants Officer after coordination with the appropriate program officials. Uniform requirements for State, local, and tribal governments are in 15 CFR part 24, Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements to State and Local Governments. Non-profit organizations that implement Federal programs for the States are also subject to State requirements.

§ 14.2 Definitions.

(a) *Accrued expenditures* means the charges incurred by the recipient during a given period requiring the provision of funds for:

(1) Goods and other tangible property received;

(2) Services performed by employees, contractors, subrecipients, and other payees; and

(3) Other amounts becoming owed under programs for which no current services or performance is required.

(b) *Accrued income* means the sum of:

(1) Earnings during a given period from services performed by the recipient, and goods and other tangible property delivered to purchasers; and

(2) Amounts becoming owed to the recipient for which no current services or performance is required by the recipient.

(c) *Acquisition cost of equipment* means the net invoice price of the equipment, including the cost of modifications, attachments, accessories, or auxiliary apparatus necessary to make the property usable for the purpose for which it was acquired. Other charges, such as the cost of installation, transportation, taxes, duty or protective in-transit insurance, shall be included or excluded from the unit acquisition cost in accordance with the recipient's regular accounting practices.

(d) *Advance* means a payment made by electronic funds transfer, Treasury check, or other appropriate payment mechanism to a recipient upon its request either before outlays are made by

the recipient or through the use of pre-determined payment schedules.

(e) *Assistant Secretary* means the DoC Chief Financial Officer and Assistant Secretary for Administration who has been delegated by the Secretary of Commerce the responsibility for developing and implementing policies, standards, and procedures for the administration of financial assistance programs of the DoC.

(f) *Award* means financial assistance that provides support or stimulation to accomplish a public purpose. Awards include grants and other agreements in the form of money or property in lieu of money, by the Federal Government to an eligible recipient. The term does not include: technical assistance, which provides services instead of money; other assistance in the form of loans, loan guarantees, interest subsidies, or insurance; direct payments of any kind to individuals; and, contracts which are required to be entered into and administered under procurement laws and regulations.

(g) *Cash contributions* means the recipient's cash outlay, including the outlay of money contributed to the recipient by third parties.

(h) *Closeout* means the process by which the Grants Officer determines that all applicable administrative actions and all required work of the award have been completed by the recipient and the DoC.

(i) *Contract* means a procurement contract under an award or subaward, and a procurement subcontract under a recipient's or subrecipient's contract.

(j) *Cost sharing or matching* means that portion of project or program costs not borne by the Federal Government.

(k) *Date of completion* means the date on which all work under an award is completed or the date on the award document, or any supplement or amendment thereto, on which Federal sponsorship ends.

(l) *Disallowed costs* means those charges to an award that the Grants Officer determines to be unallowable, in accordance with the applicable Federal cost principles or other terms and conditions contained in the award.

(m) *DoC operating unit* means an organizational unit of the Department

that has the authority to fund financial assistance awards.

(n) *Equipment* means tangible non-expendable personal property including exempt property charged directly to the award having a useful life of more than one year and an acquisition cost of \$5000 or more per unit. However, consistent with recipient policy, lower limits may be established.

(o) *Excess property* means property under the control of the DoC that, as determined by the Grants Officer after coordination with the authorized property official, is no longer required for DoC needs or the discharge of its responsibilities.

(p) *Exempt property* means tangible personal property acquired in whole or in part with Federal funds, where the DoC has statutory authority to vest title in the recipient without further obligation to the Federal Government. An example of exempt property authority is contained in the Federal Grant and Cooperative Agreement Act (31 U.S.C. 6306), for property acquired under an award to conduct basic or applied research by a non-profit institution of higher education or non-profit organization whose principal purpose is conducting scientific research.

(q) *Federal awarding agency* means the Federal agency that provides an award to the recipient.

(r) *Federal funds authorized* means the total amount of Federal funds obligated by the Federal Government for use by the recipient. This amount may include any authorized carryover of unobligated funds from prior funding periods when permitted by agency regulations or agency implementing instructions.

(s) *Federal share of real property, equipment, or supplies* means that percentage of the property's acquisition costs and any improvement expenditures paid with Federal funds.

(t) *Funding period* means the period of time when Federal funding is available for obligation by the recipient.

(u) *Grants Officer* means the DoC official with the delegated authority to award, amend, administer, closeout, suspend, and/or terminate grants and cooperative agreements and make related determinations and findings.

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(v) *Intangible property and debt instruments* means, but is not limited to, trademarks, copyrights, patents and patent applications and such property as loans, notes and other debt instruments, lease agreements, stock and other instruments of property ownership, whether considered tangible or intangible.

(w) *Obligations* means the amounts of orders placed, contracts and grants awarded, services received and similar transactions during a given period that require payment by the recipient during the same or a future period.

(x) *Outlays or expenditures* means charges made to the project or program. They may be reported on a cash or accrual basis. For reports prepared on a cash basis, outlays are the sum of cash disbursements for direct charges for goods and services, the amount of indirect expense charged, the value of third party in-kind contributions applied and the amount of cash advances and payments made to subrecipients. For reports prepared on an accrual basis, outlays are the sum of cash disbursements for direct charges for goods and services, the amount of indirect expense incurred, the value of in-kind contributions applied, and the net increase (or decrease) in the amounts owed by the recipient for goods and other property received, for services performed by employees, contractors, subrecipients and other payees and other amounts becoming owed under programs for which no current services or performance are required.

(y) *Personal property* means property of any kind except real property. It may be tangible, having physical existence, or intangible, having no physical existence, such as copyrights, patents, or securities.

(z) *Prior approval* means written approval by an authorized official evidencing prior consent.

(aa) *Program income* means gross income earned by the recipient that is directly generated by a supported activity or earned as a result of the award (see exclusions in §14.24 (e) and (h)). Program income includes, but is not limited to, income from fees for services performed, the use or rental of real or personal property acquired under federally-funded projects, the sale of

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commodities or items fabricated under an award, license fees and royalties on patents and copyrights, and interest on loans made with award funds. Interest earned on advances of Federal funds is not program income. Except as otherwise provided in DoC regulations or the terms and conditions of the award, program income does not include the receipt of principal on loans, rebates, credits, discounts, etc., or interest earned on any of them.

(bb) *Project costs* means all allowable costs, as set forth in the applicable Federal cost principles, incurred by a recipient and the value of the contributions made by third parties in accomplishing the objectives of the award during the project period.

(cc) *Project period* means the period established in the award document during which Federal sponsorship begins and ends.

(dd) *Property* means, unless otherwise stated, real property, equipment, intangible property and debt instruments.

(ee) *Real property* means land, including land improvements, structures and appurtenances thereto, but excludes movable machinery and equipment.

(ff) *Recipient* means an organization receiving financial assistance directly from the DoC to carry out a project or program. The term includes public and private institutions of higher education, public and private hospitals, and other quasi-public and private nonprofit organizations such as, but not limited to, community action agencies, research institutes, educational associations, and health centers. The term may include commercial organizations, foreign or international organizations (such as agencies of the United Nations) which are recipients, subrecipients, or contractors or subcontractors of recipients or subrecipients at the discretion of the DoC. The term does not include government-owned contractor-operated facilities or research centers providing continued support for mission-oriented, large-scale programs that are government-owned or controlled, or are designated as federally-funded research and development centers.

(gg) *Research and development* means all research activities, both basic and

applied, and all development activities that are supported at universities, colleges, other non-profit, and commercial institutions. "Research" is defined as a systematic study directed toward fuller scientific knowledge or understanding of the subject studied. "Development" is the systematic use of knowledge and understanding gained from research directed toward the production of useful materials, devices, systems, or methods, including design and development of prototypes and processes. The term research also includes activities involving the training of individuals in research techniques where such activities utilize the same facilities as other research and development activities and where such activities are not included in the instruction function.

(hh) *Small awards* means a grant or cooperative agreement not exceeding the simplified acquisition threshold fixed at 41 U.S.C. 403(11) (currently \$100,000).

(ii) *Subaward* means an award of financial assistance in the form of money, or property in lieu of money, made under an award by a recipient to an eligible subrecipient or by a subrecipient to a lower tier subrecipient. The term includes financial assistance when provided by any legal agreement, even if the agreement is called a contract, but does not include procurement of goods and services nor does it include any form of assistance which is excluded from the definition of "award" in paragraph (f) of this section.

(jj) *Subrecipient* means the legal entity to which a subaward is made and which is accountable to the recipient for the use of the funds provided. The term may include foreign or international organizations (such as agencies of the United Nations) at the discretion of the DoC.

(kk) *Supplies* means all personal property excluding equipment, intangible property, and debt instruments as defined in this section, and inventions of a contractor conceived or first actually reduced to practice in the performance of work under a funding agreement ("subject inventions"), as defined in 37 CFR part 401, "Rights to Inventions Made by Nonprofit Organizations and Small Business Firms Under Govern-

ment Grants, Contracts, and Cooperative Agreements."

(ll) *Suspension* means an action taken by the Grants Officer after coordination with the DoC operating unit that temporarily withdraws Federal sponsorship under an award, pending corrective action by the recipient or pending a decision to terminate the award by the Grants Officer. Suspension of an award is a separate action from suspension under DoC regulations at 15 CFR part 26 implementing E.O.s 12549 and 12689, "Debarment and Suspension."

(mm) *Termination* means the cancellation by the Grants Officer of Federal sponsorship, in whole or in part, under an agreement at any time prior to the date of completion.

(nn) *Third party in-kind contributions* means the value of non-cash contributions provided by non-Federal third parties. Third party in-kind contributions may be in the form of real property, equipment, supplies and other expendable property, and the value of goods and services directly benefiting and specifically identifiable to the project or program.

(oo) *Unliquidated obligations*, for financial reports prepared on a cash basis, means the amount of obligations incurred by the recipient that have not been paid. For reports prepared on an accrued expenditure basis, they represent the amount of obligations incurred by the recipient for which an outlay has not been recorded.

(pp) *Unobligated balance* means the portion of the funds authorized by the DoC that has not been obligated by the recipient and is determined by deducting the cumulative obligations from the cumulative funds authorized.

(qq) *Unrecovered indirect cost* means the difference between the amount awarded and the amount which could have been awarded under the recipient's approved negotiated indirect cost rate.

(rr) *Working capital advance* means a procedure whereby funds are advanced to the recipient to cover its estimated disbursement needs for a given initial period.

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§ 14.3 Effect on other issuances.

For awards subject to this part, all administrative requirements of codified program regulations, program manuals, handbooks and other non-regulatory materials which are inconsistent with the requirements of this part shall be superseded, except to the extent they are required by statute, or authorized in accordance with the deviations provision in § 14.4.

§ 14.4 Deviations.

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) may grant exceptions for classes of grants or recipients subject to the requirements of this part when exceptions are not prohibited by statute. However, in the interest of maximum uniformity, exceptions from the requirements of this part shall be permitted only in unusual circumstances. The Assistant Secretary may apply more restrictive requirements to a class of recipients when approved by OMB. The Assistant Secretary may apply less restrictive requirements when awarding small awards, except for those requirements which are statutory. Exceptions on a case-by-case basis may also be made by the Assistant Secretary. An exception made on a case-by-case basis will apply to a single award.

§ 14.5 Subawards.

Unless sections of this part specifically exclude subrecipients from coverage, the provisions of this part shall be applied to subrecipients performing work under awards if such subrecipients are institutions of higher education, hospitals, other non-profit, or commercial organizations. This part also applies to subrecipients performing work under awards if the subrecipients are foreign governments, organizations under the jurisdiction of foreign governments, and international organizations unless otherwise determined by the Grants Officer. State and local government subrecipients are subject to the provisions of regulations implementing the grants management common rule, "Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements to State and Local Governments," (15 CFR part 24).

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§ 14.6 Availability of OMB circulars.

OMB circulars cited in this part are available from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) by writing to the Executive Office of the President, Publications Service, 725 17th Street, NW, Suite 200, Washington DC 20503.

Subpart B—Pre-Award Requirements

§ 14.10 Purpose.

Sections 14.11 through 14.18 prescribe forms and instructions and other pre-award matters to be used in applying for Federal awards.

§ 14.11 Pre-award policies.

(a) *Use of grants and cooperative agreements, and contracts.* In each instance, the Grants Officer after coordination with the DoC operating unit shall decide on the appropriate award instrument (i.e., grant, cooperative agreement, or contract). The Federal Grant and Cooperative Agreement Act (31 U.S.C. 6301-08) governs the use of grants, cooperative agreements and contracts. A grant or cooperative agreement shall be used only when the principal purpose of a transaction is to accomplish a public purpose of support or stimulation authorized by Federal statute. The statutory criterion for choosing between grants and cooperative agreements is that for the latter, "substantial involvement is expected between the executive agency and the State, local government, or other recipient when carrying out the activity contemplated in the agreement." Contracts shall be used when the principal purpose is acquisition of property or services for the direct benefit or use of the Federal Government.

(b) *Public notice and priority setting.* The DoC operating units shall notify the public of their intended funding priorities for discretionary grant programs, unless funding priorities are established by Federal statute. At a minimum, public notices shall be published in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

§ 14.12 Forms for applying for Federal assistance.

(a) The DoC operating units shall comply with the applicable report

clearance requirements of 5 CFR part 1320, "Controlling Paperwork Burdens on the Public," with regard to all forms used by the DoC operating units in place of or as a supplement to the Standard Form 424 (SF-424) series.

(b) Applicants shall use the SF-424 series or those forms and instructions prescribed by the DoC.

(c) For Federal programs covered by E.O. 12372, "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs," the applicant shall complete the appropriate sections of the SF-424 (Application for Federal Assistance) indicating whether the application was subject to review by the State Single Point of Contact (SPOC). The name and address of the SPOC for a particular State can be obtained from the DoC or the *Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance*. The SPOC shall advise the applicant whether the program for which application is made has been selected by that State for review.

(d) DoC operating units that do not use the SF-424 form should indicate whether the application is subject to review by the State under E.O. 12372.

§ 14.13 Debarment and suspension.

The DoC and recipients shall comply with the nonprocurement debarment and suspension common rule implementing E.O.s 12549 and 12689, "Debarment and Suspension," which is implemented by DoC at 15 CFR part 26. This common rule restricts subawards and contracts with certain parties that are debarred, suspended or otherwise excluded from or ineligible for participation in Federal assistance programs or activities.

§ 14.14 High risk special award conditions.

If an applicant or recipient: has a history of poor performance, is not financially stable, has a management system that does not meet the standards prescribed in this part, has not conformed to the terms and conditions of a previous award, or is not otherwise responsible, the Grants Officer may impose additional requirements as needed, provided that such applicant or recipient is notified in writing as to: the nature of the additional requirements, the reason why the additional requirements are being imposed, the nature of

the corrective action needed, the time allowed for completing the corrective actions, and the method for requesting reconsideration of the additional requirements imposed. Any special conditions shall be promptly removed once the conditions that prompted them have been corrected.

§ 14.15 Metric system of measurement.

The Metric Conversion Act, as amended by the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act (15 U.S.C. 205) declares that the metric system is the preferred measurement system for U.S. trade and commerce. The Act requires each Federal agency to establish a date or dates in consultation with the Secretary of Commerce, when the metric system of measurement will be used in the agency's procurements, grants, and other business-related activities. Metric implementation may take longer where the use of the system is initially impractical or likely to cause significant inefficiencies in the accomplishment of federally-funded activities. The DoC shall follow the provisions of E.O. 12770, "Metric Usage in Federal Government Programs."

§ 14.16 Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA).

Under RCRA (Pub. L. 94-580, 42 U.S.C. 6962), any State agency or agency of a political subdivision of a State which is using appropriated Federal funds must comply with section 6002. Section 6002 requires that preference be given in procurement programs to the purchase of specific products containing recycled materials identified in guidelines developed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) (40 CFR parts 247-254). Accordingly, State and local institutions of higher education, hospitals, non-profit, and commercial organizations that receive direct Federal awards or other Federal funds shall give preference in their procurement programs funded with Federal funds to the purchase of recycled products pursuant to the EPA guidelines.

§ 14.17 Certifications and representations.

Unless prohibited by statute or codified regulation, Grants Officers may

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allow recipients to submit certifications and representations required by statute, executive order, or regulation on an annual basis, if the recipients have ongoing and continuing relationships with the agency. When authorized, annual certifications and representations shall be signed by responsible officials with the authority to ensure recipients' compliance with the pertinent requirements.

§ 14.18 Taxpayer identification number.

In accordance with the provisions of the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 (31 U.S.C. 7701), the taxpayer identifying number will be required from applicants for grants and cooperative agreements funded by the DoC. This number may be used for purposes of collecting and reporting on any delinquent amounts arising from awards made under this part.

Subpart C—Post-Award Requirements

FINANCIAL AND PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

§ 14.20 Purpose of financial and program management.

Sections 14.21 through 14.28 prescribe standards for financial management systems, methods for making payments and rules for: satisfying cost sharing and matching requirements, accounting for program income, budget revision approvals, conducting audits, determining allowability of cost, and establishing fund availability.

§ 14.21 Standards for financial management systems.

(a) The Grants Officer shall require recipients to relate financial data to performance data and develop unit cost information whenever practical.

(b) Recipients' financial management systems shall provide for the following:

(1) Accurate, current and complete disclosure of the financial results of each federally-sponsored project or program in accordance with the reporting requirements set forth in § 14.52. If the Grants Officer requires reporting on an accrual basis from a recipient that maintains its records on other than an accrual basis, the recipient

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shall not be required to establish an accrual accounting system. These recipients may develop such accrual data for its reports on the basis of an analysis of the documentation on hand.

(2) Records that identify adequately the source and application of funds for federally-sponsored activities. These records shall contain information pertaining to Federal awards, authorizations, obligations, unobligated balances, assets, outlays, income and interest.

(3) Effective control over and accountability for all funds, property and other assets. Recipients shall adequately safeguard all such assets and assure they are used solely for authorized purposes.

(4) Comparison of outlays with budget amounts for each award. Whenever appropriate, financial information should be related to performance and unit cost data.

(5) Written procedures to minimize the time elapsing between the transfer of funds to the recipient from the U.S. Treasury and the issuance or redemption of checks, warrants or payments by other means for program purposes by the recipient. To the extent that the provisions of the Cash Management Improvement Act (CMIA) (Pub. L. 101–453) govern, payment methods of State agencies, instrumentalities, and fiscal agents shall be consistent with CMIA Treasury-State Agreements or the CMIA default procedures codified at 31 CFR part 205, "Withdrawal of Cash from the Treasury for Advances under Federal Grant and Other Programs."

(6) Written procedures for determining the reasonableness, allocability and allowability of costs in accordance with the provisions of the applicable Federal cost principles and the terms and conditions of the award.

(7) Accounting records including cost accounting records that are supported by source documentation.

(c) Where the DoC guarantees or insures the repayment of money borrowed by the recipient, the Grants Officer may require adequate bonding and insurance if the bonding and insurance requirements of the recipient are not deemed adequate to protect the interest of the Federal Government.

(d) The Grants Officer may require adequate fidelity bond coverage where the recipient lacks sufficient coverage to protect the Federal Government's interest.

(e) Where bonds are required in the situations described above, the bonds shall be obtained from companies holding certificates of authority as acceptable sureties, as prescribed in 31 CFR part 223, "Surety Companies Doing Business with the United States."

§ 14.22 Payment.

(a) Payment methods shall minimize the time elapsing between the transfer of funds from the United States Treasury and the issuance or redemption of checks, warrants, or payment by other means by the recipients. Payment methods of State agencies or instrumentalities shall be consistent with Treasury-State CMIA agreements or default procedures codified at 31 CFR part 205. Federal payments to recipients shall be made by electronic funds transfer in accordance with the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996, unless waived in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

(b) Recipients are to be paid in advance, provided they maintain or demonstrate the willingness to maintain: written procedures that minimize the time elapsing between the transfer of funds and disbursement by the recipient, and financial management systems that meet the standards for fund control and accountability as established in § 14.21. Advances of funds to a recipient organization shall be limited to the minimum amounts needed and be timed to be in accordance with the actual, immediate cash requirements of the recipient organization in carrying out the purpose of the approved program or project. The timing and amount of advances of funds shall be as close as is administratively feasible to the actual disbursements by the recipient organization for direct program or project costs and the proportionate share of any allowable indirect costs.

(c) Whenever possible, advances may be consolidated to cover anticipated cash needs for all awards made by the DoC operating unit to the recipient.

(1) Advance payment mechanisms include, but are not limited to, electronic

funds transfer and Treasury check when the electronic funds transfer requirement is waived.

(2) Advance payment mechanisms are subject to 31 CFR part 205.

(3) Recipients may submit requests for advances and reimbursements on a monthly basis.

(d) Requests for advance payment shall be submitted on SF-270, "Request for Advance or Reimbursement," or other forms as may be authorized by OMB. This form is not to be used when advance payments are made to the recipient automatically through the use of a predetermined payment schedule or if precluded by special DoC instructions for electronic funds transfer.

(e) Reimbursement is the preferred method when the requirements in paragraph (b) of this section cannot be met. The Grants Officer may also use this method on any construction agreement, or if the major portion of the construction project is accomplished through private market financing or Federal loans, and the Federal assistance constitutes a minor portion of the project.

(1) When the reimbursement method is used, the DoC shall make payment within 30 days after receipt of the billing, unless the billing is improper.

(2) Recipients are authorized to submit request for reimbursement at least monthly when electronic funds transfers are not used.

(f) If a recipient cannot meet the criteria for advance payments and the Grants Officer after coordination with the operating unit has determined that reimbursement is not feasible because the recipient lacks sufficient working capital, the Grants Officer may authorize payment on a working capital advance basis. Under this procedure, the Grants Officer shall provide for advancing funds to the recipient to cover its estimated disbursement needs for an initial period generally geared to the awardee's disbursing cycle. Thereafter, payments shall be provided by reimbursing the recipient for its actual cash disbursements. The working capital advance method of payment shall not be used for recipients unwilling or unable to provide timely advances to their subrecipient to meet the subrecipient's actual cash disbursements.

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(g) To the extent available, recipients shall disburse funds available from repayments to and interest earned on a revolving fund, program income, rebates, refunds, contract settlements, audit recoveries and interest earned on such funds before requesting additional payments.

(h) Unless otherwise required by statute, Grants Officers shall not withhold payments for proper charges made by recipients at any time during the project period unless paragraph (h) (1) or (2) of this section apply.

(1) A recipient has failed to comply with the project objectives, the terms and conditions of the award, or Federal reporting requirements.

(2) The recipient or subrecipient is delinquent in a debt to the United States as defined in OMB Circular A-129, "Managing Federal Credit Programs." Under such conditions, the Grants Officer may, upon reasonable notice, inform the recipient that payments shall not be made for obligations incurred after a specified date until the conditions are corrected or the indebtedness to the Federal Government is liquidated.

(i) Standards governing the use of banks and other institutions as depositories of funds advanced under awards are as follows.

(1) Except for situations described in paragraph (i)(2) of this section, the DoC shall not require separate depository accounts for funds provided to a recipient or establish any eligibility requirements for depositories for funds provided to a recipient. However, recipients must be able to account for the receipt, obligation and expenditure of funds.

(2) Advances of Federal funds shall be deposited and maintained in insured accounts whenever possible.

(j) Consistent with the national goal of expanding the opportunities for women-owned and minority-owned business enterprises, recipients shall be encouraged to use women-owned and minority-owned banks (a bank which is owned at least 50 percent by women or minority group members).

(k) Recipients shall maintain advances of Federal funds in interest bearing accounts, unless paragraph (k) (1), (2) or (3) of this section apply.

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(1) The recipient receives less than \$120,000 in Federal awards per year.

(2) The best reasonably available interest bearing account would not be expected to earn interest in excess of \$250 per year on Federal cash balances.

(3) The depository would require an average or minimum balance so high that it would not be feasible within the expected Federal and non-Federal cash resources.

(1) For those entities where CMIA and its implementing regulations do not apply, interest earned on Federal advances deposited in interest bearing accounts shall be remitted annually to Department of Health and Human Services, Payment Management System, Rockville, MD 20852. Interest amounts up to \$250 per year may be retained by the recipient for administrative expense. State universities and hospitals shall comply with CMIA, as it pertains to interest. If an entity subject to CMIA uses its own funds to pay pre-award costs for discretionary awards without prior written approval from the Grants Officer, it waives its right to recover the interest under CMIA.

(m) Except as noted elsewhere in this part, only the following forms shall be authorized for the recipients in requesting advances and reimbursements. Grants Officers shall not require more than an original and two copies of these forms.

(1) SF-270, Request for Advance or Reimbursement. DoC has adopted the SF-270 as a standard form for all non-construction programs when predetermined advance methods are not used. The Grants Officer, however, may waive the requirement to use the SF-270 for requesting funds under grants and cooperative agreements. Grants Officers have the option of using this form for construction programs in lieu of the SF-271, "Outlay Report and Request for Reimbursement for Construction Programs."

(2) SF-271, Outlay Report and Request for Reimbursement for Construction Programs. DoC has adopted the SF-271 as the standard form to be used for requesting reimbursement for construction programs. However, the Grants Officer may substitute the SF-270 when the Grants Officer determines

that the SF-270 provides adequate information to meet Federal needs.

§ 14.23 Cost sharing or matching.

(a) All contributions, including cash and third party in-kind, shall be accepted as part of the recipient's cost sharing or matching when such contributions meet all of the following criteria:

- (1) Are verifiable from the recipient's records.
- (2) Are not included as contributions for any other federally-assisted project or program.
- (3) Are necessary and reasonable for proper and efficient accomplishment of project or program objectives.
- (4) Are allowable under the applicable cost principles.
- (5) Are not paid by the Federal Government under another award, except where authorized by Federal statute to be used for cost sharing or matching.
- (6) Are provided for in the approved budget.
- (7) Conform to other provisions of this part, as applicable.

(b) Unrecovered indirect costs may be included as part of cost sharing or matching only with the prior approval of the Grants Officer.

(c) Values for recipient contributions of services and property shall be established in accordance with the applicable cost principles. If DoC authorizes recipients to donate buildings or land for construction/facilities acquisition projects or long-term use, the value of the donated property for cost sharing or matching shall be the lesser of paragraph (c) (1) or (2).

(1) The certified value of the remaining life of the property recorded in the recipient's accounting records at the time of donation.

(2) The current fair market value. However, when there is sufficient justification, the Grants Officer may approve the use of the current fair market value of the donated property, even if it exceeds the certified value at the time of donation to the project.

(d) Volunteer services furnished by professional and technical personnel, consultants, and other skilled and unskilled labor may be counted as cost sharing or matching if the service is an integral and necessary part of an ap-

proved project or program. Rates for volunteer services shall be consistent with those paid for similar work in the recipient's organization. In those instances in which the required skills are not found in the recipient organization, rates shall be consistent with those paid for similar work in the labor market in which the recipient competes for the kind of services involved. In either case, paid fringe benefits that are reasonable, allowable, and allocable may be included in the valuation.

(e) When an employer other than the recipient furnishes the services of an employee, these services shall be valued at the employee's regular rate of pay (plus an amount of fringe benefits that are reasonable, allowable, and allocable, but exclusive of overhead costs), provided these services are in the same skill for which the employee is normally paid.

(f) Donated supplies may include such items as expendable equipment, office supplies, laboratory supplies or workshop and classroom supplies. Value assessed to donated supplies included in the cost sharing or matching share shall be reasonable and shall not exceed the fair market value of the property at the time of the donation.

(g) The method used for determining cost sharing or matching for donated equipment, buildings and land for which title passes to the recipient may differ according to the purpose of the award, if paragraph (g) (1) or (2) of this section applies.

(1) If the purpose of the award is to assist the recipient in the acquisition of equipment, buildings or land, the total value of the donated property may be claimed as cost sharing or matching.

(2) If the purpose of the award is to support activities that require the use of equipment, buildings or land, normally only depreciation or use charges for equipment and buildings may be made. However, the full value of equipment or other capital assets and fair rental charges for land may be allowed, provided that the Grants Officer has approved the charges.

(h) The value of donated property shall be determined in accordance with

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the usual accounting policies of the recipient, with the following qualifications:

(1) The value of donated land and buildings shall not exceed its fair market value at the time of donation to the recipient as established by an independent appraiser (e.g., certified real property appraiser or General Services Administration representative) and certified by a responsible official of the recipient.

(2) The value of donated equipment shall not exceed the fair market value of equipment of the same age and condition at the time of donation.

(3) The value of donated space shall not exceed the fair rental value of comparable space as established by an independent appraisal of comparable space and facilities in a privately-owned building in the same locality.

(4) The value of loaned equipment shall not exceed its fair rental value.

(5) The following requirements pertain to the recipient's supporting records for in-kind contributions from third parties:

(i) Volunteer services shall be documented and, to the extent feasible, supported by the same methods used by the recipient for its own employees.

(ii) The basis for determining the valuation for personal service, material, equipment, buildings and land shall be documented.

§ 14.24 Program income.

(a) The standards set forth in this section shall apply in requiring recipient organizations to account for program income related to projects financed in whole or in part with Federal funds.

(b) Except as provided in paragraph (h) of this section, program income earned during the project period shall be retained by the recipient and, in accordance with DoC regulations or the terms and conditions of the award, shall be used in one or more of the ways listed in the following:

(1) Added to funds committed to the project by the DoC and recipient and used to further eligible project objectives.

(2) Used to finance the non-Federal share of the project.

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(3) Deducted from the total project allowable cost in determining the net allowable costs on which the Federal share of costs is based.

(c) When an agency authorizes the disposition of program income as described in paragraph (b)(1) or (b)(2) of this section, program income in excess of any limits stipulated shall be used in accordance with paragraph (b)(3) of this section.

(d) In the event that the DoC does not specify in its regulations or the terms and conditions of the award how program income is to be used, paragraph (b)(1) of this section shall apply automatically to all projects or programs.

(e) Unless DoC regulations or the terms and conditions of the award provide otherwise, recipients shall have no obligation to the Federal Government regarding program income earned after the end of the project period.

(f) Costs incident to the generation of program income may be deducted from gross income to determine program income, provided these costs have not been charged to the award.

(g) Proceeds from the sale of property shall be handled in accordance with the requirements of the Property Standards (See §§ 14.30 through 14.37).

(h) Unless DoC regulations or the terms and conditions of the award provide otherwise, recipients shall have no obligation to the Federal Government with respect to program income earned from license fees and royalties for copyrighted material, patents, patent applications, trademarks, and inventions produced under an award. However, Patent and Trademark Amendments (35 U.S.C. 18) apply to inventions made under an experimental, developmental, or research award.

§ 14.25 Revision of budget and program plans.

(a) The budget plan is the financial expression of the project or program as approved during the award process. It may include either the Federal and non-Federal share, or only the Federal share, depending upon DoC requirements. It shall be related to performance for program evaluation purposes whenever appropriate.

(b) Recipients are required to report deviations from budget and program plans, and request prior approvals for budget and program plan revisions, in accordance with this section.

(c) For nonconstruction awards, recipients shall request prior approvals from the Grants Officer for one or more of the following program or budget related reasons. Approvals will be provided in writing by the Grants Officer.

(1) Change in the scope or the objective of the project or program (even if there is no associated budget revision requiring prior written approval).

(2) Change in a key person specified in the application or award document.

(3) The absence for more than three months, or a 25 percent reduction in time devoted to the project, by the approved project director or principal investigator.

(4) The need for additional Federal funding.

(5) The transfer of amounts budgeted for indirect costs to absorb increases in direct costs, or vice versa, if approval is required by the DoC.

(6) The inclusion, unless waived by the DoC, of costs that require prior approval in accordance with OMB Circular A-21, "Cost Principles for Educational Institutions," OMB Circular A-122, "Cost Principles for Non-Profit Organizations," 45 CFR part 74 Appendix E, "Principles for Determining Costs Applicable to Research and Development under Grants and Contracts with Hospitals," or 48 CFR part 31, "Contract Cost Principles and Procedures," as applicable.

(7) The transfer of funds allotted for training allowances (direct payment to trainees) to other categories of expense.

(8) Unless described in the application and funded in the approved awards, the subaward, transfer or contracting out of any work under an award. This provision does not apply to the purchase of supplies, material, equipment or general support services.

(d) For nonconstruction awards, no other prior approval requirements for specific items may be imposed unless a deviation has been approved by OMB.

(e) Except for requirements listed in paragraphs (c)(1) and (c)(4) of this sec-

tion, the Grants Officer may waive cost-related and administrative prior written approvals required by this part and OMB Circulars A-21 and A-122. Such waivers may include authorizing recipients to do any one or more of the following:

(1) Incur pre-award costs 90 calendar days prior to award or more than 90 calendar days with the prior approval of the Grants Officer after coordination with the DoC operating unit. All pre-award costs are incurred at the recipient's risk (i.e., the DoC is under no obligation to reimburse such costs if for any reason the recipient does not receive an award or if the award is less than anticipated and inadequate to cover such costs).

(2) Initiate a one-time extension of the expiration date of the award of up to 12 months unless one or more of the following conditions apply. For one-time extensions, the recipient must notify the Grants Officer in writing with the supporting reasons and revised expiration date at least 10 days before the expiration date specified in the award. This one-time extension may not be exercised merely for the purpose of using unobligated balances.

(i) The terms and conditions of award prohibit the extension.

(ii) The extension requires additional Federal funds.

(iii) The extension involves any change in the approved objectives or scope of the project.

(3) Carry forward unobligated balances to subsequent funding periods.

(4) For awards that support research, unless the DoC provides otherwise in the award or in the DoC regulations, the prior approval requirements described in paragraph (e) of this section are automatically waived (i.e., recipients need not obtain such prior approvals) unless one of the conditions included in paragraph (e)(2) of this section applies.

(f) The recipient may not transfer funds among direct cost categories or programs, functions and activities for awards in which the Federal share of

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the project exceeds \$100,000 and the cumulative amount of such transfers exceeds or is expected to exceed 10 percent of the total Federal and non-Federal funds authorized by the Grants Officer. This does not prohibit the recipient from requesting Grants Officer approval for revisions to the budget. No transfers are permitted that would cause any Federal appropriation or part thereof to be used for purposes other than those consistent with the original intent of the appropriation.

(g) All other changes to nonconstruction budgets, except for the changes described in paragraph (j) of this section, do not require prior approval.

(h) For construction awards, recipients shall request prior written approval promptly from the Grants Officer for budget revisions whenever paragraph (h) (1), (2) or (3) apply. Approvals will be provided in writing by the Grants Officer.

(1) The revision results from changes in the scope or the objective of the project or program.

(2) The need arises for additional Federal funds to complete the project.

(3) A revision is desired which involves specific costs for which prior written approval requirements may be imposed consistent with applicable OMB cost principles listed in § 14.27.

(i) For construction awards, no other prior approval requirements for specific items may be imposed unless a deviation has been approved by OMB.

(j) When the DoC makes an award that provides support for both construction and nonconstruction work, the Grants Officer may require the recipient to request prior approval from the Grants Officer before making any fund or budget transfers between the two types of work supported. Approvals will be provided in writing by the Grants Officer.

(k) For both construction and nonconstruction awards, the DoC shall require recipients to notify the Grants Officer in writing promptly whenever the amount of Federal authorized funds is expected to exceed the needs of the recipient for the project period by more than \$5000 or five percent of the Federal award, whichever is greater. This notification shall not be required

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if an application for additional funding is submitted for a continuation award.

(l) When requesting approval for budget revisions, recipients shall use the budget forms that were used in the application unless the Grants Officer indicates a letter of request suffices.

(m) Within 30 calendar days from the date of receipt of the request for budget revisions, DoC shall review the request and the Grants Officer shall notify the recipient in writing whether the budget revisions have been approved. If the revision is still under consideration at the end of 30 calendar days, the Grants Officer shall inform the recipient in writing of the date when the recipient may expect the decision.

63 FR 47156, Sept. 4, 1998, as amended at 66 FR 49828, Oct. 1, 2001]

§ 14.26 Non-Federal audits.

(a) Recipients and subrecipients that are institutions of higher education or other non-profit organizations (including hospitals) shall be subject to the audit requirements contained in the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 (31 U.S.C. 7501-7507) and revised OMB Circular A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations."

(b) State and local governments shall be subject to the audit requirements contained in the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 (31 U.S.C. 7501-7507) and revised OMB Circular A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations."

(c) For-profit hospitals not covered by the audit provisions of revised OMB Circular A-133 shall be subject to the audit requirements as stipulated in the award document.

(d) Commercial and other organizations not covered by paragraph (a), (b), or (c) of this section shall be subject to the audit requirements as stipulated in the award document or the prime recipient as stipulated in the sub-award document.

§ 14.27 Allowable costs.

For each kind of recipient, there is a set of Federal principles for determining allowable costs. Allowability of costs shall be determined in accordance with the cost principles applicable

to the entity incurring the costs. Thus, allowability of costs incurred by State, local or federally-recognized Indian tribal governments is determined in accordance with the provisions of OMB Circular A-87, "Cost Principles for State, Local and Indian Tribal Governments." The allowability of costs incurred by non-profit organizations is determined in accordance with the provisions of OMB Circular A-122, "Cost Principles for Non-Profit Organizations." The allowability of costs incurred by institutions of higher education is determined in accordance with the provisions of OMB Circular A-21, "Cost Principles for Educational Institutions." The allowability of costs incurred by hospitals is determined in accordance with the provisions of Appendix E of 45 CFR part 74, "Principles for Determining Costs Applicable to Research and Development Under Grants and Contracts with Hospitals." The allowability of costs incurred by commercial organizations and those non-profit organizations listed in Attachment C to Circular A-122 is determined in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) at 48 CFR part 31.

§ 14.28 Period of availability of funds.

Where a funding period is specified, a recipient may charge to the grant only allowable costs resulting from obligations incurred during the funding period and any pre-award costs authorized by the Grants Officer.

PROPERTY STANDARDS

§ 14.30 Purpose of property standards.

Sections 14.31 through 14.37 set forth uniform standards governing management and disposition of property furnished by the Federal Government whose cost was charged to a project supported by a Federal award. The DoC shall require recipients to observe these standards under awards and shall not impose additional requirements, unless specifically required by Federal statute. The recipient may use its own property management standards and procedures provided it observes the provisions of §§ 14.31 through 14.37.

§ 14.31 Insurance coverage.

Recipients shall, at a minimum, provide the equivalent insurance coverage for real property and equipment acquired with Federal funds as provided to property owned by the recipient. Federally-owned property need not be insured unless required by the terms and conditions of the award.

§ 14.32 Real property.

The DoC award shall prescribe requirements for recipients concerning the use and disposition of real property acquired in whole or in part under awards. Unless otherwise provided by statute, such requirements, at a minimum, shall contain the following:

(a) Title to real property shall vest in the recipient subject to the condition that the recipient shall use the real property for the authorized purpose of the project as long as it is needed, provided that, in lieu of title, with the approval of the Grants Officer, the recipient may hold a leasehold or other interest in the property appropriate to the project purpose. The recipient shall not dispose of or encumber the property or any interest therein without approval of the Grants Officer.

(b) The recipient shall obtain written approval by the Grants Officer for the use of real property in other federally-sponsored projects when the recipient determines that the property is no longer needed for the purpose of the original project. Use in other projects shall be limited to those under federally-sponsored projects (i.e., awards) or programs that have purposes consistent with those authorized for support by the DoC.

(c) When the real property is no longer needed as provided in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section, the recipient shall request disposition instructions from the DoC or its successor Federal awarding agency. The responsible Federal agency shall observe one or more of the following disposition instructions:

(1) The recipient may be permitted to retain title without further obligation to the Federal Government after it compensates the Federal Government for that percentage of the current fair

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market value of the property attributable to the Federal participation in the project.

(2) The recipient may be directed to sell the property under guidelines provided by the Grants Officer and pay the Federal Government for that percentage of the current fair market value of the property attributable to the Federal participation in the project (after deducting actual and reasonable selling and fix-up expenses, if any, from the sales proceeds). When the recipient is authorized or required to sell the property, proper sales procedures shall be established that provide for competition to the extent practicable and result in the highest possible return.

(3) The recipient may be directed to transfer title to the property to the Federal Government or to an eligible third party provided that, in such cases, the recipient shall be entitled to compensation for its attributable percentage of the current fair market value of the property.

§ 14.33 Federally-owned and exempt property.

(a) *Federally-owned property.* (1) Title to federally-owned property remains vested in the Federal Government. Recipients shall submit annually an inventory listing of federally-owned property in their custody to the DoC operating unit. Upon completion of the award or when the property is no longer needed, the recipient shall report the property to the DoC operating unit for further Federal agency utilization.

(2) If the DoC operating unit has no further need for the property, it shall be declared excess and reported to the General Services Administration, unless the DoC has statutory authority to dispose of the property by alternative methods (e.g., the authority provided by the Federal Technology Transfer Act (15 U.S.C. 3710(I)) to donate research equipment to educational and non-profit organizations in accordance with E.O. 12821, "Improving Mathematics and Science Education in Support of the National Education Goals.") Appropriate instructions shall be issued to the recipient by the Grants Officer.

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(b) *Exempt property.* When statutory authority exists, the DoC has the option to vest title to property acquired with Federal funds in the recipient without further obligation to the Federal Government and under conditions the DoC considers appropriate. Such property is "exempt property." Should the DoC not establish conditions, title to exempt property upon acquisition shall vest in the recipient without further obligation to the Federal Government.

§ 14.34 Equipment.

(a) Title to equipment acquired by a recipient with Federal funds shall vest in the recipient, subject to conditions of this section.

(b) The recipient shall not use equipment acquired with Federal funds to provide services to non-Federal outside organizations for a fee that is less than private companies charge for equivalent services, unless specifically authorized by Federal statute, for as long as the Federal Government retains an interest in the equipment.

(c) The recipient shall use the equipment in the project or program for which it was acquired as long as needed, whether or not the project or program continues to be supported by Federal funds and shall not encumber the property without approval of the DoC. When no longer needed for the original project or program, the recipient shall use the equipment in connection with its other federally-sponsored activities, in the following order of priority:

(1) Activities sponsored by the DoC operating unit which funded the original project;

(2) Activities sponsored by other DoC operating units; then

(3) Activities sponsored by other Federal awarding agencies.

(d) During the time that equipment is used on the project or program for which it was acquired, the recipient shall make it available for use on other projects or programs if such other use will not interfere with the work on the project or program for which the equipment was originally acquired. First preference for such other use shall be given to other projects or programs sponsored by the DoC operating unit that financed the equipment; second

preference shall be given to projects or programs sponsored by other DoC operating units, and third preference shall be given to projects or programs sponsored by other Federal awarding agencies. If the equipment is owned by the Federal Government, use on other activities not sponsored by the Federal Government shall be permissible if authorized by the Grants Officer after coordination with the DoC operating unit. User charges shall be treated as program income.

(e) When acquiring replacement equipment, the recipient may use the equipment to be replaced as trade-in or sell the equipment and use the proceeds to offset the costs of the replacement equipment subject to the approval of the Grants Officer after coordination with the DoC operating unit.

(f) The recipient's property management standards for equipment acquired with Federal funds and federally-owned equipment shall include all of the following:

(1) Equipment records shall be maintained accurately and shall include the following information:

- (i) A description of the equipment.
- (ii) Manufacturer's serial number, model number, Federal stock number, national stock number, or other identification number.
- (iii) Source of the equipment, including the award number.
- (iv) Whether title vests in the recipient or the Federal Government.
- (v) Acquisition date (or date received, if the equipment was furnished by the Federal Government) and cost.
- (vi) Information from which one can calculate the percentage of Federal participation in the cost of the equipment (not applicable to equipment furnished by the Federal Government).
- (vii) Location and condition of the equipment and the date the information was reported.
- (viii) Unit acquisition cost.
- (ix) Ultimate disposition data, including date of disposal and sales price or the method used to determine current fair market value where a recipient compensates the DoC for its share.

(2) Equipment owned by the Federal Government shall be identified to indicate Federal ownership.

(3) A physical inventory of equipment shall be taken and the results reconciled with the equipment records at least once every two years. Any differences between quantities determined by the physical inspection and those shown in the accounting records shall be investigated to determine the causes of the difference. The recipient shall, in connection with the inventory, verify the existence, current utilization, and continued need for the equipment.

(4) A control system shall be in effect to insure adequate safeguards to prevent loss, damage, or theft of the equipment. Any loss, damage, or theft of equipment shall be investigated and fully documented; if the equipment was owned by the Federal Government, the recipient shall promptly notify the Grants Officer.

(5) Adequate maintenance procedures shall be implemented to keep the equipment in good condition.

(6) Where the recipient is authorized or required to sell the equipment, proper sales procedures shall be established which provide for competition to the extent practicable and result in the highest possible return.

(g) When the recipient no longer needs the equipment, the equipment may be used for other activities in accordance with the following standards. Equipment with a current per-unit fair market value of less than \$5000 may be retained, sold, or otherwise disposed of with no further obligation to the awarding agency. For equipment with a current per unit fair market value of \$5000 or more, the recipient may retain the equipment for other uses provided that compensation is made to the DoC operating unit or its successor. The amount of compensation shall be computed by applying the percentage of Federal participation in the cost of the original project or program to the current fair market value of the equipment. If the recipient has no need for the equipment, the recipient shall request disposition instructions from the Grants Officer. The Grants Officer shall determine whether the equipment can be used to meet the agency's requirements. If no requirement exists within that agency, the availability of the equipment shall be reported to the

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General Services Administration by the Grants Officer to determine whether a requirement for the equipment exists in other Federal agencies. The Grants Officer shall issue instructions to the recipient no later than 120 calendar days after the recipient's request and the following procedures shall govern:

(1) If so instructed or if disposition instructions are not issued within 120 calendar days after the recipient's request, the recipient shall sell the equipment and reimburse the DoC an amount computed by applying to the sales proceeds the percentage of Federal participation in the cost of the original project or program. However, the recipient shall be permitted to deduct and retain from the Federal share \$500 or ten percent of the proceeds, whichever is less, for the recipient's selling and handling expenses.

(2) If the recipient is instructed to ship the equipment elsewhere, the recipient shall be reimbursed by the Federal Government by an amount which is computed by applying the percentage of the recipient's participation in the cost of the original project or program to the current fair market value of the equipment, plus any reasonable shipping or interim storage costs incurred.

(3) If the recipient is instructed to otherwise dispose of the equipment, the recipient shall be reimbursed by the DoC for such costs incurred in its disposition.

(h) The DoC reserves the right to transfer the title to the Federal Government or to a third party named by the Federal Government when such third party is otherwise eligible under existing statutes. Such transfer shall be subject to the following standards:

(1) The equipment shall be appropriately identified in the award or otherwise made known to the recipient in writing.

(2) The Grants Officer shall issue disposition instructions within 120 calendar days after receipt of a final inventory. The final inventory shall list all equipment acquired with grant funds and federally-owned equipment. If the Grants Officer fails to issue written disposition instructions within the 120 calendar day period, the recipient

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shall apply the standards of this section, as appropriate.

(3) When the DoC exercises its right to take title, the equipment shall be subject to the provisions for federally-owned equipment.

§ 14.35 Supplies and other expendable property.

(a) Title to supplies and other expendable property shall vest in the recipient upon acquisition. If there is a residual inventory of supplies exceeding \$5000 in total aggregate value upon termination or completion of the project or program and the supplies are not needed for any other federally-sponsored project or program, the recipient shall retain the supplies for use on non-Federal sponsored activities or sell them, but shall, in either case, compensate the Federal Government for its share. The amount of compensation shall be computed in the same manner as for equipment.

(b) The recipient shall not use supplies acquired with Federal funds to provide services to non-Federal outside organizations for a fee that is less than private companies charge for equivalent services, unless specifically authorized by Federal statute as long as the Federal Government retains an interest in the supplies.

§ 14.36 Intangible property.

(a) The recipient may copyright any work that is subject to copyright and was developed, or for which ownership was purchased, under an award. The DoC reserves a royalty-free, nonexclusive and irrevocable right to reproduce, publish, or otherwise use the work for Federal purposes, and to authorize others to do so.

(b) Recipients are subject to applicable regulations governing patents and inventions, including government-wide regulations issued by the DoC at 37 CFR part 401, "Rights to Inventions Made by Nonprofit Organizations and Small Business Firms Under Government Grants, Contracts and Cooperative Agreements."

(c) The Federal Government has the right to:

(1) Obtain, reproduce, publish or otherwise use the data first produced under an award; and

(2) Authorize others to receive, reproduce, publish, or otherwise use such data for Federal purposes.

(d)(1) In addition, in response to a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for research data relating to published research findings produced under an award that were used by the Federal Government in developing an agency action that has the force and effect of law, the DoC shall request, and the recipient shall provide, within a reasonable time, the research data so that they can be made available to the public through the procedures established under the FOIA. If the DoC obtains the research data solely in response to a FOIA request, the agency may charge the requester a reasonable fee equaling the full incremental cost of obtaining the research data. This fee should reflect costs incurred by the agency, the recipient, and applicable subrecipients. This fee is in addition to any fees the agency may assess under the FOIA (5 U.S.C. 552(a)(4)(A)).

(2) The following definitions apply for purposes of this paragraph (d):

(i) *Research data* is defined as the recorded factual material commonly accepted in the scientific community as necessary to validate research findings, but not any of the following: preliminary analyses, drafts of scientific papers, plans for future research, peer reviews, or communications with colleagues. This “recorded” material excludes physical objects (e.g., laboratory samples). *Research data* also do not include:

(A) Trade secrets, commercial information, materials necessary to be held confidential by a researcher until they are published, or similar information which is protected under law; and

(B) Personnel and medical information and similar information the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, such as information that could be used to identify a particular person in a research study.

(ii) *Published* is defined as either when:

(A) Research findings are published in a peer-reviewed scientific or technical journal; or

(B) A Federal agency publicly and officially cites the research findings in

support of an agency action that has the force and effect of law.

(iii) *Used by the Federal Government in developing an agency action that has the force and effect of law* is defined as when an agency publicly and officially cites the research findings in support of an agency action that has the force and effect of law.

(e) Title to intangible property and debt instruments acquired under an award or subaward vests upon acquisition in the recipient. The recipient shall use that property for the originally-authorized purpose, and the recipient shall not encumber the property without written approval from the Grants Officer. When no longer needed for the originally authorized purpose, disposition of the intangible property shall occur in accordance with the provisions of §14.34(g).

[63 FR 47156, Sept. 4, 1998, as amended at 65 FR 14407, 14409, Mar. 16, 2000]

§ 14.37 Property trust relationship.

Real property, equipment, intangible property and debt instruments that are acquired or improved with Federal funds shall be held in trust by the recipient as trustee for the beneficiaries of the project or program under which the property was acquired or improved. The Grants Officer may require recipients to record liens or other appropriate notices of record to indicate that personal or real property has been acquired or improved with Federal funds and that use and disposition conditions apply to the property.

PROCUREMENT STANDARDS

§ 14.40 Purpose of procurement standards.

Sections 14.41 through 14.48 set forth standards for use by recipients in establishing procedures for the procurement of supplies and other expendable property, equipment, real property and other services with Federal funds. These standards are furnished to ensure that such materials and services are obtained in an effective manner and in compliance with the provisions of applicable Federal statutes and executive orders. No additional procurement standards or requirements shall be imposed by the DoC upon recipients,

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unless specifically required by Federal statute or executive order or approved by OMB.

§ 14.41 Recipient responsibilities.

The standards contained in this section do not relieve the recipient of the contractual responsibilities arising under its contract(s). The recipient is the responsible authority, without recourse to the DoC, regarding the settlement and satisfaction of all contractual and administrative issues arising out of procurements entered into in support of an award or other agreement. This includes disputes, claims, protests of award, source evaluation or other matters of a contractual nature. Matters concerning violation of statute are to be referred to such Federal, State or local authority as may have proper jurisdiction.

§ 14.42 Codes of conduct.

The recipient shall maintain written standards of conduct governing the performance of its employees engaged in the award and administration of contracts. No employee, officer, or agent shall participate in the selection, award, or administration of a contract supported by Federal funds if a real or apparent conflict of interest would be involved. Such a conflict would arise when the employee, officer, or agent, any member of his or her immediate family, his or her partner, or an organization which employs or is about to employ any of the parties indicated herein, has a financial or other interest in the firm selected for an award. The officers, employees, and agents of the recipient shall neither solicit nor accept gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from contractors, or parties to subagreements. However, recipients may set standards for situations in which the financial interest is not substantial or the gift is an unsolicited item of nominal value. The standards of conduct shall provide for disciplinary actions to be applied for violations of such standards by officers, employees, or agents of the recipient.

§ 14.43 Competition.

All procurement transactions shall be conducted in a manner to provide,

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to the maximum extent practical, open and free competition. The recipient shall be alert to organizational conflicts of interest as well as noncompetitive practices among contractors that may restrict or eliminate competition or otherwise restrain trade. In order to ensure objective contractor performance and eliminate unfair competitive advantage, contractors that develop or draft specifications, requirements, statements of work, invitations for bids and/or requests for proposals shall be excluded from competing for such procurements. Awards shall be made to the bidder or offeror whose bid or offer is responsive to the solicitation and is most advantageous to the recipient, price, quality and other factors considered. Solicitations shall clearly set forth all requirements that the bidder or offeror shall fulfill in order for the bid or offer to be evaluated by the recipient. Any and all bids or offers may be rejected when it is in the recipient's interest to do so.

§ 14.44 Procurement procedures.

(a) All recipients shall establish written procurement procedures. These procedures shall provide for, at a minimum, that:

(1) Recipients avoid purchasing unnecessary items;

(2) Where appropriate, an analysis is made of lease and purchase alternatives to determine which would be the most economical and practical procurement for the Federal Government; and

(3) Solicitations for goods and services provide for all of the following:

(i) A clear and accurate description of the technical requirements for the material, product or service to be procured. In competitive procurements, such a description shall not contain features which unduly restrict competition.

(ii) Requirements which the bidder/offeror must fulfill and all other factors to be used in evaluating bids or proposals.

(iii) A description, whenever practicable, of technical requirements in terms of functions to be performed or performance required, including the range of acceptable characteristics or minimum acceptable standards.

(iv) The specific features of “brand name or equal” descriptions that bidders are required to meet when such items are included in the solicitation.

(v) The acceptance, to the extent practicable and economically feasible, of products and services dimensioned in the metric system of measurement.

(vi) Preference, to the extent practicable and economically feasible, for products and services that conserve natural resources and protect the environment and are energy efficient.

(b) Positive efforts shall be made by recipients to utilize small businesses, minority-owned firms, and women’s business enterprises, whenever possible. Recipients of Federal awards shall take all of the following steps to further this goal:

(1) Ensure that small businesses, minority-owned firms, and women’s business enterprises are used to the fullest extent practicable.

(2) Make information on forthcoming opportunities available and arrange time frames for purchases and contracts to encourage and facilitate participation by small businesses, minority-owned firms, and women’s business enterprises.

(3) Consider in the contract process whether firms competing for larger contracts intend to subcontract with small businesses, minority-owned firms, and women’s business enterprises.

(4) Encourage contracting with consortiums of small businesses, minority-owned firms and women’s business enterprises when a contract is too large for one of these firms to handle individually.

(5) Use the services and assistance, as appropriate, of such organizations as the Small Business Administration and the DoC’s Minority Business Development Agency in the solicitation and utilization of small businesses, minority-owned firms and women’s business enterprises.

(c) The type of procuring instruments used (e.g., fixed price contracts, cost reimbursable contracts, purchase orders, and incentive contracts) shall be determined by the recipient but shall be appropriate for the particular procurement and for promoting the best interest of the program or project in-

involved. The “cost-plus-a-percentage-of-cost” or “percentage of construction cost” methods of contracting shall not be used.

(d) Contracts shall be made only with responsible contractors who possess the potential ability to perform successfully under the terms and conditions of the proposed procurement. Consideration shall be given to such matters as contractor integrity, record of past performance, financial and technical resources or accessibility to other necessary resources. In certain circumstances, contracts with certain parties are restricted by agencies’ implementation of E.O.s 12549 and 12689, “Debarment and Suspension,” as implemented by DoC regulations at 15 CFR part 26.

(e) Recipients shall, on request, make available for the Grants Officer, pre-award review and procurement documents, such as request for proposals or invitations for bids, independent cost estimates, etc., when any of the following conditions apply:

(1) A recipient’s procurement procedures or operation fails to comply with the procurement standards in this part.

(2) The procurement is expected to exceed the simplified acquisition threshold fixed at 41 U.S.C. 403 (11) (currently \$100,000) and is to be awarded without competition or only one bid or offer is received in response to a solicitation.

(3) The procurement, which is expected to exceed the simplified acquisition threshold, specifies a “brand name” product.

(4) The proposed award over the simplified acquisition threshold is to be awarded to other than the apparent low bidder under a sealed bid procurement.

(5) A proposed contract modification changes the scope of a contract or increases the contract amount by more than the amount of the simplified acquisition threshold.

§ 14.45 Cost and price analysis.

Some form of cost or price analysis shall be made and documented in the procurement files in connection with every procurement action. Price analysis may be accomplished in various ways, including the comparison of

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price quotations submitted, market prices and similar indicia, together with discounts. Cost analysis is the review and evaluation of each element of cost to determine reasonableness, allocability and allowability.

§ 14.46 Procurement records.

Procurement records and files for purchases in excess of the simplified acquisition threshold shall include the following at a minimum:

- (a) Basis for contractor selection;
- (b) Justification for lack of competition when competitive bids or offers are not obtained; and
- (c) Basis for award cost or price.

§ 14.47 Contract administration.

A system for contract administration shall be maintained to ensure contractor conformance with the terms, conditions and specifications of the contract and to ensure adequate and timely follow up of all purchases. Recipients shall evaluate contractor performance and document, as appropriate, whether contractors have met the terms, conditions and specifications of the contract.

§ 14.48 Contract provisions.

The recipient shall include, in addition to provisions to define a sound and complete agreement, the following provisions in all contracts. The following provisions shall also be applied to subcontracts:

(a) Contracts in excess of the simplified acquisition threshold shall contain contractual provisions or conditions that allow for administrative, contractual, or legal remedies in instances in which a contractor violates or breaches the contract terms, and provide for such remedial actions as may be appropriate.

(b) All contracts in excess of the simplified acquisition threshold shall contain suitable provisions for termination by the recipient, including the manner by which termination shall be effected and the basis for settlement. In addition, such contracts shall describe conditions under which the contract may be terminated for default as well as conditions where the contract may be terminated because of cir-

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cumstances beyond the control of the contractor.

(c) Except as otherwise required by statute, an award that requires the contracting (or subcontracting) for construction or facility improvements shall provide for the recipient to follow its own requirements relating to bid guarantees, performance bonds, and payment bonds unless the construction contract or subcontract exceeds \$100,000. For those contracts or subcontracts exceeding \$100,000, the DoC may accept the bonding policy and requirements of the recipient, provided the Grants Officer has made a determination that the Federal Government's interest is adequately protected. If such a determination has not been made, the minimum requirements shall be as follows:

(1) A bid guarantee from each bidder equivalent to five percent of the bid price. The "bid guarantee" shall consist of a firm commitment such as a bid bond, certified check, or other negotiable instrument accompanying a bid as assurance that the bidder shall, upon acceptance of his bid, execute such contractual documents as may be required within the time specified.

(2) A performance bond on the part of the contractor for 100 percent of the contract price. A "performance bond" is one executed in connection with a contract to secure fulfillment of all the contractor's obligations under such contract.

(3) A payment bond on the part of the contractor for 100 percent of the contract price. A "payment bond" is one executed in connection with a contract to assure payment as required by statute of all persons supplying labor and material in the execution of the work provided for in the contract.

(4) Where bonds are required in the situations described in this part, the bonds shall be obtained from companies holding certificates of authority as acceptable sureties pursuant to 31 CFR part 223, "Surety Companies Doing Business with the United States."

(d) All negotiated contracts (except those for less than the simplified acquisition threshold) awarded by recipients shall include a provision to the effect that the recipient, the DoC, the

Comptroller General of the United States, or any of their duly authorized representatives, shall have access to any books, documents, papers and records of the contractor which are directly pertinent to a specific program for the purpose of making audits, examinations, excerpts and transcriptions.

(e) All contracts, including small purchases, awarded by recipients and their contractors shall contain the procurement provisions of Appendix A to this part, as applicable.

REPORTS AND RECORDS

§ 14.50 Purpose of reports and records.

Sections 14.51 through 14.53 set forth the procedures for monitoring and reporting on the recipient's financial and program performance and the necessary standard reporting forms. They also set forth record retention requirements.

§ 14.51 Monitoring and reporting program performance.

(a) Recipients are responsible for managing and monitoring each project, program, subaward, function or activity supported by the award. Recipients shall monitor subawards to ensure sub-recipients have met the audit requirements as delineated in § 14.26.

(b) The Grants Officer after coordination with the DoC operating unit shall prescribe the frequency with which the performance reports shall be submitted. Except as provided in paragraph (f) of this section, performance reports shall not be required more frequently than quarterly or, less frequently than annually. Annual reports shall be due 90 calendar days after the grant year; quarterly or semi-annual reports shall be due 30 days after the reporting period. The Grants Officer may require annual reports before the anniversary dates of multiple year awards in lieu of these requirements. The final performance reports are due 90 calendar days after the expiration or termination of the award.

(c) If inappropriate, a final technical or performance report shall not be required after completion of the project.

(d) When required, performance reports shall generally contain, for each

award, brief information on each of the following:

(1) A comparison of actual accomplishments with the goals and objectives established for the period, the findings of the investigator, or both. Whenever appropriate and the output of programs or projects can be readily quantified, such quantitative data should be related to cost data for computation of unit costs.

(2) Reasons why established goals were not met, if appropriate.

(3) Other pertinent information including, when appropriate, analysis and explanation of cost overruns or high unit costs.

(e) Recipients shall not be required to submit more than the original and two copies of performance reports.

(f) Recipients shall immediately notify the DoC operating unit of developments that have a significant impact on the award-supported activities. Also, notification shall be given in the case of problems, delays, or adverse conditions which materially impair the ability to meet the objectives of the award. This notification shall include a statement of the action taken or contemplated, and any assistance needed to resolve the situation.

(g) The DoC may make site visits, as needed.

(h) Federal awarding agencies shall comply with clearance requirements of 5 CFR part 1320 when requesting performance data from recipients.

§ 14.52 Financial reporting.

(a) The following forms or such other forms as may be approved by OMB are authorized for obtaining financial information from recipients:

(1) SF-269 or SF-269A, Financial Status Report.

(i) Each DoC award shall require recipients to use the SF-269 or SF-269A to report the status of funds for all nonconstruction projects or programs. The DoC, however, has the option of not requiring the SF-269 or SF-269A when the SF-270, Request for Advance or Reimbursement, or SF-272, Report of Federal Cash Transactions, is determined to provide adequate information to meet its needs, except that a final SF-269 or SF-269A shall be required at

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the completion of the project when the SF-270 is used only for advances.

(ii) The DoC shall prescribe whether the report shall be on a cash or accrual basis. If the DoC requires accrual information and the recipient's accounting records are not normally kept on the accrual basis, the recipient shall not be required to convert its accounting system, but shall develop such accrual information through best estimates based on an analysis of the documentation on hand.

(iii) The DoC shall determine the frequency of the Financial Status Report for each project or program, considering the size and complexity of the particular project or program. However, the report shall not be required more frequently than quarterly or less frequently than annually. A final report shall be required at the completion of the agreement.

(iv) The DoC shall require recipients to submit the SF-269 or SF-269A (an original and no more than two copies) no later than 30 days after the end of each specified reporting period for quarterly and semi-annual reports, and 90 calendar days for annual and final reports. Extensions of reporting due dates may be approved by the Grants Officer upon request of the recipient.

(2) SF-272, Report of Federal Cash Transactions.

(i) When funds are advanced to recipients the DoC shall require each recipient to submit the SF-272 and, when necessary, its continuation sheet, SF-272a. The DoC shall use this report to monitor funds advanced to recipients and to obtain disbursement information for each agreement with the recipients.

(ii) The DoC may require forecasts of Federal funds requirements in the "Remarks" section of the report.

(iii) When practical and deemed necessary, the DoC may require recipients to report in the "Remarks" section the amount of advances received in excess of three days. Recipients shall provide short narrative explanations of actions taken to reduce the excess balances.

(iv) Recipients shall be required to submit not more than the original and two copies of the SF-272 15 calendar days following the end of each quarter. The Grants Officer may require a

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monthly report from those recipients receiving advances totaling \$1 million or more per year.

(v) The Grants Officer may waive the requirement for submission of the SF-272 for any one of the following reasons:

(A) When monthly advances do not exceed \$25,000 per recipient, provided that such advances are monitored through other forms contained in this section;

(B) If, in the Grants Officer's opinion, the recipient's accounting controls are adequate to minimize excessive Federal advances; or

(C) When the electronic payment mechanisms provide adequate data.

(b) When the DoC needs additional information or more frequent reports, the following shall be observed:

(1) When additional information is needed to comply with legislative requirements, the Grants Officer shall issue instructions to require recipients to submit such information under the "Remarks" section of the reports.

(2) When the DoC determines that a recipient's accounting system does not meet the standards in §14.21, additional pertinent information to further monitor awards may be obtained upon written notice to the recipient until such time as the system is brought up to standard. The DoC, in obtaining this information, shall comply with report clearance requirements of 5 CFR part 1320.

(3) Grants Officers are encouraged to shade out any line item on any report if not necessary.

(4) The DoC may accept the identical information from the recipients in machine readable format or computer printouts or electronic outputs in lieu of prescribed formats.

(5) The DoC may provide computer or electronic outputs to recipients when such expedites or contributes to the accuracy of reporting.

§ 14.53 Retention and access requirements for records.

(a) This section sets forth requirements for record retention and access to records for awards to recipients. The DoC shall not impose any other record retention or access requirements upon recipients.

(b) Financial records, supporting documents, statistical records, and all other records pertinent to an award shall be retained for a period of three years from the date of submission of the final expenditure report or, for awards that are renewed quarterly or annually, from the date of the submission of the quarterly or annual financial report, as authorized by the DoC. The only exceptions are the following:

(1) If any litigation, claim, or audit is started before the expiration of the 3-year period, the records shall be retained until all litigation, claims or audit findings involving the records have been resolved and final action taken.

(2) Records for real property and equipment acquired with Federal funds shall be retained for 3 years after final disposition.

(3) When records are transferred to or maintained by the DoC, the 3-year retention requirement is not applicable to the recipient.

(4) Indirect cost rate proposals, cost allocations plans, etc. as specified in paragraph (g) of this section.

(c) Copies of original records may be substituted for the original records if authorized by the DoC.

(d) The Grants Officer after coordination with the DoC operating unit shall request transfer of certain records to its custody from recipients when it determines that the records possess long term retention value. However, in order to avoid duplicate recordkeeping, a DoC operating unit or Grants Officer may make arrangements for recipients to retain any records that are continuously needed for joint use.

(e) The DoC, the Inspector General, Comptroller General of the United States, or any of their duly authorized representatives, have the right of timely and unrestricted access to any books, documents, papers, or other records of recipients that are pertinent to the awards, in order to make audits, examinations, excerpts, transcripts and copies of such documents. This right also includes timely and reasonable access to a recipient's personnel for the purpose of interview and discussion related to such documents. The rights of access in this paragraph are not lim-

ited to the required retention period, but shall last as long as records are retained.

(f) Unless required by statute, no DoC operating unit shall place restrictions on recipients that limit public access to the records of recipients that are pertinent to an award, except when the DoC operating unit can demonstrate that such records shall be kept confidential and would have been exempted from disclosure pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) if the records had belonged to the DoC operating unit.

(g) Paragraphs (g)(1) and (g)(2) of this section apply to the following types of documents, and their supporting records: indirect cost rate computations or proposals, cost allocation plans, and any similar accounting computations of the rate at which a particular group of costs is chargeable (such as computer usage chargeback rates or composite fringe benefit rates).

(1) If the recipient submits to the Federal awarding agency responsible for negotiating the recipient's indirect cost rate or the subrecipient submits to the recipient the proposal, plan, or other computation to form the basis for negotiation of the rate, then the 3-year retention period for its supporting records starts on the date of such submission.

(2) If the recipient is not required to submit to the cognizant Federal awarding agency or the subrecipient is not required to submit to the recipient the proposal, plan, or other computation for negotiation purposes, then the 3-year retention period for the proposal, plan, or other computation and its supporting records starts at the end of the fiscal year (or other accounting period) covered by the proposal, plan, or other computation.

TERMINATION AND ENFORCEMENT

§ 14.60 Purpose of termination and enforcement.

Sections 14.61 and 14.62 set forth uniform suspension, termination and enforcement procedures.

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§ 14.61 Termination.

(a) Awards may be terminated in whole or in part only if paragraph (a)(1), (2) or (3) apply.

(1) By the Grants Officer, if a recipient materially fails to comply with the terms and conditions of an award.

(2) By the Grants Officer with the consent of the recipient, in which case the two parties shall agree upon the termination conditions, including the effective date and, in the case of partial termination, the portion to be terminated.

(3) By the recipient upon sending to the Grants Officer written notification setting forth the reasons for such termination, the effective date, and, in the case of partial termination, the portion to be terminated. However, if the Grants Officer determines in the case of partial termination that the reduced or modified portion of the grant will not accomplish the purposes for which the grant was made, it may terminate the grant in its entirety under either paragraph (a)(1) or (2).

(b) If costs are allowed under an award, the responsibilities of the recipient referred to in §14.71(a), including those for property management as applicable, shall be considered in the termination of the award, and provision shall be made for continuing responsibilities of the recipient after termination, as appropriate.

§ 14.62 Enforcement.

(a) *Remedies for noncompliance.* If a recipient materially fails to comply with the terms and conditions of an award, whether stated in a Federal statute, regulation, assurance, application, or notice of award, the Grants Officer may, in addition to imposing any of the special conditions outlined in §14.14, take one or more of the following actions, as appropriate in the circumstances:

(1) Temporarily withhold payments of funds pending correction of the deficiency by the recipient or more severe enforcement action by the Grants Officer after coordination with the DoC operating unit.

(2) Disallow (that is, deny both use of funds and any applicable matching credit for) all or part of the cost of the activity or action not in compliance.

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(3) Wholly or partly suspend or terminate the current award.

(4) Withhold further awards for the project or program.

(5) Take other remedies that may be legally available.

(b) *Hearings and appeals.* In taking an enforcement action, the awarding agency shall provide the recipient an opportunity for hearing, appeal, or other administrative proceeding to which the recipient is entitled under any statute or regulation applicable to the action involved.

(c) *Effects of suspension and termination.* Costs of a recipient resulting from obligations incurred by the recipient during a suspension or after termination of an award are not allowable unless the awarding agency expressly authorizes them in the notice of suspension or termination or subsequently. Other recipient costs during suspension or after termination which are necessary and not reasonably avoidable are allowable if paragraphs (c) (1) and (2) of this section apply.

(1) The costs result from obligations which were properly incurred by the recipient before the effective date of suspension or termination, are not in anticipation of it, and in the case of a termination, are noncancellable.

(2) The costs would be allowable if the award were not suspended or expired normally at the end of the funding period in which the termination takes effect.

(d) *Relationship to debarment and suspension.* The enforcement remedies identified in this section, including suspension and termination, do not preclude a recipient from being subject to debarment and suspension under E.O.s 12549 and 12689 and the DoC implementing regulations (see §14.13) at 15 CFR part 26.

Subpart D—After-the-Award Requirements

§ 14.70 Purpose.

Sections 14.71 through 14.73 contain closeout procedures and other procedures for subsequent disallowances and adjustments.

§ 14.71 Closeout procedures.

(a) Recipients shall submit, within 90 calendar days after the date of completion of the award, all financial, performance, and other reports as required by the terms and conditions of the award. The Grants Officer may approve extensions when requested by the recipient.

(b) Unless the Grants Officer authorizes an extension, a recipient shall liquidate all obligations incurred under the award not later than 90 calendar days after the funding period or the date of completion as specified in the terms and conditions of the award or in agency implementing instructions.

(c) The Grants Officer shall authorize and the DoC shall make prompt payments to a recipient for allowable reimbursable costs under the award being closed out.

(d) The recipient shall promptly refund any balances of unobligated funds that the DoC has advanced or paid and that is not authorized to be retained by the recipient for use in other projects. OMB Circular A-129 governs unreturned amounts that become delinquent debts.

(e) When authorized by the terms and conditions of the award, the Grants Officer shall make a settlement for any upward or downward adjustments to the Federal share of costs after closeout reports are received.

(f) The recipient shall account for any real and personal property acquired with Federal funds or received from the Federal Government in accordance with §§ 14.31 through 14.37.

(g) In the event a final audit has not been performed prior to the closeout of an award, the DoC shall retain the right to recover an appropriate amount after fully considering the recommendations on disallowed costs resulting from the final audit.

§ 14.72 Subsequent adjustments and continuing responsibilities.

(a) The closeout of an award does not affect any of the following:

(1) The right of the DoC to disallow costs and recover funds on the basis of a later audit or other review.

(2) The obligation of the recipient to return any funds due as a result of

later refunds, corrections, or other transactions.

(3) Audit requirements in § 14.26.

(4) Property management requirements in §§ 14.31 through 14.37.

(5) Records retention as required in § 14.53.

(b) After closeout of an award, a relationship created under an award may be modified or ended in whole or in part with the consent of the DoC and the recipient, provided the responsibilities of the recipient referred to in § 14.73(a), including those for property management as applicable, are considered and provisions made for continuing responsibilities of the recipient, as appropriate.

§ 14.73 Collection of amounts due.

(a) Any funds paid to a recipient in excess of the amount to which the recipient is finally determined to be entitled under the terms and conditions of the award constitute a debt to the Federal Government. If not paid within a reasonable period after the demand for payment, the Grants Officer may reduce the debt by:

(1) Making an administrative offset against other requests for reimbursements;

(2) Withholding advance payments otherwise due to the recipient; or

(3) Taking other action permitted by statute.

(b) Except as otherwise provided by law, the DoC shall charge interest on an overdue debt in accordance with 4 CFR Chapter II, "Federal Claims Collection Standards."

APPENDIX A TO PART 14—CONTRACT PROVISIONS

All contracts, awarded by a recipient including small purchases, shall contain the following provisions as applicable:

1. *Equal Employment Opportunity*—All contracts shall contain a provision requiring compliance with E.O. 11246, "Equal Employment Opportunity," as amended by E.O. 11375, "Amending Executive Order 11246 Relating to Equal Employment Opportunity," and as supplemented by regulations at 41 CFR part 60, "Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, Equal Employment Opportunity, Department of Labor."

2. *Copeland "Anti-Kickback" Act (18 U.S.C. 874 and 40 U.S.C. 276c)*—All contracts and subgrants in excess of \$2000 for construction or

repair awarded by recipients and subrecipients shall include a provision for compliance with the Copeland "Anti-Kickback" Act (18 U.S.C. 874), as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR part 3, "Contractors and Subcontractors on Public Building or Public Work Financed in Whole or in Part by Loans or Grants from the United States"). The Act provides that each contractor or subrecipient shall be prohibited from inducing, by any means, any person employed in the construction, completion, or repair of public work, to give up any part of the compensation to which he is otherwise entitled. The recipient shall report all suspected or reported violations to the DoC operating unit.

3. *Davis-Bacon Act, as amended (40 U.S.C. 276a to a-7)*—When required by Federal program legislation, all construction contracts awarded by the recipients and subrecipients of more than \$2000 shall include a provision for compliance with the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. 276a to a-7) and as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR part 5, "Labor Standards Provisions Applicable to Contracts Governing Federally Financed and Assisted Construction"). Under this Act, contractors shall be required to pay wages to laborers and mechanics at a rate not less than the minimum wages specified in a wage determination made by the Secretary of Labor. In addition, contractors shall be required to pay wages not less than once a week. The recipient shall place a copy of the current prevailing wage determination issued by the Department of Labor in each solicitation and the award of a contract shall be conditioned upon the acceptance of the wage determination. The recipient shall report all suspected or reported violations to the DoC operating unit.

4. *Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. 327-333)*—Where applicable, all contracts awarded by recipients exceeding \$100,000 for construction contracts and for other contracts that involve the employment of mechanics or laborers shall include a provision for compliance with Sections 102 and 107 of the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. 327-333), as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR Part 5). Under Section 102 of the Act, each contractor shall be required to compute the wages of every mechanic and laborer on the basis of a standard work week of 40 hours. Work in excess of the standard work week is permissible provided that the worker is compensated at a rate of not less than 1½ times the basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of 40 hours in the work week. Section 107 of the Act is applicable to construction work and provides that no laborer or mechanic shall be required to work in surroundings or under working conditions which are unsanitary, hazardous or dan-

gerous. These requirements do not apply to the purchases of supplies or materials or articles ordinarily available on the open market, or contracts for transportation or transmission of intelligence.

5. *Rights to Inventions Made Under a Contract or Agreement*—Contracts or agreements for the performance of experimental, developmental, or research work shall provide for the rights of the Federal Government and the recipient in any resulting invention in accordance with 37 CFR part 401, "Rights to Inventions Made by Nonprofit Organizations and Small Business Firms Under Government Grants, Contracts and Cooperative Agreements," and any implementing regulations issued by the awarding agency.

6. *Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.)* and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.), as amended—Contracts and subgrants of amounts in excess of \$100,000 shall contain a provision that requires the recipient to agree to comply with all applicable standards, orders or regulations issued pursuant to the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.) and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act as amended (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.). Violations shall be reported to the DoC operating unit and the Regional Office of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

7. *Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment (31 U.S.C. 1352)*—Contractors who apply or bid for an award exceeding \$100,000 shall file the required certification. Each tier certifies to the tier above that it will not and has not used Federal appropriated funds to pay any person or organization for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with obtaining any Federal contract, grant or any other award covered by 31 U.S.C. 1352. Each tier shall also disclose any lobbying with non-Federal funds that takes place in connection with obtaining any Federal award. Such disclosures are forwarded from tier to tier up to the recipient.

8. *Debarment and Suspension (E.O.s 12549 and 12689)*—No contract shall be made to parties listed on the General Services Administration's List of Parties Excluded from Federal Procurement or Nonprocurement Programs in accordance with E.O.s 12549 and 12689, "Debarment and Suspension" as implemented by DoC regulations at 15 CFR part 26. This list contains the names of parties debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded by agencies, and contractors declared ineligible under statutory or regulatory authority other than E.O. 12549. Contractors with

awards that exceed the simplified acquisition threshold shall provide the required certification regarding its exclusion status and that of its principal employees.

[63 FR 47156, Sept. 4, 1998, as amended at 66 FR 49828, Oct. 1, 2001]

PART 15—LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Subpart A—Service of Process

Sec.

- 15.1 Scope and purpose.
- 15.2 Definitions.
- 15.3 Acceptance of service of process.

Subpart B—Testimony by Employees and the Production of Documents in Legal Proceedings

- 15.11 Scope.
- 15.12 Definitions.
- 15.13 Demands for testimony or production of documents: Department policy.
- 15.14 Demand for testimony or production of documents: Department procedures.
- 15.15 Procedures when a Department employee receives a subpoena.
- 15.16 Legal proceedings between private litigants: Expert or opinion testimony.
- 15.17 Demands or requests in legal proceedings for records protected by confidentiality statutes.
- 15.18 Testimony of Department employees in proceedings involving the United States.

Subpart C—Involuntary Child and Spousal Support Allotments of NOAA Corps Officers

- 15.21 Purpose.
- 15.22 Applicability and scope.
- 15.23 Definitions.
- 15.24 Policy.
- 15.25 Procedures.

Subpart D—Statement of Policy and Procedures Regarding Indemnification of Department of Commerce Employees

- 15.31 Policy.
- 15.32 Procedures for the handling of lawsuits against Department employees arising within the scope of their office or employment.

AUTHORITY: 5 U.S.C. 301; 15 U.S.C. 1501, 1512, 1513, 1515 and 1518; Reorganization Plan No. 5 of 1950; 3 CFR, 1949–1953 Comp., p. 1004; 44 U.S.C. 3101; subpart C is issued under 37 U.S.C. 101, 706; 15 U.S.C. 1673; 42 U.S.C. 665.

EDITORIAL NOTE: Nomenclature changes to part 15 appear at 62 FR 19669, Apr. 23, 1997.

Subpart A—Service of Process

SOURCE: 53 FR 41318, Oct. 21, 1988, unless otherwise noted. Redesignated at 62 FR 19669, Apr. 23, 1997.

§ 15.1 Scope and purpose.

(a) This subpart sets forth the procedures to be followed when a summons or complaint is served on the Department, a component, or the Secretary or a Department employee in his or her official capacity.

(b) This subpart is intended to ensure the orderly execution of the affairs of the Department and not to impede any legal proceeding.

(c) This subpart does not apply to subpoenas. The procedures to be followed with respect to subpoenas are set out in subpart B.

(d) This subpart does not apply to service of process made on a Department employee personally on matters not related to official business of the Department or to the official responsibilities of the Department employee.

[53 FR 41318, Oct. 21, 1988. Redesignated and amended at 62 FR 19669, 19670, Apr. 23, 1997]

§ 15.2 Definitions.

For the purpose of this subpart:

(a) *General Counsel* means the General Counsel of the United States Department of Commerce or other Department employee to whom the General Counsel has delegated authority to act under this subpart, or the chief legal officer (or designee) of the Department of Commerce component concerned.

(b) *Component* means Office of the Secretary or an operating unit of the Department as defined in Department Organization Order 1–1.

(c) *Department* means the Department of Commerce.

(d) *Department employee* means any officer or employee of the Department, including commissioned officers of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

(e) *Legal proceeding* means a proceeding before a tribunal constituted by law, including a court, an administrative body or commission, or an administrative law judge or hearing officer.

Forest Service

Title: The Role of Local Communities in the Development of Agreement or Contract Plans through Stewardship Contracting.

OMB Control Number: 0596-0201.

Summary of Collection: Section 323 of Public Law 108-7 (16 U.S.C. 2104 Note) requires the Forest Service (FS) and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to report to Congress annually on the role of local communities in the development of agreement or contract plans through stewardship contracting. To meet that requirement FS conducts an annual telephone survey to gather the necessary information for use by both the FS and BLM in developing their separate annual reports to Congress.

Need and Use of the Information: The survey will collect information on the role of local communities in the development of agreement or contract plans through stewardship contracting. The survey will provide information regarding the nature of the local community involved in developing agreement or contract plans, the nature of roles played by the entities involved in developing agreement or contract plans, the benefits to the community and agency by being involved in planning and development of contract plans, and the usefulness of stewardship contracting in helping meet the needs of local communities. FS posts the report on its Web page for viewing by the public. Congress also makes the agency reports available for use by organizations both inside and outside the government.

Description of Respondents: Individuals or households; business or other for-profit; not-for-profit institutions; Federal Government; State, Local or Tribal Government.

Number of Respondents: 507.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: Annually.

Total Burden Hours: 380.

Charlene Parker,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2012-30258 Filed 12-14-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Forest Service**

Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Okanogan County, WA Bannan, Aeneas, Revis, and Tunk Grazing Allotments Environmental Impact Statement; Correction

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice; Correction.

SUMMARY: The USDA Forest Service published a document in the **Federal Register** of November 27, 2012, concerning requests for comments on the proposed grazing allotments and dates of document availability. The document contained incorrect dates.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Christina Bauman, 509-486-5112.

Correction

In the **Federal Register** of November 27, 2012, in FR Doc. 2012-28420, on page 70137, in the second column, correct the

DATES caption to read:

DATES: Comments concerning the scope of the analysis should be received by January 18, 2013. The draft environmental impact statement is expected to be filed with the Environmental Protection Agency and made available for public review in February 2013. The final environmental impact statement is expected to be available for review in April 2013.

Dated: December 11, 2012.

Clinton Kyhl,

Deputy Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 2012-30311 Filed 12-14-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-75-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

[Docket No.: 121115633-2633-01]

Department of Commerce Pre-Award Notification Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements

AGENCY: Department of Commerce (DOC).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice revises and updates the *Department of Commerce (DOC) Pre-Award Notification Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements*, as published in the **Federal Register** (66 FR 49917) on October 1, 2001, and as amended on October 30, 2002 (67 FR 66109), on December 30, 2004 (69 FR 78389), and February 11, 2008 (73 FR 7696). This announcement constitutes a recompilation of the Department of Commerce pre-award requirements for grants and cooperative agreements, including all amendments and revisions to date.

DATES: These provisions are effective December 17, 2012.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Gary Johnson, Department of Commerce Office of Acquisition Management, Telephone Number: 202-482-1679.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The DOC is authorized to award grants and

cooperative agreements under a wide range of programs that support economic development; international trade; minority businesses; standards and technology; oceanic/atmospheric services; and telecommunications and information.

It is the policy of the DOC to seek full and open competition for awards of discretionary financial assistance funds whenever possible. Moreover, DOC financial assistance must be awarded through a merit-based review and selection process. Notices announcing the availability of Federal funds for new awards for each DOC competitive financial assistance program will be posted on www.grants.gov by the sponsoring operating unit in the uniform format for an announcement of Federal Funding Opportunity (FFO) published by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). In limited circumstances (e.g., when required by statute), DOC will also publish notices in the **Federal Register** announcing the availability of Federal funds for new awards. These announcements will reference or include the DOC Pre-Award Notification Requirements identified in Sections A and B of this notice, and the program-specific information identified in Section C of this notice, and will follow the uniform format for announcements of funding opportunities as identified in Section D.

This announcement provides notice of the DOC Pre-Award Notification Requirements that apply to all DOC-sponsored grant and cooperative agreement programs, and that may supplement those program announcements that reference this notice. Some of the DOC general provisions published herein contain, by reference or substance, a summary of the pertinent statutes or regulations published in the U.S. Code (U.S.C.), **Federal Register**, or Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), or requirements provided in Executive Orders, OMB Circulars (circulars), or Assurances (Forms SF-424B and SF-424D). This notice does not intend to be a derogation of, or amend, any statute, regulation, Executive Order, circular, or Standard Form.

Each individual award notice will complete and include the relevant analyses pursuant to the requirements in Executive Order 12866, Executive Order 13132, the Administrative Procedure Act, the Regulatory Flexibility Act, and the Paperwork Reduction Act, as applicable.

A. The following pre-award notice provisions apply to all applicants for and recipients of DOC grants and cooperative agreements:

1. Federal Policies and Procedures. Applicants, recipients and subrecipients are subject to all Federal laws and Federal and DOC policies, regulations, and procedures applicable to Federal financial assistance.

2. Debarment, Suspension, Drug-Free Workplace, and Lobbying Provisions. All applicants must comply with the requirements of subpart C of 2 CFR part 1326, "Nonprocurement Debarment and Suspension," 15 CFR part 29, "Governmentwide Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace (Financial Assistance)" and 15 CFR part 28, "New Restrictions on Lobbying," including the submission of required forms and obtaining certification from lower tier applicants and bidders.

3. Pre-Award Screening of Applicant's and Recipient's Management Capabilities, Financial Condition, and Present Responsibility. It is the policy of the DOC to make awards to applicants and recipients that are competently managed, responsible, financially capable and committed to achieving the objectives of the award(s) they receive. Therefore, pre-award screening may include, but is not limited to, the following reviews:

(a) *Past Performance*. Unsatisfactory performance under prior Federal awards may result in an application not being considered for funding.

(b) *Credit Checks*. A credit check will be performed on individuals, for-profit, and non-profit organizations.

(c) *Delinquent Federal Debts*. No award of Federal funds shall be made to an applicant that has an outstanding delinquent Federal debt until:

(1) The delinquent account is paid in full;

(2) A negotiated repayment schedule is established and at least one payment is received; or

(3) Other arrangements satisfactory to the DOC are made.

Pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 720B and 31 CFR 901.6, unless waived, the DOC is not permitted to extend financial assistance in the form of a loan, loan guarantee, or loan insurance to any person delinquent on a nontax debt owed to a Federal agency. This prohibition does not apply to disaster loans.

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 3201(e), a debtor who has a judgment lien against the debtor's property for a debt to the United States shall not be eligible to receive any grant or loan which is made, insured, guaranteed, or financed directly or indirectly by the United States or to receive funds directly from the Federal Government in any program, except funds to which the debtor is entitled as beneficiary, until the

judgment is paid in full or otherwise satisfied. The DOC sponsoring operating units may promulgate regulations to allow for waiver of this restriction on eligibility for such grants and cooperative agreements.

(d) *List of Parties Excluded from Procurement and Nonprocurement Programs*. The System for Award Management (SAM) (previously this information was located within the Excluded Parties Listing System), maintained by the General Services Administration (GSA), is available at <https://www.sam.gov>. SAM encompasses the capabilities of the Central Contractor Registration (CCR)/ Federal Agency Registration (FedReg), Online Representations and Certifications Application (ORCA), and the Excluded Parties List System (EPLS), among other federal databases, and will be checked by DOC to ensure that an applicant is properly registered and eligible to receive a DOC financial assistance award.

(e) *Pre-Award Accounting System Surveys*. The Grants Office may require a pre-award survey of the applicant's financial management system in cases where the recommended applicant has had no prior Federal support, the operating unit has reason to question whether the financial management system meets Federal financial management standards, or the applicant is being considered for a high-risk designation.

(f) *Other*. DOC may conduct additional pre-award screenings in accordance with new public laws or administrative directives.

4. *No Obligation for Future Funding*. If the DOC obligates funding for an applicant's project, the DOC has no obligation to provide any additional future funding in connection with that award. Any amendment of an award to increase funding or to extend the period of performance is at the total discretion of the DOC.

5. *Pre-Award Activities*. If an applicant incurs any costs prior to receiving an award, it does so solely at its own risk of not being reimbursed by the Government. Notwithstanding any verbal or written assurance that may have been received, there is no obligation on the part of DOC to cover pre-award costs unless approved by the Grants Officer as part of the terms when the award is made, or as authorized for awards that support research by 15 CFR 14.25(e)(4).

6. *Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Disclosure*. The FOIA (5 U.S.C. 552 and DOC regulations at 15 CFR part 4) sets forth the process and procedure the DOC follows to make requested

material, information, and records publicly available. Unless prohibited by law and to the extent required under the FOIA, contents of applications, proposals, and other information submitted by applicants may be released in response to FOIA requests. In accordance with 15 CFR 4.9, applicants and recipients should designate by appropriate markings, either at the time of submission or at a reasonable time thereafter, any portions of its submissions that it considers protected from disclosure under 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(4). In addition, Federal contractors may assist with program implementation and have access to materials applicants and recipients submit.

7. *False Statements*. A false statement on an application is grounds for denial or termination of an award, and/or possible punishment by a fine or imprisonment as provided in 18 U.S.C. 1001.

8. *Application Forms*. Unless the individual programs specify differently in notices announcing the availability of funding, the following forms, family of forms, and/or certifications are required, as applicable, for DOC grants and cooperative agreements: OMB Standard Forms (SF) SF-424, *Application for Federal Assistance*; SF-424A, *Budget Information—Non-Construction Programs*; SF-424B, *Assurances—Non-Construction Programs*; SF-424C, *Budget Information—Construction Programs*; SF-424D, *Assurances—Construction Programs*; SF-424 Family of Forms for Research and Related Programs; SF-424 Short Organizational Family; SF-424 Individual Form Family; and SF-424 Mandatory Family. In addition, Commerce Department (CD) Forms CD-511, *Certification Regarding Lobbying*; CD-512, *Certification Regarding Lobbying—Lower-Tier Covered Transactions*; and SF-LLL, *Disclosure of Lobbying Activities*, will be used as appropriate.

9. *Environmental Requirements*. Environmental impacts must be considered by Federal decision makers in their decisions whether to (1) approve a proposal for Federal assistance; (2) approve the proposal with mitigation; or (3) approve a different proposal/grant having less adverse environmental impacts. Federal environmental laws require that the funding agency initiate an early planning process that considers potential impacts that projects funded with Federal assistance may have on the environment. Applicants, recipients and subrecipients must comply with all environmental standards, to include those prescribed under the following

statutes and Executive Orders, and shall identify to the awarding agency any impact the award may have on the environment. The failure to do so is a basis for not selecting an application. In some cases, if additional information is required after an application is selected, funds can be withheld by the Grants Officer under a special award condition requiring the recipient to submit additional environmental compliance information sufficient to enable the DOC to make an assessment on any impacts that a project may have on the environment.

(a) *The National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.)*. Applicants for and recipients of Federal financial assistance awards are required to identify to the awarding agency any impact an award will have on the quality of the human environment, and assist the agency to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act, when the award activities remain subject to Federal authority and control. Applicants for and recipients of assistance may be requested to assist DOC in drafting an environmental impact assessment or environmental impact statement as part of a proposal if DOC determines such documentation is required.

(b) *National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.)*. Applicants for and recipients of Federal financial assistance awards are required to identify to the awarding agency any effects the award may have on properties included on or eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. Applicants and recipients may also be requested to assist DOC in consulting with State or Tribal Historic Preservation Officers or other applicable interested parties necessary to identify, assess and resolve adverse effects to historic properties.

(c) *Executive Order 11988 ("Floodplain Management") and Executive Order 11990 ("Protection of Wetlands")*. Applicants and recipients must identify proposed actions located in Federally defined floodplains and wetlands to enable DOC to make a determination whether there is an alternative to minimize any potential harm.

(d) *Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.)*, *Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.) (Clean Water Act)*, and *Executive Order 11738 ("Providing for administration of the Clean Air Act and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act with respect to Federal contracts, grants or loans")*. Applicants and recipients must comply with the provisions of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.), Clean Water Act

(33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.), and Executive Order 11738. Recipients shall not use a facility that EPA has placed on the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) List of Violating Facilities (this list is incorporated into the Excluded Parties List System which is incorporated into the SAM located at <https://www.sam.gov/portal/public/SAM/>) in performing any award that is nonexempt under subpart J of 2 CFR part 1532.

(e) *The Flood Disaster Protection Act (42 U.S.C. 4002 et seq.)*. Flood insurance, when available, is required for Federally assisted construction or acquisition in flood-prone areas.

(f) *The Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.)*. Applicants and recipients must identify any impact or activities that may involve a threatened or endangered species. Federal agencies have the responsibility for ensuring that a protected species or habitat does not incur adverse effects from actions under Federal assistance awards, and for conducting the required reviews under the Endangered Species Act, as applicable.

(g) *The Coastal Zone Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1451 et seq.)*. Funded projects must be consistent with a coastal state's approved management program for the coastal zone.

(h) *The Coastal Barriers Resources Act (16 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.)*. Only in certain circumstances can Federal funding be provided for actions within a Coastal Barrier System.

(i) *The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1271 et seq.)*. This Act applies to awards that may affect existing or proposed components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers system.

(j) *The Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300 et seq.)*. This Act precludes Federal assistance for any project that the EPA determines may contaminate a sole source aquifer so as to threaten public health.

(k) *The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (42 U.S.C. 6901 et seq.)*. This act regulates the generation, transportation, treatment, and disposal of hazardous wastes, and also provides that recipients of Federal funds give preference in their procurement programs to the purchase of recycled products pursuant to EPA guidelines.

(l) *The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (Superfund) (42 U.S.C. 9601) and the Community Environmental Response Facilitation Act (42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.)*. These requirements address responsibilities related to actual or threatened hazardous substance releases and environmental cleanup. There are also reporting and community

involvement requirements designed to ensure disclosure of the release or disposal of regulated substances and cleanup of hazards to state and local emergency responders.

(m) *Executive Order 12898 ("Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low Income Populations")*. This Order identifies and addresses adverse human health or environmental effects of programs, policies and activities on low income and minority populations.

10. *Limitation of Liability*. In no event will the Department of Commerce be responsible for proposal preparation costs if a program fails to receive funding or is cancelled because of other agency priorities. The publication of an announcement of funding availability does not oblige the agency to award any specific project or to obligate any available funds.

B. The following general provisions will apply to all DOC grant and cooperative agreement awards:

1. *Administrative Requirements and Cost Principles*. The uniform administrative requirements for all DOC grants and cooperative agreements are codified at 15 CFR part 14, "Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Agreements with Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals, Other Non-Profit, and Commercial Organizations," and at 15 CFR part 24, "Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Agreements to State and Local Governments." The following list of cost principles, which are incorporated by reference in 15 CFR parts 14 and 24, are included in the DOC's grants and cooperative agreements: 2 CFR part 220 (OMB Circular A-21), "Cost Principles for Educational Institutions;" 2 CFR part 225 (OMB Circular A-87), "Cost Principles for State, Local and Indian Tribal Governments;" 2 CFR part 230 (OMB Circular A-122), "Cost Principles for Nonprofit Organizations;" Federal Acquisition Regulation subpart 31.2, "Contracts with Commercial Organizations," codified at 48 CFR 31.2; and 45 CFR part 74, "Principles for Determining Costs Applicable to Research and Development Under Grants and Contracts with Hospitals." Applicable administrative requirements and cost principles are identified in each award and are incorporated by reference into the award. Expenditures for any financial assistance award must be necessary to carry out the authorized project and be consistent with the applicable cost principles.

2. *Award Payments*. Advances will be limited to the minimum amounts necessary to meet immediate disbursement needs, but in no case

should advances exceed the amount of cash required for a 30-day period. Any advanced funds that are not disbursed in a timely manner and any applicable interest must be returned promptly to the DOC. Certain bureaus within the DOC use the Department of Treasury's Automated Standard Application for Payment (ASAP) system. In order to receive payments under ASAP, recipients will be required to enroll electronically in the ASAP system by providing their Federal Awarding Agency with pertinent information to begin the enrollment process, which allows them to use the on-line and Voice Response System (VRS) method of withdrawing funds from their ASAP established accounts. It is the recipient's responsibility to ensure that its contact information is correct. The funding agency must be provided a Point of Contact name, mailing address, email address, telephone number, Data Universal Number System (DUNS) identifier issued by the commercial company Dun & Bradstreet (D&B), and taxpayer identification number (TIN) to commence the enrollment process. In order to be able to complete the enrollment process, the recipient will need to identify a Head of Organization, an Authorizing Official, and a Financial Officer. It is very important that the recipient's banking data be linked to the funding agency's Agency Location Code in order to ensure proper payment under an award. For additional information on this requirement, prospective applicants should contact their Federal Awarding Agency.

3. Federal and Non-Federal Cost Sharing.

(a) Awards that include Federal and non-Federal cost sharing will incorporate a budget consisting of shared allowable costs. If actual allowable costs are less than the total approved budget, the Federal and non-Federal cost shares shall be calculated by applying the approved Federal and non-Federal cost share ratios to actual allowable costs. If actual allowable costs are greater than the total approved budget, the Federal share will not exceed the total Federal dollar amount authorized by the award.

(b) The non-Federal share, whether in cash or in-kind, is to be paid out at the same general rate as the Federal share. Exceptions to this requirement may be granted by the Grants Officer based on sufficient documentation demonstrating previously determined plans for or later commitment of cash or in-kind contributions. In any case, recipients must meet the cost share commitment over the life of the award.

4. *Budget Changes and Transfers Among Cost Categories.* When the terms of an award allow the recipient to transfer funds among approved direct cost categories, the transfer authority does not authorize the recipient to create new budget categories within an approved budget unless the Grants Officer has provided prior approval. In addition, the recipient will not be authorized at any time to transfer amounts budgeted for direct costs to the indirect costs line item or vice versa, without written prior approval of the Grants Officer.

5. *Indirect Costs and Facilities and Administrative Costs.*

(a) Indirect costs, or facilities and administrative (F&A) costs for educational institutions, will not be allowable charges against an award unless permitted under the award and specifically included as a line item in the award's approved budget.

(b) Excess indirect costs may not be used to offset unallowable direct costs.

(c) OMB established the cognizant agency concept, under which a single agency represents all others in dealing with grantees in common areas. The cognizant agency reviews and approves grantees' indirect cost rates. Approved rates must be accepted by other agencies, unless specific program regulations restrict the recovery of indirect costs. If indirect costs are permitted and the recipient would like to include indirect costs in its budget, but the recipient has not previously established an indirect cost rate with a Federal agency, the negotiation and approval of a rate will be subject to the procedures in the applicable cost principles and the following subparagraphs:

(1)(i) State, local, and Indian Tribal Governments; Educational Institutions; Hospitals and Non-Profit Organizations (Non-Commercial Organizations).

For those organizations for which the DOC is cognizant or has oversight, the DOC or its designee will either negotiate a fixed rate with carry-forward provisions or, in some instances, limit its review to evaluating the procedures described in the recipient's cost allocation plan. Indirect cost rates and cost allocation methodology reviews are subject to future audits to determine actual indirect costs.

(ii) Commercial Organizations

For commercial organizations, the term "cognizant federal agency" generally is defined as the agency that provides the largest dollar amount of negotiated contracts, including options. See 48 CFR part 42. If the only federal funds received by a commercial organization are DOC award funds, then

the DOC becomes the cognizant federal agency for the purpose of indirect cost negotiations. For those organizations for which the DOC is cognizant, DOC or its designee will negotiate a fixed rate with carry-forward provisions for the recipient. "Fixed rate" means an indirect cost rate which has the same characteristics as a pre-determined rate, except that the difference between the estimated costs and the actual costs of the period covered by the rate is carried forward as an adjustment to the rate computation of the subsequent period. DOC or its designee will negotiate indirect cost rates using the cost principles found in 48 CFR part 31, "Contract Cost Principles and Procedures." For guidance on how to put an indirect cost plan together go to: <http://www.dol.gov/oasam/programs/boc/costdeterminationguide/main.htm>.

(2) Within 90 days of the award date, the recipient shall submit to the address listed below documentation (indirect cost proposal, cost allocation plan, etc.) necessary to perform the review. The recipient shall provide the Grants Officer with a copy of the transmittal letter.

Office of Acquisition Management,
U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th
Street and Constitution Avenue NW.,
Room 6412, Washington, DC 20230.

(3) The recipient can use the fixed rate proposed in the indirect cost plan until such time as the DOC provides a response to the submitted plan. Actual indirect costs must be calculated annually and adjustments made through the carry-forward provision used in calculating next year's rate. This calculation of actual indirect costs and the carry-forward provision is subject to audit. Indirect cost rate proposals must be submitted annually. Organizations that have previously established indirect cost rates must submit a new indirect cost proposal to the cognizant agency within six months after the close of each recipient's fiscal year.

(d) When the DOC is not the oversight or cognizant Federal agency, the recipient shall provide the Grants Officer with a copy of a negotiated rate agreement or a copy of the transmittal letter submitted to the cognizant or oversight Federal agency requesting a negotiated rate agreement.

(e) If the recipient fails to submit the required documentation to the DOC within 90 days of the award date, the recipient may be precluded from recovering any indirect costs under the award. If the DOC, oversight, or cognizant Federal agency determines there is good cause to excuse the recipient's delay in submitting the documentation, an extension of the 90-

day due date may be approved by the Grants Officer.

(f) The maximum dollar amount of allocable indirect costs for which the DOC will reimburse the recipient shall be the lesser of the line item amount for the Federal share of indirect costs contained in the approved budget of the award, or the Federal share of the total allocable indirect costs of the award based on the indirect cost rate approved by an oversight or cognizant Federal agency and applicable to the period in which the cost was occurred, provided the rate is approved on or before the award end date.

6. *Tax Refunds.* Refunds of Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) or Federal Unemployment Tax Act (FUTA) taxes received by a recipient during or after the project period must be refunded or credited to the DOC where the benefits were financed with Federal funds under the award. Recipients are required to contact the Grants Officer immediately upon receipt of these refunds. Recipients are required to refund portions of FICA/FUTA taxes determined to belong to the Federal Government, including refunds received after the project period ends.

7. *Other Federal Awards with Similar Programmatic Activities.* Recipients will be required to provide written notification to the Federal Program Officer and the Grants Officer in the event that, subsequent to receipt of the DOC award, other financial assistance is received to support or fund any portion of the scope of work incorporated into the DOC award. The DOC will not pay for costs that are funded by other sources.

8. *Non-Compliance with Award Provisions.* Failure to comply with any or all of the provisions of an award, or the requirements of this notice, may have a negative impact on future funding by the DOC and may be considered grounds for any or all of the following enforcement actions: establishment of an account receivable, withholding payments under any DOC awards to the recipient, changing the method of payment from advance to reimbursement only, or the imposition of other special award conditions, suspension of any DOC active awards, or termination of any DOC active awards.

9. *Prohibition Against Assignment by the Recipient.* Notwithstanding any other provision of an award, recipients may not transfer, pledge, mortgage, or otherwise assign an award, or any interest therein, or any claim arising thereunder, to any party or parties, banks, trust companies, or other financing or financial institutions

without the express written approval of the Grants Officer.

10. *Non-Discrimination Requirements.* There are several Federal statutes, regulations, Executive Orders, and policies relating to nondiscrimination. No person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, handicap, religion, age, or sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance. These requirements include but are not limited to:

(a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d *et seq.*) and the DOC's implementing regulations published at 15 CFR part 8 prohibiting discrimination on the grounds of race, color, or national origin under programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance;

(b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. 1681 *et seq.*) and the DOC's implementing regulations at 15 CFR part 8a prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sex under Federally assisted education programs or activities;

(c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. 794) and the DOC's implementing regulations published at 15 CFR part 8b prohibiting discrimination on the basis of handicap under any program or activity receiving or benefiting from Federal assistance. The U.S. Department of Justice issued regulations implementing Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) (28 CFR part 35; 75 FR 56164, as amended by 76 FR 13285) and Title III of the ADA (28 CFR part 36; 75 FR 56164, as amended by 76 FR 13286). These regulations adopt enforceable accessibility standards called the "2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design" (2010 Standards). For purposes of complying with DOC's regulations, the 2010 Standards are an acceptable alternative to the Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards (UFAS). DOC deems compliance with the 2010 Standards to be an acceptable means of complying with the Section 504 accessibility requirements for new construction and alteration projects under 15 CFR 8b.18(c), as follows:

(1) Public Recipients subject to Title II of the ADA may use either the 2010 Standards or UFAS where the physical construction or alternations commence on or after September 15, 2010 and before March 15, 2012 (see 28 CFR 35.151(c)(2));

(2) Private Recipients subject to Title III of the ADA may use either the 2010

Standards or UFAS if the date when the last application for a building permit or permit extension is certified to be complete by a State, county, or local government (or, in those jurisdictions where the government does not certify completion of applications, if the date when the last application for a building permit or permit extension is received by the State, county, or local government) is on or after September 15, 2010 and before March 15, 2012, or if no permit is required, if the start of physical construction or alterations occurs on or after September 15, 2010 and before March 15, 2012 (see 28 CFR 36.406(a)(2)); and

(3) In all cases, once a recipient selects an applicable ADA accessibility standard (*i.e.*, the 2010 Standards or UFAS), that standard must be applied to the entire facility. As of March 15, 2012, all new construction and alteration projects must comply with the 2010 Standards.

(d) The Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (42 U.S.C. 6101 *et seq.*) and the DOC's implementing regulations published at 15 CFR part 20 prohibiting discrimination on the basis of age in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance;

(e) The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 *et seq.*) prohibiting discrimination on the basis of disability under programs, activities, and services provided or made available by state and local governments or instrumentalities or agencies thereto, as well as public or private entities that provide public transportation;

(f) Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3601 *et seq.*), relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing;

(g) Parts II and III of Executive Order 11246, as amended by Executive Orders 11375 and 12086 requiring Federally assisted construction contracts to include the nondiscrimination provisions of sections 202 and 203 of that Executive Order and the Department of Labor's regulations at 41 CFR 60-1.4(b) implementing Executive Order 11246;

(h) Executive Order 13166 (August 11, 2000), "Improving Access to Services for Persons With Limited English Proficiency," requiring Federal agencies to examine the services provided, identify any need for services to those with limited English proficiency (LEP), and develop and implement a system to provide those services so LEP persons can have meaningful access to them, and DOC policy guidance issued on March 24, 2003 (68 FR 14180) to Federal financial assistance recipients on the Title VI prohibition against national

origin discrimination affecting LEP persons; and

(i) In recognition of the constitutionally-protected interest of religious organizations in making religiously-motivated employment decisions, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. 2000e *et seq.*, which expressly exempts religious organizations from the prohibition against discrimination on the basis of religion. *See* 42 U.S.C. 2000e-1(a).

11. Audits of Organizations Covered by OMB Circular A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations" and the related Compliance Supplement. Recipients that are subject to OMB Circular A-133, and that expend \$500,000 or more in Federal awards in a fiscal year shall have an audit conducted for that year in accordance with the requirements of OMB Circular A-133, issued pursuant to the Single Audit Act of 1984 (Pub. L. 98-502), as amended by the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 (Pub. L. 104-156).

12. Unless otherwise specified in the terms and conditions of the award, in accordance with 15 CFR § 14.26(c) and (d), for-profit hospitals, commercial entities, and other organizations not required to follow the audit provisions of OMB Circular A-133 shall have a program-specific audit performed by an independent auditor when the federal share amount awarded is \$500,000 or more over the duration of the project period. An audit is required at least once every two years using the following schedule for audit report submission.

(a) For awards where the project period is less than two years, an audit is required within 90 days of the end of the project period to cover the entire project (the award close-out period is included in the 90 days);

(b) For awards with a two- or three-year project period, an audit is required within 90 days after the end of the first year to cover Year 1, which is the period of time when Federal funding is available for obligation by the recipient, and within 90 days of the end of the project period to cover Year 2 and Year 3 (if applicable) (the award close-out period is included in the 90 days); or

(c) For awards with a four- to five-year project period, an audit is required within 90 days after the end of the first year to cover Year 1, within 90 days after the end of the third year to cover Year 2 and Year 3, and within 90 days of the end of the project period to cover Year 4 for and Year 5 (if applicable) (the award close-out period is included in the 90 days).

Some DOC programs have specific audit guidelines that will be incorporated into the award. When DOC does not have a program-specific audit guide available for the program, the auditor will follow the requirements for a program-specific audit as described in OMB Circular A-133, subpart B, § _____.235. The Recipient may include a line item in the budget for the cost of the audit for approval by the Grants Officer.

13. Policies and Procedures for Resolution of Audit-Related Debts. The DOC has established policies and procedures for handling the resolution and reconsideration of financial assistance audits which have resulted in, or may result in, the establishment of a debt (account receivable) for financial assistance awards. These policies and procedures are contained in the **Federal Register** notice dated January 27, 1989. *See* 54 FR 4053. The policies and procedures also are provided in more detail in the *Department of Commerce Financial Assistance Standard Terms and Conditions*.

14. *Debts*. Any debts determined to be owed the Federal Government shall be paid promptly by the recipient. The DOC's debt collection procedures are set out in 15 CFR part 19. In accordance with 15 CFR § 19.1, delinquent debt is a debt that has not been paid by the date specified in the agency's initial written demand for payment or applicable agreement or instrument (including a post-delinquency payment agreement) unless other satisfactory payment arrangements have been made. In accordance with 15 CFR § 19.5 and 31 U.S.C. 3717, failure to pay a debt by the due date, or if there is no due date, within 30 days of the billing date, shall result in assessment of interest, penalties and administrative costs in accordance with the provisions of 31 U.S.C. 3717 and 31 CFR § 901.9. DOC entities will transfer any DOC debt that is more than 180 days delinquent to the Financial Management Service for debt collection services, a process known as "cross-servicing," pursuant 31 U.S.C. 3711(g), 31 CFR § 285.12 and 15 CFR § 19.9, and may result in the DOC taking further action as specified in the terms of the award. Funds for payment of a debt must not come from other federally sponsored programs. Verification that other Federal funds have not been used will be made, *e.g.*, during on-site visits and audits.

15. *Post-Award Discovery of Adverse Information*. After an award is made, if adverse information on a recipient or any key individual associated with a recipient is discovered which reflects

significantly and adversely on the recipient's responsibility, the Grants Officer may take the following actions:

(a) Require the recipient to correct the conditions.

(b) Consider the recipient to be "high risk" and unilaterally impose special award conditions to protect the Federal Government's interest.

(c) Suspend or terminate an active award. The recipient will be afforded due process while effecting such actions.

(d) Require the removal of personnel from association with the management of and/or implementation of the project and require Grants Officer approval of personnel replacements.

16. *Competition and Codes of Conduct*.

(a) Pursuant to the certification in Form SF-424B, paragraph 3, recipients must maintain written standards of conduct to establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of a personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain in the administration of this award and any subawards.

(b) Recipients must maintain written standards of conduct governing the performance of their employees engaged in the award and administration of subawards. No employee, officer, or agent shall participate in the selection, award, or administration of a subaward supported by Federal funds if such participation would cause a real or apparent conflict of interest. Such a conflict would arise when the employee, officer, or agent, any member of his or her immediate family, his or her partner, or an organization in which he/she serves as an officer or which employs or is about to employ any of the parties mentioned in this section, has a financial or other interest in the organization selected or to be selected for a subaward. The officers, employees, and agents of the recipient may not solicit or accept anything of monetary value from subrecipients. However, the recipient may set standards for situations in which the financial interest is not substantial or the gift is an unsolicited item of nominal value. The standards of conduct must provide for disciplinary actions to be applied for violations of such standards by officers, employees, or agents of a recipient.

(c) All subawards will be made in a manner to provide, to the maximum extent practicable, open and free competition. Recipients must be alert to organizational conflicts of interest as well as other practices among subrecipients that may restrict or eliminate competition. In order to

ensure objective subrecipient performance and eliminate unfair competitive advantage, subrecipients that develop or draft work requirements, statements of work, or requests for proposals will be excluded from competing for such subawards.

(d) For purposes of the award, a financial interest may include employment, stock ownership, a creditor or debtor relationship, or prospective employment with an applicant. An appearance of impairment of objectivity could result from an organizational conflict where, because of other activities or relationships with other persons or entities, a person is unable or potentially unable to act in an impartial manner. It also could result from non-financial gain to the individual, such as benefit to reputation or prestige in a professional field.

17. *Small Businesses, Minority Business Enterprises and Women's Business Enterprises.* The DOC encourages recipients to utilize small businesses, minority business enterprises and women's business enterprises in contracts under financial assistance awards. The DOC's Minority Business Development Agency can assist recipients in matching qualified minority business enterprises with contract opportunities.

18. *Subaward and/or Contract to a Federal Agency.* Recipients, subrecipients, contractors, and/or subcontractors may not sub-grant or sub-contract any part of an approved project to any Federal department, agency, instrumentality, or employee thereof, without the prior written approval of the Grants Officer.

19. *Foreign Travel.* Recipients must comply with the provisions of the Fly America Act (49 U.S.C. 40118) and the implementing Federal Travel Regulations (41 CFR §§ 301-10.131 through 301-10.143). The Fly America Act requires that Federal travelers and others performing U.S. Government-financed air travel must use U.S. flag carriers, to the extent that service by such carriers is available. Foreign air carriers may be used only in specific instances, such as when a U.S. flag air carrier is unavailable, or use of U.S. flag carrier service will not accomplish the agency's mission. If a foreign air carrier is anticipated to be used for any portion of travel under a DOC financial assistance award, the recipient must receive prior approval from the Grants Officer.

20. *Purchase of American-Made Equipment and Products.* Recipients are hereby notified that they are encouraged, to the greatest extent practicable, to purchase American-made

equipment and products with funding provided under DOC financial assistance awards.

21. *Intellectual Property Rights.*

(a) *Inventions.* The rights to any invention made by a recipient under a DOC financial assistance award are determined by the Bayh-Dole Act, as amended (Pub. L. 96-517), as amended, and codified at 35 U.S.C. 200 *et seq.*, except as otherwise required by law. The specific rights and responsibilities are described in more detail in 37 CFR part 401 and in particular, in the standard patent rights clause in 37 CFR § 401.14, which is incorporated by reference into awards. Recipients of DOC financial assistance awards are required to submit their disclosures and elections electronically using the Interagency Edison extramural invention reporting system (iEdison) at www.iedison.gov. Recipients may obtain a waiver of this electronic submission requirement by providing to the DOC compelling reasons for allowing the submission of paper copies of reports related to inventions.

(b) *Patent Notification Procedures.* Pursuant to Executive Order 12889, the DOC is required to notify the owner of any valid patent covering technology whenever the DOC or its financial assistance recipients, without making a patent search, knows (or has demonstrable reasonable grounds to know) that technology covered by a valid United States patent has been or will be used without a license from the owner. To ensure proper notification, if the recipient uses or has used patented technology under this award without a license or permission from the owner, the recipient will be required to notify the Grants Officer. This notice does not necessarily mean that the government authorizes and consents to any copyright or patent infringement occurring under the financial assistance award.

(c) *Data, Databases, and Software.* The rights to any work produced or purchased under a DOC financial assistance award are determined by 15 CFR §§ 14.36, for State and Local Governments, or 24.34, for Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals, Other Non-Profit, and Commercial Organizations, as applicable. Such works may include data, databases or software. The recipient owns any work produced or purchased under a DOC financial assistance award subject to DOC's right to obtain, reproduce, publish or otherwise use the work or authorize others to receive, reproduce, publish or otherwise use the data for Federal Government purposes.

(d) *Copyright.* The recipient may copyright any work produced under a DOC financial assistance award subject to the DOC's royalty-free nonexclusive and irrevocable right to reproduce, publish or otherwise use the work, or authorize others to do so for Federal Government purposes. Works jointly authored by the DOC and recipient employees may be copyrighted but only the part authored by the recipient is protected because, under 17 U.S.C. § 105, works produced by Government employees are not copyrightable in the United States. On occasion, the DOC may require the recipient to transfer to DOC its copyright in a particular work for government purposes or when the DOC is undertaking the primary dissemination of the work. Ownership of copyright by the Federal Government through assignment is permitted by 17 U.S.C. 105.

22. *Seat Belt Use.* Pursuant to Executive Order 13043, recipients shall seek to encourage employees and contractors to enforce on-the-job seat belt policies and programs when operating recipient/company-owned, rented or personally owned vehicles.

23. *Research Involving Human Subjects.* All proposed research involving human subjects must be conducted in accordance with 15 CFR part 27, "Protection of Human Subject." No research involving human subjects is permitted under any DOC financial assistance award unless expressly authorized by the Grants Officer.

24. *Federal Employee Expenses.* Federal agencies are generally barred from accepting funds from a recipient to pay transportation, travel, or other expenses for any Federal employee. Use of award funds (Federal or non-Federal) or the recipient's provision of in-kind goods or services for the purposes of transportation, travel, or any other expenses for any Federal employee, may raise appropriation augmentation issues. In addition, DOC policy prohibits the acceptance of gifts, including travel payments for Federal employees, from recipients or applicants regardless of the source.

25. *Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs) Initiative.* Pursuant to Executive Orders 13555 ("White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics"), 13270 ("Tribal Colleges and Universities"), and 13532 ("Promoting Excellence, Innovation, and Sustainability at Historically Black Colleges and Universities"), the DOC is strongly committed to broadening the participation of minority serving institutions (MSIs) in its financial assistance award programs. The DOC's goals include achieving full

participation of MSIs in order to advance the development of human potential, strengthen the Nation's capacity to provide high-quality education, and increase opportunities for MSIs to participate in and benefit from Federal financial assistance programs. The DOC encourages all applicants and recipients to include meaningful participation of MSIs. Institutions eligible to be considered MSIs are listed on the Department of Education's Web site.

26. *Access to Records.* The DOC, the Inspector General of the DOC, the Comptroller General of the United States, or any of their duly authorized representatives, and, if appropriate, the State, shall have access to any pertinent books, documents, papers and records of the parties to a grant or cooperative agreement, whether written, printed, recorded, produced, or reproduced by any electronic, mechanical, magnetic or other process or medium, in order to make audits, inspections, excerpts, transcripts, or other examinations as authorized by law. An audit of an award may be conducted at any time.

27. *Research Misconduct.* The DOC adopts, and applies to financial assistance awards for research, the Federal Policy on Research Misconduct (Federal Policy) issued by the Executive Office of the President's Office of Science and Technology Policy on December 6, 2000 (65 FR 76260 (2000)). As provided for in the Federal Policy, research misconduct refers to the fabrication, falsification, or plagiarism in proposing, performing, or reviewing research, or in reporting research results. Research misconduct does not include honest errors or differences of opinion. Recipient organizations that conduct extramural research funded by DOC must foster an atmosphere conducive to the responsible conduct of sponsored research by safeguarding against and resolving allegations of research misconduct. Recipient organizations also have the primary responsibility to prevent, detect, and investigate allegations of research misconduct and, for this purpose, may rely on their internal policies and procedures, as appropriate, to do so. Federal award funds expended on an activity that is determined to be invalid or unreliable because of research misconduct may result in appropriate enforcement action under the award, up to and including award termination and possible suspension or debarment. The DOC requires that any allegation that contains sufficient information to proceed with an inquiry be submitted to the Grants Officer, who will also notify the OIG of such allegation. Once the

recipient organization has investigated the allegation, it will submit its findings to the Grants Officer. The DOC may accept the recipient's findings or proceed with its own investigation. The Grants Officer shall inform the recipient of the DOC's final determination.

28. *Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. 4728-4763).* Recipients must comply with this Act relating to prescribed standards for merit systems for programs funded under one of the 19 statutes or regulations specified in Appendix A of the Office of Personnel Management Standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration (5 CFR part 900, subpart F).

29. *Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4601 et seq.)* and the DOC's implementing regulations issued at 15 CFR part 11. These provide for fair and equitable treatment of persons displaced or whose property is acquired as a result of Federal or Federally-assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for project purposes regardless of Federal participation in purchases.

30. *Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. 4801 et seq.)*. This Act prohibits the use of lead-based paint in construction or rehabilitation of residential structures.

31. *Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. 1501-1508 and 7324-7328)*. This Act limits the political activities of employees or officers of State or local governments whose principal employment activities are funded in whole or in part with Federal funds.

32. *Labor standards for Federally-assisted construction subagreements (wage guarantees)*. Recipients must comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. 276a to 276a-7); the Copeland Act (40 U.S.C. 276c and 18 U.S.C. 874); and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. 327-333).

33. *Care and Use of Live Vertebrate Animals.* Recipients must comply with the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966 (Pub. L. 89-544), as amended (7 U.S.C. 2131 et seq.) (animal acquisition, transport, care, handling, and use in projects) and implementing regulations, 9 CFR parts 1, 2, and 3; the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.); Marine Mammal Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 1361 et seq.) (taking possession, transport, purchase, sale, export or import of wildlife and plants); the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act (16 U.S.C. 4701 et seq.) (ensure preventive measures are taken or that probable

harm of using species is minimal if there is an escape or release); and all other applicable statutes pertaining to the care, handling, and treatment of warm blooded animals held for research, teaching, or other activities supported by Federal financial assistance. No research involving vertebrate animals is permitted under any DOC financial assistance award unless authorized by the Grants Officer.

34. *Publications, Videos, and Acknowledgment of Sponsorship.* Publication of the results or findings in appropriate professional journals and production of videos or other media is encouraged as an important method of recording, reporting and otherwise disseminating information and expanding public access to federally-funded projects (e.g., scientific research). The recipient may be required to submit a copy of any publication materials, including but not limited to print, recorded or Internet materials to the funding agency. When releasing information related to a funded project the recipient must include a statement that the project or effort undertaken was or is sponsored by DOC. The recipient is also responsible for assuring that every publication of material based on, developed under or otherwise produced under a DOC award, except scientific articles or papers appearing in scientific, technical or professional journals, contains the following disclaimer or other disclaimer approved by the Grants Officer: "This [report/video/etc.] was prepared by [recipient name] using Federal funds under award [number] from [name of operating unit], U.S. Department of Commerce. The statements, findings, conclusions, and recommendations are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the [name of operating unit] or the U.S. Department of Commerce."

35. *Homeland Security Presidential Directive—12.* If the performance of a grant award requires recipient organization personnel to have routine access to Federally-controlled facilities and/or Federally-controlled information systems (for purpose of this term "routine access" is defined as more than 180 days), such personnel must undergo the personal identity verification credential process. In the case of foreign nationals, the DOC will conduct a check with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services' (USCIS) Verification Division, a component of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), to ensure the individual is in a lawful immigration status and that he or she is eligible for employment within the United States. Any items or services delivered under a financial assistance award shall comply

with the DOC personal identity verification procedures that implement Homeland Security Presidential Directive—12, “Policy for a Common Identification Standard for Federal Employees and Contractors,” FIPS PUB 201, and OMB Memorandum M–05–24. The recipient shall ensure that its subrecipients and contractors (at all tiers) performing work under this award comply with the requirements contained in this term. The Grants Officer may delay final payment under an award if the subrecipient or contractor fails to comply with the requirements listed in the term below. The recipient shall insert the following terms in all subawards and contracts when the subaward recipient or contractor is required to have routine physical access to a Federally-controlled facility or routine access to a Federally-controlled information system:

(a) The subrecipient or contractor shall comply with DOC personal identity verification procedures identified in the subaward or contract that implement Homeland Security Presidential Directive 12 (HSPD–12), Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Guidance M–05–24, as amended, and Federal Information Processing Standards Publication (FIPS PUB) Number 201, as amended, for all employees under this subaward or contract who require routine physical access to a Federally-controlled facility or routine access to a Federally-controlled information system.

(b) The subrecipient or contractor shall account for all forms of Government-provided identification issued to the subrecipient or contractor employees in connection with performance under this subaward or contract. The subrecipient or contractor shall return such identification to the issuing agency at the earliest of any of the following, unless otherwise determined by DOC: (1) When no longer needed for subaward or contract performance; (2) upon completion of the subrecipient or contractor employee’s employment; (3) upon completion of the subaward or contract.

36. Compliance with Department of Commerce Bureau of Industry and Security Export Administration Regulations.

(a) This clause applies to the extent that a financial assistance award involves access to export-controlled items.

(b) In performing a financial assistance award, the recipient may gain access to items subject to export controls (export-controlled items) under the Export Administration Regulations (EAR). The recipient is responsible for

compliance with all applicable laws and regulations regarding export-controlled items, including the EAR’s deemed exports and reexport provisions. The recipient shall establish and maintain effective export compliance procedures at DOC and non-DOC facilities throughout performance of the financial assistance award. At a minimum, these export compliance procedures must include adequate controls relating to physical, verbal, visual and electronic access to export-controlled items, including by foreign nationals.

(c) Definitions:

(1) *Export-controlled items.* Items (commodities, software or technology) that are subject to the EAR (15 CFR §§ 730–774), implemented by the DOC’s Bureau of Industry and Security. These are generally known as “dual-use” items, items with military and commercial application.

(2) *Deemed Export/Reexport.* The EAR defines a deemed export as a release of export-controlled items (specifically, technology or source code) to a foreign national in the U.S. Such release is “deemed” to be an export to the home country of the foreign national. 15 CFR § 734.2(b)(2)(ii). A release may take the form of visual inspection, oral exchange of information, or the application abroad of knowledge or technical experience acquired in the U.S. If such a release occurs abroad, it is considered a deemed reexport to the foreign national’s home country. Licenses from DOC may be required for deemed exports or reexports.

(d) The recipient shall control access to all export-controlled items that it possesses or that comes into its possession in performance of a financial assistance award, to ensure that access to, or release of, such items are restricted, or licensed, as required by applicable Federal laws, Executive Orders, and/or regulations, including the EAR.

(e) As applicable, recipient personnel and associates at DOC sites will be informed of any procedures to identify and protect export-controlled items.

(f) To the extent the recipient wishes to provide foreign nationals with access to export-controlled items, the recipient shall be responsible for obtaining any necessary licenses, including licenses required under the EAR for deemed exports or deemed reexports.

(g) Nothing in the terms of this financial assistance award is intended to change, supersede, or waive the requirements of applicable Federal laws, Executive Orders or regulations.

(h) Compliance with this term will not satisfy any legal obligations the

recipient may have regarding items that may be subject to export controls administered by other agencies such as the Department of State, which has jurisdiction over exports of munitions items subject to the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR) (22 CFR §§ 120–130), including releases of such items to foreign nationals.

(i) The recipient shall include this term, including this paragraph, in all lower tier transactions (subawards, contracts, and subcontracts) under this financial assistance award that may involve access to export-controlled items.

37. The Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7104(g)), as amended, and the implementing regulations at 2 CFR part 175. The Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 authorizes termination of financial assistance provided to a private entity, without penalty to the Federal Government, if the recipient or subrecipient engages in certain activities related to trafficking in persons. The DOC incorporates the award term required by 2 CFR § 175.15(b) into all financial assistance awards. See <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CFR-2012-title2-vol1/pdf/CFR-2012-title2-vol1-sec175-15.pdf> for the full award term.

38. The Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (Pub. L. 109–282; codified at 31 U.S.C. 6101 note) (FFATA).

(a) The FFATA requires information on Federal awards (Federal financial assistance and expenditures) be made available to the public via a single, searchable Web site. This information is available at USASpending.gov. Recipients and subrecipients must include the following required data elements in their application:

- (1) Name of entity receiving award;
- (2) Award amount;
- (3) Transaction type, funding agency, Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number, and descriptive award title;
- (4) Location of: entity, primary location of performance (City/State/Congressional District/Country; and
- (5) Unique identifier of entity.

(b) Reporting Subawards and Executive Compensation. Prime grant recipients awarded a new Federal grant greater than or equal to \$25,000 on or after October 1, 2010, other than those funded by the Recovery Act, are subject to FFATA subaward reporting requirements as outlined in 2 CFR part 170. The prime recipient is required to file a FFATA subaward report by the end of the month following the month in which the prime recipient awards any sub-grant greater than or equal to \$25,000. See Public Law 109–282, as

amended by section 6202(a) of Public Law 110–252 (*see* 31 U.S.C. 6101 note). The DOC incorporates the award term required by Appendix A of 2 CFR part 170 into all financial assistance awards. *See* <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CFR-2011-title2-vol1/pdf/CFR-2011-title2-vol1-part170-appA.pdf> for the full award term.

(c) *Central Contractor Registration (CCR) and Universal Identifier Requirements*. Unless an exemption applies under 2 CFR § 25.110, applicants for federal financial assistance awards must be registered in the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) prior to submitting an application for financial assistance, maintain an active CCR registration with current information at all times during which it has an active Federal award or an application under consideration by an agency, and provide its DUNS number in each application it submits to the agency. For this purpose, the DOC incorporates the award term required by Appendix A of 2 CFR part 25 into all financial assistance awards. *See* <http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?c=ecfr&SID=d1bbde1c530112e7133a03bb635bf2fe&rgn=div9&view=text&node=2:1.1.3.3.3.1.14.1&idno=2> for the full award term.

C. In limited circumstances (*e.g.*, when required by statute), the DOC will issue a **Federal Register** notice, in addition to a notice on www.grants.gov, announcing the availability of Federal funds for each DOC competitive financial assistance program. Unless statute or regulation requires otherwise, such **Federal Register** notices will contain only the following program-specific information: Summary description of program; deadline date for receipt of applications; addresses for submission of applications; information contacts (including electronic access); the amount of funding available; statutory authority; the applicable Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number(s); eligibility requirements; cost-sharing or matching requirements; Intergovernmental Review requirements; evaluation criteria used by the merit reviewers; selection procedures, including funding priorities/selection factors/policy factors to be applied by the selecting official; and administrative and national policy requirements; and information about how to access the full program notice at www.grants.gov.

D. The DOC follows the uniform format for an announcement of Federal Funding Opportunity (FFO) for discretionary grants and cooperative agreements established by OMB in a guidance published in the **Federal**

Register (*see* 68 FR 37370 (June 23, 2003) and 68 FR 58146 (October 8, 2003)). FFOs published by DOC are available at www.grants.gov. Applicants are strongly encouraged and in some cases required to apply through www.grants.gov. It can take up to two weeks to register with www.grants.gov if problems are encountered. Registration is required only once. Applicants should consider the time needed to register with www.grants.gov, and should begin the registration process well in advance of the application due date if they have never registered. Applicants should allow themselves adequate time to submit the proposal through www.grants.gov, as the deadline for submission generally cannot be extended and there is significant potential for human or computer error during the electronic submission process. After registering, it may take several days or longer from the initial log-on before a new Grants.gov system user can submit an application. Only authorized individual(s) will be able to submit the application, and the system may need time to process a submitted proposal. Applicants should save and print the proof of submission they receive from Grants.gov, which may take up to two days to receive.

Executive Order 12866

This notice has been determined to be “not significant” for purposes of Executive Order 12866, “Regulatory Planning and Review.”

Administrative Procedure Act and Regulatory Flexibility Act

Because notice and comment are not required under 5 U.S.C. 553, or any other law, for this notice relating to public property, loans, grants benefits or contracts (5 U.S.C. 553(a)), a Regulatory Flexibility Analysis is not required and has not been prepared for this notice.

Executive Order 13132 (Federalism)

It has been determined that this notice does not contain policies with Federalism implications as that term is defined in Executive Order 13132.

Paperwork Reduction Act

This notice does not impose any new reporting or recordkeeping requirements under the Paperwork Reduction Act. Notwithstanding any other provisions of the law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with a collection-of-information, subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA), 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*, unless that collection of information displays a currently valid

OMB control number. The use of the following family of forms has been approved by OMB under the following control numbers: (1) SF–424 Family: 0348–0041, 0348–0044, 4040–0003, and 4040–0004; (2) SF–424 Research and Related Family: 4040–0001; SF–424 Individual Family: 4040–0005; (3) SF–424 Mandatory Family: 4040–0002; and (4) SF–424 Short Organizational Family: 4040–0003. The use of Form SF–LLL is approved by OMB under the control numbers 0348–0046.

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance

This notice affects all of the grant and cooperative agreement programs funded by the DOC. The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance can be accessed on the Internet at: <http://www.cfda.gov>.

List of Subjects

Accounting, Administrative practice and procedures, Grants administration, Grant programs—economic development, Grant programs—oceans, atmosphere and fisheries management, Grant programs—minority businesses, Grant programs—technology, Grant programs—telecommunications, Grant programs—international, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Dated: December 4, 2012.

Barry E. Berkowitz,

Senior Procurement Executive and Director of Acquisition Management.

[FR Doc. 2012–30228 Filed 12–14–12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Economic Development Administration

Notice of Petitions by Firms for Determination of Eligibility To Apply for Trade Adjustment Assistance

AGENCY: Economic Development Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice and Opportunity for Public Comment.

Pursuant to Section 251 of the Trade Act 1974, as amended (19 U.S.C. 2341 *et seq.*), the Economic Development Administration (EDA) has received petitions for certification of eligibility to apply for Trade Adjustment Assistance from the firms listed below. Accordingly, EDA has initiated investigations to determine whether increased imports into the United States of articles like or directly competitive with those produced by each of these firms contributed importantly to the total or partial separation of the firm’s workers, or threat thereof, and to a