In the interest of reducing paperwork burdens and streamlining processes, we are pleased to announce that UTHSCSA has joined the Federal Demonstration Partnership (FDP) Expanded Clearinghouse Pilot: https://fdpclearinghouse.org

For UTHSCSA faculty and staff, this will result in a reduction of paperwork required from subawardees, and this applies both when UTHSCSA will be the subawardee on another institution’s submission, and when UTHSCSA is submitting an application to include a subaward to another institution.

At both the proposal and award stage, the prime institution is required to collect certain information from their subawardees, which has resulted in the development of lengthy subrecipient forms required at every proposal submission. These forms are duplicative and burdensome, and the FDP Expanded Clearinghouse Pilot seeks to reduce/eliminate such duplication.

Each Pilot Participant institution – there are currently 78, many of which are frequent collaborators of UTHSCSA – has developed a publicly available Entity Profile, which has been screened for accuracy (available at https://fdpclearinghouse.org/organizations). This Entity Profile eliminates the need for the lengthy subrecipient forms, when collaborating with fellow Pilot Participants.

Effective immediately, when we collaborate with other Pilot Participants, less documentation will be required of the subawardee. All institutions regardless of Pilot participation will still expect to receive certain project-specific documentation, such as a budget/justification, statement of work, etc. – but Pilot Participants will no longer collect duplicative general information from one another.

Although this is true at both the proposal submission stage as well as the award stage, we anticipate that our faculty and staff will “feel” the impact most at the proposal stage, when they are primarily responsible for any communications with the collaborating institution.

For this reason, it is essential that UTHSCSA faculty and staff involved in grants understand what documentation is appropriate, and what is not, in all instances. To assist you with this, we have prepared detailed instructions to guide you when a subaward is contemplated, which is accessible on the OSP website at http://research.uthscsa.edu/osp/Subawards.shtml.

Please keep in mind, this applies only to participant institutions of the FDP Expanded Clearinghouse Pilot. When doing business with non-pilot institutions, the usual documentation requirements will still apply, which might include various subrecipient forms.

The goal of this pilot is to reduce the burden of paperwork required when subawards are involved. We believe the pilot will be successful and this process will ultimately become the norm – but we need your help to bring this paperwork reduction into the mainstream. We must be able to quantifiably measure the time that can be saved through this initiative; therefore, we urge you to carefully consider in every case what documentation is needed, rather than defaulting to request all possible options “just in case”.
We understand this may be a little confusing, and we are here to help throughout the process. If you are unsure what is needed, or have any questions about this, please contact your normal OSP proposal reviewer (http://research.uthscsa.edu/osp/forms/ProposalAssignments.xls) for assistance.

Likewise, additional information is available on OSP’s website at http://research.uthscsa.edu/osp/Subawards.shtml.

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