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CHANGE IN METHOD OF STIPEND PAYMENT FOR

INDIVIDUAL FELLOWS SUPPORTED BY NIH

AND SPONSORED BY NON-FEDERAL DOMESTIC

INSTITUTIONS



The National Institutes of Health will initiate a change in the method of stipend payment to NIH individual fellows sponsored by non-Federal domestic institutions, effective May 1, 1978. Under this improved method of payment, the NIH will issue one award combining both the stipend and institutional allowance. The sponsoring institution will be designated as the organization to make payment of stipends and other allowances which may be authorized by the award. The sponsoring institutions will be authorized to draw funds for these awards under their existing DHEW Letter of Credit or Monthly Cash Request method. A description of the new procedure has been distributed to all current active fellows and sponsoring institutional officials.

The new stipend payment procedure will apply to fellows who activate their new or continuation awards on or after May 1, 1978. The NIH will continue to make direct stipend payments for the balance of the current annual award to those fellows who have activated prior to May 1, 1978. NIH will discontinue direct payments to the latter group of fellows and the sponsoring institution will begin to make the payments at the time of the next continuation award.

It should be noted that the NIH will continue to issue monthly stipend checks to fellows sponsored by foreign or Federal institutions.

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HAVE YOU MOVED?

If your present address differs from that shown on the address label, please send your new address to: Grants and Contract Guide Distribution Center, Division of Research Grants, NIH, Room 219, Westwood Building, Bethesda, Maryland 20014, and attach your address label to your letter. Prompt notice of your change of address will prevent your name from being removed from our mailing list.

The GUIDE is published at irregular intervals to provide policy and administrative information to individuals and organizations who need to be kept informed of requirements and changes in grants and contracts activities administered by the National Institutes of Health.

Supplements, printed on yellow paper, are published by the respective awarding units concerning new projects, solicitations of sources, and requests for proposals.

The National Institutes of Health policy governing the use of funds provided under an individual fellowship award is highlighted as follows:

- a. The <u>stipend</u> is a pre-established level of support set by the NIH to provide for the fellow's living expenses during the period of training. The stipend is not a payment for services performed. Fellows supported under NIH fellowship awards are not considered to be employees either of the NIH or of their sponsoring institution.
- b. The institutional allowance is awarded in lieu of other institutional costs to help defray such expenses for the fellow as tuition and fees, research supplies, equipment, faculty salary, appropriate medical insurance, travel to scientific meetings, and other related items. The sponsoring institution will continue to control, by institutional policies, the use of the institutional allowance.

A description of the new payment procedures will be distributed to the fellow and the sponsoring institution as each new or revised fellowship award is issued by the NIH.