



Doing Business with the NRC: The Nuclear Education Grant Program

**Creating a Presence 2010
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Topics to Be Covered:

- **No-Cost Extensions**
- **Multiple Grants**
- **Service Agreements/Employment**
- **GPA Requirements**
- **Military Service**
- **Freshman Scholarships**
- **Performance and Financial Reporting**
- **Citizenship**
- **Re-budgeting**
- **Funds Drawdown/Expended Funds Reporting**
- **Travel**
- **Principal Investigator/Key Personnel Changes**
- **Change in Time and Effort**
- **Equipment**

No-Cost Extensions

- **Make request prior to expiration of grant**
- **In writing – e-mail works**
- **Authorized representative – business office**
- **PI request acceptable**
- **Estimate funding needs carefully - returning funds to Treasury is a waste of NRC grant funds that could have been used to fund other meritorious grant applicants**

Multiple Grants

- **Institutions can (and do) have more than one active grant**
- **Same grant type may be applied for each year**
- **Highly qualified applicants, without a prior year grant, may be given additional consideration - all else being equal**

Service Agreements/Employment

- **Every year or partial year of NRC support requires 6 months of nuclear-related employment**
- **What is an appropriate job offer?**
- **NRC waiver**
 - **Proof of employment effort**
- **Responsibility for funds recovery**
- **When must employment begin?**
 - **Terminal degree and NRC approval**
 - **Internships and co-ops**
- **Students must inform the NRC of their employment situation until the service obligation is satisfied**

GPA Requirements

- **Minimum GPA for scholarships (4-year schools) is 3.0**
- **Minimum GPA for fellowships is 3.3**
- **No stated minimums for trade/cc scholars**
- **These GPA levels are retroactive to all grants**
- **One semester to “recover”**
- **Do not dismiss students from who are “close” – judgment**
- **Notify NRC of proposed dismissal action prior to implementation**
- **Remember - dismissal triggers repayment**

Military Service

- **Military service in a nuclear-related position can satisfy employment requirement**
- **Military service, after receiving a degree, not related to nuclear with the intent of returning for a follow-on nuclear degree (terminal) must be evaluated by NRC on a case-by-case basis**

Freshman Scholarships

- **Scholarships are used for recruitment and retention**
- **Entering freshman are judged on HS achievement**
- **Initial courses in college are usually not as difficult as core technical courses**
- **Awarding scholarships to upper classman is less risky**
- **Alternatively, award small assistance initially, gradually increasing as student progresses**
 - **provides an incentive**
 - **minimizes repayment if the worst happens**

Performance and Financial Reporting

- **Perf. Rept. - Due October 31 and April 30**
- **NRC requires: SF-PPR, SF-PPR-B, and SF-PPR-E**
- **Financial Rept. - Due Jan. 31, April 30, July 31, and October 31**
- **Use form SF-425**

Citizenship

- **Faculty Development Grants**
 - **Professors with a valid H-1b visa or green card (or other permanent residence status) may participate**
- **Students that are legal permanent residents of the U.S. are eligible**

Re-budgeting

- **If amount of funds to be re-budgeted is <10% - no prior approval needed**
- **Formal request and approval is needed if:**
 - **Re-budgeting between direct and indirect cost**
 - **Re-budgeting funds to another category (scholarships to salaries or travel)**
 - **foreign travel**
- **Discuss change in scope (if any) and justify why it is necessary and the benefit to the project**

Funds Drawdown/Expended Funds Reporting

- **Grantees use the Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP) system for drawdown**
- **Report expended funds periodically**
 - **Lessens the impression that grant funds are not being used**
 - **Large unobligated balances at closeout may indicate poor estimate of funding needs**
 - **Funds de-obligated are lost to the NRC grant program**

Travel

- **Travel can be an appropriate charge and prior authorization is not required if identified in the recipient's original budget and narrative**
- **Unidentified trips require written prior approval of the Grants Officer**
- **Foreign travel always requires prior approval (a minimum of 30 days) even if identified in original grant application**

Principal Investigator/ Key Personnel Changes

- **If a change in the PI or key personnel is needed, a CV will be required for the new person(s) and justification for the change will be necessary**

Change in Time and Effort

- **This is usually associated with re-budgeting**
- **Submit:**
 - **Role of personnel involved**
 - **Change in effort (from % to %)**
 - **Duration of change**
 - **Increase or decrease in budgeting**
 - **Justification and impact**

Equipment

- **Equipment can be purchased with scholarship/fellowship funds**
- **Equipment must be necessary for instruction of the students**

Summary

- **NRC grant program objective is to help educate and train students for the nuclear workforce**
- **Service agreement helps ensure that program is contributing to that objective**
- **With more meritorious applications than funding, it is imperative that available funds be used wisely and not wasted**
- **Grant staff in NRC is always available to assist with your concerns and, certainly, if problems are anticipated**

Thank you!

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