

PROCEDURES FOR THE UNT CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY FOR SPONSORED PROJECTS

Procedure 2 – For Funded Projects and Applications for Funding from Entities Other Than the U.S. Public Health Service (PHS)

Definitions

For the purposes of this procedure, the definitions provided in UNT Policy 13.005 shall apply.

Procedures

When a University of North Texas (“UNT”) Investigator submits a proposal for funding from an entity other than the U.S. Public Health Service (for procedures related to the U.S. Public Health Service, see http://research.unt.edu/sites/default/files/COI_Procedure_PHS.pdf), the Investigator will complete and provide to the Research Integrity Officer a “Significant Financial Interests Disclosure” form (the “disclosure”) either electronically or in paper form (see <http://research.unt.edu/faculty-resources/research-integrity-and-compliance/financial-conflict-interest>). In the disclosure, the Investigator will provide a general description of any Significant Financial Interests (“SFI”) held by the Investigator, the Investigator’s spouse, and the Investigator’s dependent children:

1. that would reasonably appear to affect or be related to the research proposed for funding; or
2. in entities whose financial interests would reasonably appear to affect or be related to the research proposed for funding.

For any categories of SFIs indicated on the disclosure, the Investigator will include supplemental documentation that includes the entity involved, the nature and the amount of the SFI, and an explanation regarding how the SFI is related to the research proposed for funding.

If the Investigator does not disclose any SFIs in the disclosure, the UNT Office of Research and Innovation will process the proposal in the ordinary manner.

If the Investigator discloses any SFIs in the disclosure, the Research Integrity Officer appointed by the Vice President for Research & Innovation will review the disclosure, the supporting documentation and the proposal to determine if there is a potential conflict of interest. If there is sufficient evidence to indicate a possible financial conflict of interest (“FCOI”), the Research Integrity Officer at his or her discretion will forward the disclosure, the supporting documentation, and the proposal to the Conflict of Interest Review Committee for

review to determine if an FCOI exists and, if so, what modifications or conditions, if any, should be imposed to manage, reduce, or eliminate the FCOI.

The Investigator must update the disclosure on an annual basis while a proposal is pending and during the period of an award, and also within 30 days of the acquisition of any new SFI.

Notifying NSF of Conflict Issues

If UNT is unable to satisfactorily manage a conflict of interest relating to research funded by the National Science Foundation, UNT will notify NSF of the circumstances.