

COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Guidance for Missouri S&T Researchers

Check here for updates regarding how COVID-19 is affecting sponsored programs at Missouri S&T. As this is a fluid situation, we expect to update this site frequently. If you have any information to share, please e-mail us at research@mst.edu. Read updates from Missouri S&T at: <https://alert.mst.edu/coronavirus-information>

[Accounts Payable Shared Services](#): Links to FAQs and reference guides due to **recent travel restrictions** associated with COVID-19

[CDC COVID-19 IHE Updates](#): This interim guidance, intended for institutions of higher education, is based on what is currently known about the transmission and severity of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).

[COGR Repository for IHE Guidance](#): A collection of resources from various institutions of higher education, as well as select federal agencies such as NIH and NSF.

[NIH COVID-19 FAQs](#): General frequently asked questions regarding NIH proposal submission and award management related to COVID-19

[NIH COVID-19 Resource Page](#): NIH information including [NIH guidance on travel and meetings](#).

[NIH Emergency Updates](#): NIH updates on natural disasters and other emergencies.

[NIH Late Application Policy](#): Due to Public Health Emergency for United States for 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) there may be delays in application submission

[NSF dedicated COVID-19 webpage](#): NSF has developed a new website for the research community with detailed guidance on the Coronavirus (COVID-19). This includes guidance for awardee organizations, researchers and reviewers of NSF proposals. Please note that this website will be updated as new developments arise.

[NSF COVID-19 FAQs](#): Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) About the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) for National Science Foundation (NSF) Proposers and Awardees.

[NSF Dear Colleague Letter](#): NSF's Dear Colleague Letter with information regarding the RAPID funding mechanism as it relates to COVID-19.

[OLAW Disaster Planning and Response Resources](#): The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare maintains a list of resources and also has a list of [FAQs](#), click on G9 to read about how to prepare for a pandemic.

[World Health Organization](#): Information and guidance from WHO regarding the current outbreak of Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19).

FAQs

Will my proposal still be submitted to the sponsor on time amid a COVID-19 outbreak?

At present, proposals are being submitted **as normal** by OSP. Pre-award staff are prepared to continue submitting proposals in a timely manner, including by working remotely, should that contingency become necessary. Agency late application policies, where available, are posted above.

Will my proposal still be submitted to the federal government on time if the federal agency to which I intend to apply is closed due to a COVID-19 outbreak?

At present, all federal agencies are accepting proposal submissions as usual. In the event a COVID-19 outbreak closes a federal agency that is currently accepting proposals, we expect the agency will continue to accept proposals; however, the proposals will most likely remain in a queue (e.g., within the Grants.gov system), pending resumption of agency operations – as has been the case during recent federal budget-related shutdowns.

How can I reach OSP amid a COVID-19 outbreak?

In the event of a COVID-19 outbreak, OSP employees who are working remotely will respond to emails as normal. We are working to establish ways for Zoom contact instead of meeting in person or using the telephone.

Will I be able to get an extension on a proposal deadline in the event of a COVID-19 outbreak?

Currently, we have no information about whether sponsors will accept late proposals (except in the case of NIH, as detailed at the link provided above). Faculty who are working on a proposal now should therefore plan to submit by OSP's posted Proposal Compilation, Vetting, & Submission Milestones (<https://sponsoredprograms.mst.edu/media/research/sponsoredprograms/documents/policies/Pre-Award%20Timeline.pdf#190924013239>), which are determined in relation to the sponsor's stated deadline, regardless of whether there is an active COVID-19 outbreak at Missouri S&T. If you are personally impacted by COVID-19, reviewing the sponsor's standard exception policies may be warranted.

Will my grant have to pay for project-related costs incurred during a reduction in operations if we aren't able to work on the project (e.g., animal per diem, idle lab staff, etc.?)

In general, the answer is "Yes," your grant will likely be required to cover the costs incurred during a reduction in operations -- provided S&T would likewise require a non-sponsored fund to pay for the same cost in similar circumstances. Put the other way around, if the university would not allow a certain cost to be incurred on a non-sponsored fund during a reduction in operations, the university will not allow the same cost to be charged to a sponsored project. This practice adheres to the federal government's Uniform Guidance (2 CFR §200.403) requirement that costs be incurred "consistent with policies and procedures that apply uniformly to both federally financed and other activities of the non-Federal entity."

Am I allowed to pay myself or staff who may be quarantined on sponsored funding?

Federal agencies are working internally on a number of proposal and award-related issues pertaining to COVID-19. We are waiting on further communication from our partners about these issues and will provide guidance as further information becomes available. In the meantime, please continue to follow all relevant policies and procedures and apply those practices consistently. Currently, salary should be

charged in a consistent manner. If an employee's salary is charged to a sponsored program, then their time spent in quarantine can also be charged to the sponsored program.

I would like to conduct research relating to COVID-19. What should I do?

Check federal agencies for funding opportunities related to COVID-19, including at the NSF and NIH links above. Then, start the conversation with your designated OSP pre-award administrator and, as appropriate, the IBC, IRB, and/or IACUC committees to ensure you are considering the necessary compliance aspects of this type of research.