Conflict of Interest Policy Change

The federal regulations regarding research-related conflicts of interest have been revised by the Public Health Service (PHS) and must be implemented at The University of Texas at Austin by August 24, 2012, necessitating revisions to The University of Texas at Austin policy.

In order to comply with the new policy, all individuals who are involved in the design, conduct, or reporting of research, which includes principal investigators, co-investigators, research staff and students with those duties, will be required to complete training and submit a financial interest disclosure in order for the institution to comply with the new regulations and associated institutional policies.

For investigators conducting human subject research, completion of the training and submission of the financial interest disclosure must be completed by all applicable personnel prior to submission for IRB review and approval. Additional information will be provided as The University of Texas at Austin policy revision is approved and the implementation date draws near.

For more information on the NIH policy, go to http://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/coin/.

Protocol Amendments

In order to facilitate the continuation of research, the Office of Research Support is prioritizing the review and approval of protocol amendments. As such, the following types of amendment requests in particular will be promptly addressed:

- Change in protocol title
- Increase in sample size
- Adding a research site
- Modification of research personnel

A Friendly Reminder on Continuing Review Applications

For Expedited and Full Board studies, in order to renew approval for another year, PIs must complete the following steps:

1. Submit a Continuing Review Application at least 30 days in advance of the expiration date (or 60 days in advance for a full board study).
2. Submit the currently approved version of all of the required documents.

Additionally, all PIs and Co-PIs must have updated training.

Contact your IRB Program Coordinator if you require assistance.

Upcoming Educational Workshop

The Office of Research Support hosts frequent educational sessions and workshops to assist you with working with the IRB. The next session is:

Date: July 18, 2012
Topic: Step-by-Step: How to Write & Submit an IRB Proposal & Application

For more information and registration, visit http://www.utexas.edu/research/rsc/news/