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Sent: Monday, November 02, 2009 2:52 PM
To: UNC Chapel Hill Research Information
Cc: Beck, James D; Crimmins, Michael T; Fraser, Mark W; Juliano, Rudolph L; Knafel, Kathleen; Lowman, Robert P; Martin, Sandra L; Marzluff, William F
Subject: [res_info] Raising the threshold!

Effective November 1, 2009, the transaction review threshold for OSR approval increased to \$5,000 on all transactions processed using the InDepth, CRapproval, purchase requisition and web travel systems. This will result in shorter turnaround time for reimbursements and vendor payments, and allow award administrators to move from a transaction focus to concentrate on overall project expenditure management.

This also transfers control for project direction and financial management to the principal investigator. Sponsors rely on the University to ensure good financial management, and training and awareness are essential ingredients of that. Research administrators and principal investigators should be familiar with the principles of [OMB Circular A-21](#) (relocated to 2 CFR Parts 215 and 220), "Cost Principles for Educational Institutions", and the OSR's policies, procedures and guidelines.

The OSR will offer the Tarheels Certificate Program in February. We will also provide training for faculty and administrators by specific request. Please feel free to contact me directly if you are interested. As always, we encourage you to use OSR staff as a resource when you have questions about allowability, process, or anything sponsored.

The OSR is implementing a post audit program of after-the-fact transaction sampling and will conduct periodic reviews of award expenditures to verify allowability and financial compliance. We may contact administrators and principal investigators with questions from time-to-time. The department will be responsible for initiating expense transfers if it is determined that a transaction is unallowable per sponsor and/or university guidelines. In addition, if post-audit reviews reveal that a department is routinely spending sponsored funds inappropriately, OSR may take follow on actions such as increasing post audit scrutiny or requesting a full internal audit of the department's sponsored awards.

We expect to implement similar process changes in the online journal entry and billing system. Look for confirmation sometime in November. Please send this information to faculty and administrators and feel free to contact me with questions and comments. Thank you for your assistance getting the message out.

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