OFFICE OF NAVAL RESEARCH
FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS RESEARCH GRANT
INTERIM TERMS AND CONDITIONS
(February 2015)


This award is governed by the guidance in 2 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part 200, "Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards," as modified and supplemented by the Department of Defense's (DoD) interim implementation found at 2 CFR part 1103, "Interim Grants and Cooperative Agreements Implementation of Guidance in 2 CFR part 200" (79 FR 76047, December 19, 2014), all of which are incorporated herein by reference and the articles below.

Provisions of Chapter I, Subchapter C of Title 32, CFR, "DoD Grant and Agreement Regulations," other than parts 21, 22, 32, 33 and 37, continue to be in effect and are incorporated herein by reference, with applicability as stated in those provisions.

ORDER OF PRECEDENCE

Any inconsistencies in the requirements of this award shall be resolved in the following order:

a. Federal statutes
b. Federal regulations
c. 2 CFR part 200, as modified and supplemented by DoD's interim implementation found in 2 CFR part 1103
d. Award-specific terms and conditions

In case of disagreement with any requirements of this award, the recipient shall contact the grants officer in order to resolve the issue. The recipient shall not assess any costs to the award or accept any payments until the issue is resolved.

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1. Access to Records

Financial records, supporting documents, statistical records, and all other records pertinent to an award shall be retained for a period of three years from the date of submission of the final expenditure report. The United States Government shall have access to records in accordance with DoDGARs 34.42.

2. Modification of Grant

The only method by which this Grant can be modified is by a formal, written modification signed by either the AGO at the Administrative Office in Block 23a of the ONR Award Form (10/99), or the Awarding Office, Block 22 of the ONR Award Form (10/99). No other communications, whether oral or in writing, shall modify this Grant.

3. Prior Approvals

Prior approval of the following deviations from budget and program plans is required:
(a) The Grantee must consult the Program Officer in Block 21 of the ONR Award Form (10/99) through the AGO at the Administrative Office in Block 23a of the ONR Award Form (10/99) before deviating from the objectives of the proposal.

(b) Support for the project may not continue without the active direction of the Symposium Recipient Technical Manager approved for, and identified in, this Grant. If the approved Symposium Recipient Technical Manager severs his or her connection with the Grantee or otherwise relinquishes active direction of the project either permanently or for a significant length of time (three months or more), the Grantee must either:

(1) Appoint a replacement Symposium Recipient Technical Manager with the approval of the Program Officer in Block 21 of the ONR Award Form (10/99) through the AGO at the Administrative Office in Block 23a of the ONR Award Form (10/99), or

(2) Relinquish the Grant, in which case the Grant shall be terminated in Accordance with 2 CFR 200.

(c) Extension of the expiration period of this Grant – The AGO at the Administrative Office in Block 23a of the ONR Award Form (10/99) has authority to approve no funds extension requests meeting all of the following parameters:

(1) a one-time basis only; and

(2) for a period not to exceed 90 days; and

(3) where $50,000.00 or less of obligated funds remain to be expended

In other cases, where a request is outside of one or more of the parameters, a no funds extension can only be approved with the concurrence of the ONR Program Officer. For the no funds extension to be effective, a written grant modification must be issued and signed by the AGO at the Administrative Office in Block 23a or the Awarding Office in Block 22 of the ONR Award Form (10/99).

(d) The need for additional Federal funding.

4. Preaward Costs

(a) Grantees may incur preaward costs for up to ninety (90) days prior to the effective date of the Grant award.

(b) Preaward costs as incurred by the Grantee must be necessary for the effective and economical conduct of the project, and the costs must be otherwise allowable in accordance with the appropriate cost principles.
(c) Any preaward costs are incurred at the Grantee's risk. The incurring of preaward costs by the Grantee does not impose any obligation on the Office of Naval Research (1) in the absence of appropriations, (2) if an award is not subsequently made, or (3) if an award is made for a lesser amount than the Grantee expected.

5. **Unexpended Balance**

In the absence of any specific notice to the contrary, Grantees are authorized to carry forward unexpended balances of funds received to subsequent funding periods.

6. **Payments**

(a) All payments shall be made by funds transfers to the bank account registered in System for Award Management (SAM) at https://www.sam.gov/portal/SAM/. The Grantee agrees to maintain its registration in SAM including information necessary to facilitate payment via Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT). Should a change in registry or other incident necessitate the payment to an account other than that maintained in SAM, it is the Grantee’s responsibility to notify the AGO and obtain a modification to this Grant reflecting the change. The Government shall not be held responsible for any misdirection or loss of payment which occurs as the result of a Grantee’s failure to maintain correct/current EFT information within its SAM registration.

(b) Any request for advance payments must be approved by the Administrative Grants Officer (AGO) at the Administrative Office shown in Block 23a of the award.

(c) iRAPT (Invoicing, Receipt, Acceptance and Property Transfer formerly known as WAWF) has been designated as the Department of Defense standard for electronic invoicing and payment. To facilitate this effort for Universities and Nonprofit Organizations with awards administered by the Office of Naval Research (ONR) Regional Offices, DoD has established the ONR Electronic Payment System (PayWeb) (https://payweb.onr.navy.mil), as an initial entry point to iRAPT. If the Grantee participates in the PayWeb system, the Grantee shall submit an electronic request for payment to the Administrative Grants Officer (AGO) at the Administrative Office in Block 23a of the award, using the standard PayWeb processes.

(d) Participation in the PayWeb system requires the Grantee to obtain an External Certificate Authority (ECA) certificate from an approved Certificate Authority for access. Operational Research Consultants (ORC) (http://www.eca.orc.com) and Symantec (http://www.symantec.com/shared-service-pki/) are approved ECA Authorities. If you have questions or require technical assistance in implementing your certificate, contact the Navy PKI Help Desk at 1-800-304-4636. The Grantee shall Contact the AGO at the Administrative Office in Block 23a of the award for instructions on how to register and use iRAPT and PayWeb.
(e) Electronic submission of payment requests requires the Grantee to register in iRAPT and have the appropriate CAGE code activated. The Grantee’s SAM Electronic Business Point of Contact (EBPOC) is responsible for activating the CAGE code in iRAPT by calling 1-866-618-5988. Once the Grantee’s CAGE Code is activated, the SAM EBPOC will self-register in iRPAT and follow the instructions for a group administrator. The ONR Regional Offices will assist in this process. The ONR Regional Office is listed as the Administrative Office in Block 23a of the award.

(f) If the Grantee is a For-Profit entity or does not participate in the ONR PayWeb System, the Grantee shall submit payment requests electronically via iRAPT. The Grantee shall Contact the AGO at the Administrative Office in Block 23a of the award for instructions on how to register and use iRAPT.

7. Overpayment and Earned Interest

(a) Overpayment. Within ninety (90) days after the end date of the Grant, any overpayment of funds provided by the Grant shall be remitted to the AGO at the Administrative Office in Block 23a of the ONR Award Form (10/99), by check made payable to the US Treasury. An overpayment represents the difference between allowable actual expenditures and total disbursements received by the grantee.

(b) Earned Interest. Grantees who meet the conditions in 2 CFR 200 are required to deposit funds advanced under this Grant in an interest bearing account. Interest earned on such account, and otherwise meeting the criteria in 2 CFR 200, shall be remitted annually to the Department of Health and Human Services, Payment Management System, P.O. Box 6021, Rockville, MD 20852, by check made payable to the Treasury of the United States.

8. Performance Results

(a) If reports are requested in Block 31 of the ONR Award Form (10/99), the Grantee shall submit the performance results within ninety (90) days after the end date of the Grant.

(b) The Grantee shall include a completed "Report Documentation Page" Standard Form (SF) 298 as the last page of the performance results prepared under this Grant. The form and instructions are available on the Office of Naval Research Home Page at http://www.onr.navy.mil/Contracts-Grants/manage-grant/grants-forms-download.aspx. However, Block 12a of the SF 298 should be completed with the following distribution/availability statement: APPROVED FOR PUBLIC RELEASE. If the Grantee does not agree with that distribution/availability, the Grantee should contact the cognizant AGO at the Administrative Office in Block 23a of the ONR Award Form (10/99).
9. **Future Funding**

The Government’s legal obligation is limited to the amount shown as “Total Obligated on Award,” Block 16 of the ONR Award Form (10/99).

10. **Option to Renew**

If an option is indicated in Block 30 of the ONR Award Form (10/99), the Government may require the continuation of the research as detailed in Block 15 of the ONR Award Form (10/99). The option may be exercised by a modification to the Grant.

11. **Grantee-Acquired Property**

Title to all nonexpendable tangible personal property purchased by the Grantee with grant funds shall be deemed to have vested in the Grantee upon purchase, unless stated otherwise in this Grant, without further obligation to the U. S. Government. No cost associated with the acquisition of property under this grant is allowable under any future award.

12. **Publications and Acknowledgment of Sponsorship**

   (a) Publication of results of the research project in appropriate professional journals is encouraged as an important method of recording and reporting scientific information. One copy of each paper planned for publication will be submitted to the Program Officer in Block 21 of the ONR Award Form (10/99) simultaneously with its submission for publication. Following publication, copies of published papers shall be submitted to the Program Officer.

   (b) The Grantee agrees that when releasing information relating to this Grant, the release shall include a statement to the effect that the project or effort undertaken was or is sponsored by the Department of the Navy, Office of Naval Research.

   (c) Disclaimer: The Grantee is responsible for assuring that every publication of material (including World Wide Web pages) based on or developed under this award, except scientific articles or papers appearing in scientific, technical or professional journals, contains the following disclaimer: “Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Office of Naval Research.”

   (d) For the purpose of this clause, information includes news releases, articles, manuscripts, brochures, advertisements, still and motion pictures, speeches, trade association proceedings, symposia, etc.
13.  **Patent Rights**

“Report of Inventions and Subcontracts” (DD 882) is to be submitted to the Associate Counsel/Senior Patent Attorney at the address cited in Block 26 of the ONR Award Form (10/99). That individual will represent the AGO in Block 23a of the ONR Award Form (10/99) with regard to invention reporting matters arising under this Grant. Recipients are subject to applicable regulations governing patents and inventions, including government wide regulations issued by the Department of Commerce at 37 CFR Part 401, “Rights to Inventions Made by Nonprofit Organizations and Small Business Firms under Government Grants, Contracts and Cooperative Agreements.”

14.  **Subawards and Contracts/Subcontracts**

The applicable Federal cost principles for subawards and contracts/subcontracts under this Grant shall be those applicable to the type of organization receiving the subaward, contract or subcontract. The applicable cost principles are:

2 CFR Part 200 Subpart E: Cost Principles

2 CFR Part 200 Appendix III: Indirect (F&A) Cost Identification and Assignment, and Rate Determination for Institutions for Higher Education

2 CFR Part 200 Appendix IV: Indirect (F&A) Cost Identification and Assignment, and Rate Determination for Nonprofit Organizations


2 CFR Part 200 Appendix VI: Public Assistance Allocation Plans

2 CFR Part 200 Appendix VII: State and Local Government and Indian Tribe Indirect Cost Proposal

2 CFR Part 200 Appendix VIII: Nonprofit Organizations Exempted from Subpart E: Cost Principles

2 CFR Part 200 Appendix XI: Hospital Cost Principles

Subpart 31.2 of the Federal Acquisition Regulation (48 CFR Subpart 31.2) applicable to commercial firms and those nonprofit organizations in Appendix VIII
15. Security

The Grantee shall not be granted access to classified information under this Grant. If security restrictions should happen to apply to certain aspects of the proposed research, the Grantee will be so informed. In the event that the scientific work under this Grant may either need classification or involve access to or storage of any classified data, the Government shall make a decision on the need to classify, or require such access or storage within 30 days after receipt of a written notice from the Grantee. If the decision is affirmative, the Government may invoke the Termination clause in 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart D, 200.339 or DoDARs 34.51, as appropriate.

16. Officials Not to Benefit

No member of or delegate to Congress, or resident commissioner, shall be admitted to any share or part of this Grant, or to any benefit arising from it, in accordance with 41 U.S.C. 22.

17. Military Recruiting on Campus

Military Recruiting on Campus applies to domestic U. S. colleges and universities. In such cases, the Military Recruiting regulations are incorporated herein by reference.

18. Live Organisms

By accepting funds under this Grant, the recipient assures that it will comply with applicable provisions of the following national policies concerning live organisms:


(b) For animals:

(1) Rules on animal acquisition, transport, care, handling, and use in (i) 9 CFR Parts 1-4, Department of Agriculture rules that implement the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966 (7 U.S.C. 2131-2159, as amended); and (ii) the “Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals,” National Institutes of Health Publication No. 86-23.


19. Research Involving Recombinant DNA Molecules

Any recipient performing research involving recombinant DNA molecules and/or organisms and viruses containing recombinant DNA molecules agrees by acceptance of this award to comply with the National Institutes of Health "Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant DNA Molecules", of July 5, 1994 (59 FR 34496), amended August 5, 1994 (59 FR 40170), amended April 27, 1995 (60 FR 20726), and such later revision of those guidelines as may be published in the Federal Register.

20. Environmental Standards

By accepting funds under this Grant, the recipient assures that it will, to the extent required by U. S. law:

(a) Comply with applicable provisions of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401, et seq.) and Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1251, et. seq.), as implemented by Executive Order 11738 [3 CFR, 1971-1975 comp., p. 799] and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) rules at 40 CFR Part 15. In accordance with the EPA rules, the recipient further agrees that it will:

(1) Not use any facility on the EPA’s List of Violating Facilities in performing any award that is nonexempt under 40 CFR 15.5 (awards of less than $100,000, and certain other awards, exempt from the EPA regulations), as long as the facility remains on the list.

(2) Notify the awarding agency if it intends to use a facility in performing this award that is on the List of Violating Facilities or that the recipient knows has been recommended to be placed on the List of Violating Facilities.

(b) Identify to the awarding agency any impact this award may have on:
(1) The quality of the human environment, and provide any help the agency may need to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA, at 42 U.S.C. 4321, et seq.) and to prepare Environmental Impact Statements or other required environmental documentation. In such cases, the recipient agrees to take no action that will have an adverse environmental impact (e.g., physical disturbance of a site such as breaking of ground) until the agency provides written notification of compliance with the environmental impact analysis process.

(2) Coastal barriers, and provide any help the agency may need to comply with the Coastal Barriers Resource Act (16 U.S.C. 3501, et seq.), concerning preservation of barrier resources.

(3) Any existing or proposed component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers system, and provide any help the agency may need to comply with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (16 U.S.C. 1271, et seq.).

21. Nondiscrimination

By accepting funds under this Grant, the recipient assures that it will comply with applicable provisions of the following national policies prohibiting discrimination:

(a) On the basis of race, color, or national origin, in Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d, et seq.), as implemented by DoD regulations at 32 CFR Part 195.

(b) On the basis of handicap, in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794), as implemented by Department of Justice regulations at 28 CFR Part 41 and DoD regulations at 32 CFR Part 56.

22. Activities Abroad

The Grantee shall assure that project activities carried on outside the United States are coordinated as necessary with appropriate Government authorities and that appropriate licenses, permits, or approvals are obtained prior to undertaking proposed activities. The awarding agency does not assume responsibility for Grantee compliance with the laws and regulations of the country in which the activities are to be conducted.

23. Cargo Preference

The recipient agrees that it will comply with the Cargo Preference Act of 1954 (46 U.S.C. 1241), as implemented by Department of Transportation regulations at 46 CFR 381.7, which require that at least 50 percent of equipment, materials or commodities procured or otherwise obtained with U.S. Government funds under this Grant, and which may be transported by ocean vessel, shall be transported on privately owned U.S.-flag commercial vessels, if available.
24. Preference for U. S. Flag Air Carriers

U.S flag air carriers shall be used for international air travel, to the extent that such service is available. Written documentation must be provided to the AGO at the Administrative Office in Block 23a of the ONR Award Form (10/99) for each incident of international air travel on a non-U.S. airline.

25. Profit or Fee

In accordance with DoDGARs 22.205(b) and DoD policy, no fee or profit may be charged to this grant.

26. Claims, Disputes, and Appeals

(a) Recipient Claims.
Recipients shall submit claims arising out of this Grant to the Grants Officer. Claims shall specify the nature and basis for the relief requested and shall include all data and relevant facts in support of the claim.

(b) DoD Component Claims.
Claims by a DoD Component shall be the subject of a written decision by the Grants Officer.

(c) Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR).
The Parties shall endeavor to agree upon an ADR technique (such as discussions, mediation, or mini-trial) appropriate to resolve any dispute, and they shall use ADR to the maximum extent practicable.

(d) Grants Officer decisions.

(1) Within 60 calendar days after receipt of a written claim, the Grants Officer shall:

   (i) Prepare a written decision, which shall include the basis for the decision, the relevant facts on which the decision is based, and the identity and address of the cognizant Appeal Authority; or

   (ii) Notify the Recipient of a date when the decision will be rendered. The notice shall address why additional time is needed and what, if any, additional information is required from the Recipient to adjudicate the claim.

(2) The Grants Officer’s decision is final, unless appealed. In the event of an appeal, the Parties shall endeavor to use ADR procedures to the maximum extent practicable.

(e) Formal Administrative Appeals.
(1) Appeal Authority. The Executive Director of the Acquisition Department is ONR’s Appeal Authority to decide formal, administrative appeals under this Grant. If the Executive Director is unable to serve in this capacity, the Deputy Chief of Naval Research shall so serve.

(2) A Recipient may appeal a Grants Officer’s decision within 90 calendar days of receiving the decision by filing a written notice of appeal with the Appeal Authority and the Grants Officer.

(3) If the Parties elect to use ADR following the Grant Officer’s decision, the remaining portion of the 90-day period for filing notice of appeal shall be tolled during the period running from the date the Parties agree in writing to utilize ADR to the date either (1) an ADR decision is issued or (2) one party notifies the other in writing that it is abandoning the ADR process.

(4) Appeal File. Within 30 calendar days after receipt of the notice of appeal, the Grants Officer shall forward to the Appeal Authority and the Recipient the appeal file, which shall include copies of all documents relevant to the appeal. The Recipient may supplement the file with additional documents it deems relevant. Both Party may supplement the file with a memorandum in support of its position, and the Appeal Authority may request additional information from the Parties.

(5) Decision. The appeal shall be decided solely on the basis of the written record, unless the Appeal Authority decides to conduct fact-finding or an oral hearing on the appeal. Any fact-finding or hearing shall be conducted using procedures that the Appeal Authority deems appropriate. The decision of the Appeal Authority shall be final.

(6) Representation. A Recipient may be represented by counsel or any other designated representative in any claim, appeal, or ADR proceeding brought pursuant to this section, as long as the representative is not otherwise prohibited by law or regulation from appearing before ONR.

(f) Non-exclusivity of remedies.

Nothing in this section including the statement contained in paragraph (e) (5) above is intended to limit a Recipient’s right to any remedy under the law.

27. Controlled Unclassified Information

The parties understand that information and materials provided pursuant to or resulting from this Grant may be export controlled, sensitive, for official use only or otherwise protected by law, executive order or regulation. The Grantee is responsible for compliance with all applicable laws and regulations. Nothing in this Grant shall be construed to permit any disclosure in violation of those restrictions.
28. **Suspension and Debarment**

Recipients shall comply with all the requirements of 2 CFR Part 200 Subpart C, 200.212: Suspension and debarment.

29. **Drug Free Workplace**

By accepting funds under this Grant, the recipient agrees to comply with the “Government –Wide Drug-Free Workplace (Financial Assistance)” requirements specified in 2 CFR Part 182, or in 32 CFR Part 26, which implements sec.5151-5160 of Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 (41 U.S.C. 701,et seq.).

30. **Trafficking in Persons**

(a) **Provisions applicable to a recipient that is a private entity.**

(1) You as the recipient, your employees, subrecipients under this award, and subrecipients’ employees may not—

i. Engage in severe form of trafficking in persons during the period of time that the award is in effect;

ii. Procure a commercial sex act during the period of time that the award is in effect; or

iii. Use forced labor in the performance of the award or sub-awards under the award.

(2) We as the Federal awarding agency may unilaterally terminate this award, without penalty, if you or a subrecipient that is a private entity—

i. Is determined to have violated a prohibition in paragraph a.1 of this award term; or

ii. Has an employee who is determined by the agency official authorized to terminate the award to have violated a prohibition in paragraph a.1 of this award term through conduct that is either—

   A. Associated with the performance under this award; or

   B. Imputed to you or the subrecipient using the standards and due process for imputing the conduct of an individual to an organization that are provided in 2 CFR part 180, “OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Government wide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement),” as implemented by our agency at 2 CFR 1125.
(b) **Provision applicable to a recipient other than a private entity.** We as the Federal awarding agency may unilaterally terminate this award, without penalty if a subrecipient that is a private entity-

(1) Is determined to have violated an applicable prohibition in paragraph a. 1 of this award term; or

(2) Has an employee who is determined by the agency official authorized to terminate the award to have violated an applicable prohibition in paragraph a.1 of this award term through conduct that is either-

i. Associated with the performance under this award; or

ii. Imputed to the sub-receipt using standards and due process for imputing the conduct of an individual to an organization that are provided in 2 CFR part 180, “OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Government Debarment and Suspension (Non-procurement)”, as implemented by our agency at 2 CFR part 1125.

(c) **Provisions applicable to any recipient.**

(1) You must inform us immediately of any information you receive from any source alleging a violation of a prohibition in paragraph a.1 of this award term

(2) Our right to terminate unilaterally that is described in paragraph a.2 or b of this section:

i. Implements section 106(g) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (TVPA), as amended (22 U.S.C. 7104 (g)), and

ii. Is in addition to all other remedies for non-compliance that are available to us under this award.

(3) You must include the requirements of paragraph a.1 of this award term in any sub-award you make to a private entity.

(d) **Definitions. For purposes of this award term:**

(1) “Employee” means either:

i. An individual employed by you or a subrecipient who is engaged in the performance of the project or program under this award; or
ii. Another person engaged in the performance of the project or program under this award and not compensated by you including, but not limited to, a volunteer or individual whose services are contributed by a third party as an in-kind contribution toward cost sharing or matching requirements.

(2) “Forced labor” means labor obtained by any of the following methods: the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.

(3) “Private entity”

i. Means any entity other than a State, local government, Indian tribe, of foreign public entity, as those terms are defined in 2 CFR 175.25.

ii. Includes:

A. A nonprofit organization, including any nonprofit institution of higher education, hospital, or tribal organization other than one included in the definition of Indian tribe at 2 CFR 175.25(b)

B. A for-profit organization.

(4) “Severe forms of trafficking in persons,” “commercial sex act,” and “coercion” have the meanings given at section 103 of the TVPA, as amended (22 U.S.C. 7102).

31. Reporting Requirements for Subaward and Executive Compensation

The Grantee shall report on first-tier subawards and executive compensation in accordance with the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) of 2006 and associated 2008 amendments. Reporting is required for grants equal to or over $25,000. If the initial award is below $25,000 but subsequent grant modifications result in a total award equal to or over $25,000, the award will be subject to the reporting requirements, as of the date the award exceeds $25,000. If the initial award equals or exceeds $25,000 but funding is subsequently deobligated such that the total award amount falls below $25,000, the award continues to be subject to the reporting requirements of the Transparency Act.
32. **Financial Assistance Use of Universal Identifier and System for Award Management**

Grantee and first-tier subrecipients shall have Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) numbers and maintain current registrations in System for Award Management (SAM).

33. **Food and Beverage**

ONR funds shall not be used to pay for food or beverages.

34. **Prohibition on Using FY 2015 Funds under Grants with Entities that Require Certain Internal Confidentiality Agreements**

(a) The recipient shall not require employees, contractors or subrecipients seeking to report fraud, waste, or abuse to sign or comply with internal confidentiality agreements or statements prohibiting or otherwise restricting such employees or contractors from lawfully reporting such waste, fraud, or abuse to a designated investigative or law enforcement representative of a Federal department or agency authorized to receive such information.

(b) The recipient must notify its employees, contractors, or subrecipients that the prohibitions and restrictions of any internal confidentiality agreements inconsistent with paragraph (a) of this award provision are no longer in effect.

(c) The prohibition in paragraph (a) of this award provision does not contravene requirements applicable to Standard Form 312, Form 4414, or any other form issued by a Federal department of agency governing the nondisclosure of classified information.

(d) If the Government determines that the recipient is not in compliance with this award provision, it:

   (1) Will prohibit the recipient’s use of any FY 2015 funds under this award, in accordance with section 743 of Division E, Title VIII of the Consolidated and Further Continuing Resolution Appropriations Act, 2015, (Pub. L 113-235); and

   (2) May pursue other remedies available for the recipient’s material failure to comply with award terms and conditions.