



National Aeronautics and
Space Administration
Washington, DC 20546

Grant Information Circular

GIC 21- 07

June 2, 2021

PURPOSE: To inform Grant Officers and Technical Officers of a new term and condition that implements section 3(a) (1) of the “[One Small Step to Protect Human Heritage in Space Act](#)” (Pub. L. 116-275).

BACKGROUND: As commercial enterprises and more countries acquire the ability to land on the moon, it is necessary to encourage the development of best practices to respect the principle of due regard and to limit harmful interference to the Apollo landing site artifacts in acknowledgement of the human effort and innovation they represent, as well as their archaeological, anthropological, historical, scientific, and engineering significance and value. Recognizing this fact, on December 31, 2020, Congress enacted the “One Small Step to Protect Human Heritage in Space Act” (Pub. L. 116-275). This act directs the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) to continue developing best practices to respect the principle of due regard and limit harmful interference with historic Apollo lunar landing site artifacts, as well as include recommendations published in the [NASA’s Recommendations to Space-Faring Entities: How to Protect and Preserve the Historic and Scientific Value of U.S. Government Lunar Artifacts](#) as a condition or requirement to grants and agreements pertaining to lunar activities carried out by, for, or in partnership with NASA.

GUIDANCE: In accordance with Public Law 116 – 275, Grant Officers shall ensure that all new grant awards and cooperative agreements pertaining to lunar activities with for-profit entities include the following term and condition:

[Begin Provision]

Protecting and Preserving the Historic and Scientific Value of U.S. Government Lunar Artifacts.

- (a) Grant and cooperative agreement recipients shall follow the recommendations outlined in the [NASA’s Recommendations to Space-Faring Entities: How to protect and Preserve the Historic and Scientific Value of the U.S Government Lunar Artifacts](#) issued by NASA on July 20, 2011, and updated on October 28, 2011.
- (b) Recipients shall also consult with their respective NASA Grant Officer and Technical Officer prior to following any successor recommendations, guidelines, best practices, or standards relating to the principle of due regard and the limitation of harmful interference with Apollo landing site artifacts issued by NASA.

[End Provision]

When recipients consult with NASA per section (b) above, NASA Grant Officers and Technical Officers shall coordinate with the relevant Center’s Office of the General Counsel for additional guidance and prior to providing technical assistance to the recipient.

EFFECTIVE DATE: June 15, 2021

REGULATION OR TERM AND CONDITION CHANGES: The new term and condition shall be incorporated into new grants and cooperative agreements with for-profit entities awarded on or after June 15, 2021. The new term and condition will also be incorporated in the Grant and Cooperative Agreement Manual at a later date.

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