Recission of COVID-19 Guidance and Flexibilities for NASA Grants and Cooperative Agreements

PURPOSE: To notify the NASA grants community of the recission and archival of guidance and flexibilities associated with the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) due to the end of the Public Health Emergency (PHE).

BACKGROUND: On January 31, 2020, the U.S. Department of Human Services (HHS) declared a PHE under Section 319 of the Public Health Service (PHS) Act in response to COVID-19. Subsequent to the declaration of the PHE and the passage of The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP), the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) issued Memo M-21-20, which provided guidance on implementing the ARP and provided Federal awarding agencies certain flexibilities to reduce burden for financial assistance recipients. In June 2021, NASA adopted several flexibilities associated with M-21-20 and announced those flexibilities via the document entitled “NASA Implementation of OMB Memorandum M-21-20 Appendix 3 – “Disaster Relief Flexibilities to Reduce Burden for Financial Assistance”. While some of the flexibilities NASA adopted were time-limited, other flexibilities sunset coinciding with the end of the PHE.

Based on current COVID-19 trends, HHS ended the Federal PHE for COVID-19 at the end of the day on May 11, 2023. It is OMB’s expectation that agencies identify flexibilities that will be rescinded and archived and communicate those actions to relevant parties. As such, NASA is rescinding and archiving the following guidance and flexibilities:

Rescinded and Archived
- All unexpired flexibilities associated with the “NASA Implementation of OMB Memorandum M-21-20 Appendix 3 – “Disaster Relief Flexibilities to Reduce Burden for Financial Assistance” – issued June 2021
- Any other grant and cooperative agreement flexibility associated with COVID-19 granted by NASA not otherwise explicitly stated.

 Archived
- Update on Implementation of Executive Order 14042, Ensuring Adequate Safety Protocols for Federal Contractors, for NASA Cooperative Agreements
- NASA COVID-19 Award Flexibilities FAQs – June 2021
**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This guidance is effective end of day May 11, 2023.

**REGULATION OR TERM AND CONDITION CHANGES:** No.

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