

Pat Pitney, Vice Chancellor  
(907) 474-7340  
(907) 474-5850 fax  
[pat.pitney@alaska.edu](mailto:pat.pitney@alaska.edu)



Administrative Services  
University of Alaska Fairbanks, PO Box 757900, Fairbanks, AK 99775-7900

MEMORANDUM

To: Faculty, Deans and Directors

From: Vice Chancellor for Administrative Services, Pat Pitney  
Vice Chancellor for Research, Dr. Buck Sharpton

Subject: American Recovery and Reinvestment Act 2009 (ARRA) (a.k.a. Stimulus Funds)

Date: April 29, 2009

There is tremendous opportunity for significant research funding for UAF under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, 2009. With this opportunity comes significantly amplified federal accountability and oversight. The purpose of this message is two fold. The first is to make you aware of the accountability requirements you will have to adhere to when accepting an ARRA award. The second is to inform you of the temporary administrative actions being taken to maximize UAF's opportunities under ARRA and to assure UAF adequately addresses the heightened accountability standards. The Alaska Region Research Vessel (ARRV) is UAF's first ARRA award and will be one of the nation's first ARRA awards to move to construction. Given its size and its importance as the 'first', the oversight of UAF will be heightened. The project has been in the works for years and UAF's ARRV team, in close coordination with NSF, is operating under these new standards and will serve as a model for other ARRA awards.

The accountability requirements for successful PIs are detailed in Attachment A, Notice to Principal Investigators. This disclosure provides a listing of the added reporting elements expected of the federal agencies (Section 1512, ARRA). Of particular note is the quarterly accounting of project funds within 10 days of the quarter-end, an evaluation of the completion status of the project or activity, and an estimate of jobs created /retained. The Director of the Office of Grants and Contracts Administration has set up a meeting in Room 109 Butrovich on Friday, May 1, 2009 at 1 p.m., to provide additional information and answer questions.

The administrative action will include term positions in both the Office of Sponsored Programs and the Office of Grants and Contracts Administration. The Office of Sponsored Programs will add a term position to help identify and support proposal development under ARRA. The Office of Grants and Contracts Administration will hire two term ARRA report coordinators for post-award compliance and the reporting phase. To minimize the impact of the added compliance requirements on individual PIs, these ARRA report coordinators will work one-on-one with PIs during the life of the ARRA award to compile the accountability data points, keep up to date financial information, and ensure all required deadlines are known and met.

Depending on how the Stimulus rules materialize, these positions may have a direct funding component; however, they are being started with the expectation that ARRA will increase ICR funds.

We will be conducting abbreviated internal recruitments in the next two weeks for these critical positions. To assure these positions attract UAF's most qualified candidates, who can immediately make an impact, we will be exploring an adhoc process, which allows candidates incentives to take on these important roles for the next 18 months to two years with the 'right of retreat' back to their regular position after the ARRA term. This will require backfill for departments now dependent on the successful candidates. VCAS reporting departments are willing to contribute to this backfill effort.

This will be a dynamic process and there are many questions and considerations not yet covered. Please feel free to contact Pat Pitney, Buck Sharpton, and/or Maggie Griscavage with questions, concerns, and additional insight.