Grant Acronyms & Other Lingo

General

PI: Principal Investigator. The individual responsible for the preparation, conduct, and administration of a sponsored project. Sometimes called a Project Director (PD) in federal solicitations. Can also mean Program Instructor in an Extension-specific context.

IDC/F&A: Indirect Costs or Facilities and Administrative costs. Real costs of a project that are difficult to assign to an individual project, ex. utilities, rent, administrative staff, etc.

> TDC: Total Direct Costs. F&A is calculated as a percentage of all direct costs included in a grant budget.
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> MTDC: Modified Total Direct Costs. F&A is calculated as a percentage of most direct costs, excluding specific categories defined by federal guidance. Excluded categories include equipment, participant support costs, and subawards beyond the first $25,000.
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> NICRA: Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement. An agreement made with a federal agency (for MSU, the Department of Health and Human Services) that dictates the percentage used to calculate F&A based on certain conditions. For example, Extension primarily uses MSU's off-campus rate of 26% instead of the on-campus research rate of 57%.

AOR: Authorized Organizational Representative. An individual with the authority to sign agreements on behalf of an organization.

Prime Sponsor: The agency from which the award originates.

Direct Sponsor: The agency that serves as a pass-through entity for funds from the prime sponsor to a subaward.

Subaward: An agency responsible for a significant portion of a sponsored project with responsibility for the project design, conduct, or reporting of research or educational activities.

Contractor/Vendor/Consultant/Professional Services: An agency or individual providing necessary services to a sponsored project that are limited in scope without responsibility for the project design, conduct, or reporting of research or educational activities.

COI: Conflict of Interest. A personal interest or relationship that conflicts with the faithful performance of official duty. Often includes significant financial interest or relationship. Also refers to a list of past collaborators submitted in some federal proposals.

COC: Conflict of Commitment. Conflicting obligations to multiple employers or other entities. Can relate to time spent on obligations and disclosure or withholding of information.

CPS/CPOS: Current & Pending Support or Current, Pending, & Other Support. A document required by federal agencies that outlines key personnel's commitments to other projects. Active grants and submitted grants awaiting sponsor response are the most common items listed, but sponsors may request information about non-sponsored commitments as well.

MFTRP: Malign Foreign Talent Recruitment Program. Foreign government-sponsored talent recruitment program operated with the intent to import or otherwise acquire from abroad, sometimes through illicit means, proprietary technology or software, unpublished data and methods, and intellectual property to further the military modernization goals and/or economic goals of a foreign government.

SOW: Scope of Work/Statement of Work. A document that describes the project to be funded if the proposal is awarded. Requirements vary by sponsor and will be detailed in the solicitation.

Pre-Award: The period of the grant lifecycle up to submission of the final proposal.

Post-Award: The period of the grant lifecycle after the award agreement is signed and work can begin.

JIT: The period of the grant lifecycle between submission and award. Can involve budget revisions, submission of updated personnel documents, and/or other document updates to align the original proposal with what the sponsor is able to fund.

Solicitation: A document issued by the sponsor that describes the funding opportunity and dictates proposal requirements. Essential reading as you decide whether a specific opportunity is right for you and/or your project. Can be titled many different things, including the following.

RFP: Request for Proposals.

RFA: Request for Applications.

NOFO: Notice of Funding Opportunity.

FOA: Funding Opportunity Announcement.

NFOA: Notice of Funding Opportunity Announcement.

MSU-Specific

CGA: Contract & Grant Administration. The central MSU office that handles grants in the post-award stage, non-sponsored agreements requiring signature by an Authorized Organizational Representative (AOR), and research gifts.

OSP: Office of Sponsored Programs. The central MSU office that handles proposals in the pre-award stage.

BC: Business-Connect. The central MSU office that handles all grants and contracts with for-profit/industry partners.

ABR: AgBioResearch. Our college-level research administration office.

ORI: Office of Research & Innovation. Central MSU office that oversees research at MSU and offers training.

OGC: Office of General Counsel. Central MSU office that handles legal review of contracts and other documents.

KR: Kuali Research. MSU's electronic research administration system.

PD: Proposal Development document. The document in Kuali Research that documents each proposal. Each is assigned a five-digit number.

IP: Institutional Proposal number. Generated in Kuali Research when a Proposal Development document receives final approval from the relevant central office (usually the Office of Sponsored Programs). Can also mean Intellectual Property in reference to grant award agreements and other contracts.

Routing: Refers to the process by which proposals are given approval in Kuali Research before submission. The process includes the Principal Investigator and any Co-Principal or Co-Investigators; institute leadership; college-level leadership through AgBioResearch, and finally the relevant central office.

Academic Credit/Credit Split: Included in Kuali Research to document the level of effort provided by each Investigator on a project. Needed for the tenure process for tenure-track academic staff in other units. Helpful in Extension primarily for Current & Pending Support tracking.

S2S: System-2-System. Certain federal proposals can be submitted directly to the sponsor through Kuali Research, from our system to their system.