



SPO Process Meeting ARRA FAQs

Sponsored Projects Office
One Cyclotron Road, MS46R0125 Berkeley, CA 94720 USA

Revised: August 12, 2009

ARRA FAQs answered during the discussion part of the SPO Process Meeting. These questions and answers will later be available on the OCFO Recovery Act Information for Lab Employees.

1. We are getting a lot of information about ARRA reporting for DOE funds, but nothing so far if the ARRA funds are from NIH. Does anyone have any guidance yet?

Yes, all ARRA awards, regardless of the source are required to submit quarterly reports to FederalReporting.gov. NIH is not requiring any additional reporting to NIH on ARRA awards.

NIH does provide guidance on how to report on ARRA supplements to non-ARRA parent awards; but this is included in the parent award's non-competing continuation. A separate non-competing continuation will not be required for the supplement. The final report and the financial statements are separate, but they are not any additional reporting than would be required for a non-ARRA award.

Follow-up: What kind of training is going to be made available?

The LBNL ARRA Reporting Team has created the Phase 3 Reporting Team to address the quarterly reporting. Training, probably in the form of a network meeting will be made available to the divisions in mid- to late-September after some internal decisions of who will be responsible for what parts of the reporting is decided and the reporting elements required by OMB are fully clarified. Much of the reporting will be derived from existing systems and from the ARRA Header database. Some information will be required by the divisions such as the nature of the work being done and milestone evaluation.

2. I heard I can add administrative salary to ARRA WFO funding proposals because of the extra reporting requirements. Is that correct?

No. Administrative salary may not be added to a WFO proposal because of the ARRA reporting requirements. The same programmatic requirements will be used to determine if administrative salary is appropriate or not.

3. Can I get a no-cost extension on an (NIH) ARRA award?

NIH permits a NCE on ARRA awards, but strongly discourages it as this is contrary to the intent of the ARRA funding goals. For more specific information about NIH go to NIH FAQs for ARRA (http://grants.nih.gov/recovery/faqs_recovery.html)



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4. My NIH competing renewal is being funded with ARRA money. Can I carryover funds from the current period into the next period?

No, ARRA and non-ARRA funds may not be co-mingled. There is no carryover allowed between ARRA funding budget periods and budget periods funded by non-ARRA funds. For example:

Grant Number	Document Number	Notes
5 R01 AI123456-04	RAI123456A	Non-ARRA Funded
2 R01 AI123456-05	RAI123456Z	ARRA Funded
5 R01 AI123456-06	RAI123456Z	ARRA Funded
2 R01 AI123456-07	RAI123456B	Non-ARRA Funded

-04 year funds CANNOT be carried forward into -05; -04 year is financially closed

-05 year funds CAN be carried forward into -06 (both are ARRA funded)

-06 year funds CANNOT be carried forward into -07;

-04 year funds CANNOT be carried forward into -07

5. I submitted an NIH supplement request. Do I have to spend out the parent award before I spend the ARRA funds?

No, a supplement award runs con-current with the parent award; however, the funds must be kept separate. The two awards are scientifically linked, but administratively and financially separate.

6. Can I re-budget ARRA funds?

Refer to your award document to determine if there are any specific ARRA-related restrictions. Also, refer to your sponsor's web site for any general restriction on re-budgeting.

For NIH, the same re-budgeting policies apply to ARRA and non-ARRA awards. ARRA funds can be re-budgeted within the ARRA award. It is important to remember that ARRA supplement funds cannot be re-budgeted to pay for non-ARRA costs of the parent award.



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7. When does reporting begin?

Weekly reporting is completed for all DOE funded projects beginning when a Work Authorization (WAS) is received, even if work has not yet begun.

Quarterly reporting of all ARRA funded projects—DOE and non DOE—will be completed by the Laboratory during the first ten days after the end of each Federal fiscal quarter and should include all projects awarded through the last day of the given quarter even if work has not yet begun. The first quarterly reports are due October 10, 2009.

There is a ten-day correction period in the quarterly reporting process. Corrections can be made in days 11-21 of the month following the end of the fiscal quarter.