

## **Deans, Directors, Department Chairs, and Administrative Officers**

I am writing to follow up on the April 15, 2012 memo sent to alert the UCLA research community about the revised Public Health Service conflict of interest regulations that will *go into effect on August 24, 2012*.

The revised regulations apply to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and other agencies that make up the federal Public Health Service (PHS). [Click here](#) for a list of those agencies and some additional non-profit research sponsors that have adopted the PHS regulations. They apply to a broad array of research related grants, cooperative agreements and contracts, including research grants, center grants, career development grants, individual fellowships and institutional training grants, program projects, research resources awards, and conference grants.

All PHS *proposals that are submitted on or after August 24, 2012* are subject to these regulations. By law, the PI and other Investigators (identified by the PI as individuals sharing responsibility for the design, conduct, or reporting of the research) must disclose their significant financial interests (as defined under the regulations) to UCLA *before a proposal can be submitted*.

The regulations also apply to *all awards issued on or after August 24, 2012*. Prior to acceptance of these awards and before funds can be released, UCLA must review significant financial interests to determine if they are related to the proposed research, and if so, whether any of these related significant financial interests constitute financial conflicts of interest.

Awards that are ongoing as of August 24, 2012 will become subject to the revised regulations when additional funds are requested through submission of a progress report, a competing renewal, an application for supplemental funds, or a request for a no-cost extension.

To facilitate compliance with these revised regulations, UCLA has developed an electronic Disclosure Gateway system (eDGE) that will be used for submission of required disclosures to UCLA. This electronic system will also permit users to easily update disclosures as required under the regulations.

The new regulations require that Investigators disclose financial interests at least once a year during the period of an award; no later than at the time of application for NIH-funded research; and within 30 days of discovering or acquiring a new Significant Financial Interest. A significant benefit of eDGE is that Investigators can log on to the system to update their disclosures as necessary instead of having to submit a paper form for each disclosure.

I encourage PIs and all other Investigators to complete their initial disclosures as soon as possible after eDGE becomes available for use. *As of August 10, 2012, eDGE will be accessible at: <https://coi.research.ucla.edu>*. FAQs, a Disclosure Quick Guide, UCLA and UC Policies, the number for a dedicated Help Desk, and other guidance documents will be posted to the same site. In addition, a number of workshops have been scheduled for those who would like a demonstration of eDGE in a computer laboratory setting. [Click here](#) for a list of sessions and to make a reservation.

Please share this memo with others who may not have received it directly. If you have questions please contact Ann Pollack, Assistant Vice Chancellor – Research, at [apollack@research.ucla.edu](mailto:apollack@research.ucla.edu) or at x40387.

Sincerely,

**James S. Economou, M.D., Ph.D.**  
Vice Chancellor for Research