

# Managing Small Foundation Grants and Non-Governmental Research Agreements

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## Introduction

Recent studies show a decrease in federal funding of research. This has resulted in an increase in research funding from non-federal organizations and industry. At CANR, faculty are increasingly applying for funds from foundations and industry partners. These funds are often smaller and come with reduced or no burden of federal compliance. However, like any external funding these sponsored funds need proper management. To facilitate application and management of these funds, CANR implemented the Delegated Authority procedure which falls under the University's Non-governmental Research -related Agreements policy.

## Delegated Authority (DA)

Delegated Authority (DA) is the process of managing small contracts/ agreements which do not require federal compliance

- Contracts/ agreements under \$50,000
- Non-federal sponsors within the U.S. only
- Standard cost accounting principles apply
- Awards managed in-house within the College
- Signatory Authority – College Dean/ Research Dean

## Purpose

- Reduction of administrative burden on the Research Office
- Faster award set-up
- Streamline processes within college

## Proposal Submission

Determine whether proposal falls under Delegated Authority

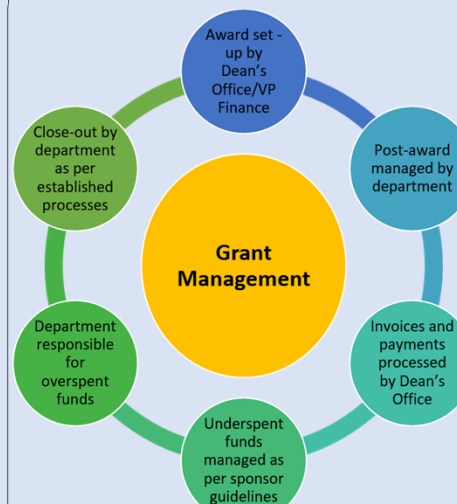
Principal Investigator (PI) develops budget and proposal

Proposal review by Research Administrator at Dean's Office

Institutional approval provided by Dean/Research Dean as needed

Proposals submitted by PI. Agreements/Contracts reviewed and signed by Dean's Office

## Grant Management



## Results

- Reduction in number of proposals processed through the Research Office
- Faster proposal processing and award set up
- Increase in PI satisfaction
- Improvement of processes at the College
- Increase in workload for the Dean's Office research administrators and department administrators

## Discussion

Due to the simplicity of processing, PIs have chosen to use the DA process more frequently for smaller awards. Currently we manage about 60 on-going DA projects at CANR. Since this is a relatively new process, there is a need to build efficient processes that allow us to work with the available data. We are currently working to develop project management processes to efficiently manage the projects in-house. We are also working with other colleges that use the DA process to build more streamlined reporting systems which will further allow us to improve the DA processes at our end and troubleshoot any issues that may arise in future.

## Acknowledgements

The authors would like to extend our appreciation to:

Donna Bailey

Kawkab Rasheed

Business administrators and department administrators at CANR