



**FICA ALTERNATIVE PLAN IMPACTS CONTRACT/ GRANT FUNDS**

The University of Florida has implemented a FICA Alternative Plan **effective with the February 3, 2006**, paycheck for employees who are not able to be covered by the university’s retirement plan and currently pay social security taxes.

**Impact on Contract and Grant Funds** - The implementation of the new FICA Alternative Plan will result in a change to the employer costs for fringe benefits that will be charged to UF’s contracts and grants projects in funds 201, 209 (except as noted below), 211, 214, 221 and 222, effective with the February 3, 2006 paycheck. The fringe benefit rate for OPS Non-Students charged to projects in these funds will change **from 8.75% to 2.55%**. Any Principal Investigator (PI) may rebudget excess funds resulting from this change, if rebudgeting is allowed by the sponsor. The PI is responsible for determining whether or not this change in fringe benefit costs will result in excess project funds. Please contact Contracts and Grants Accounting at 392-1235 if you have any questions.

**Impact on Other University Funds** - The fringe benefit rate for OPS Non-Students charged to all other funds will be **2.55% of wages plus the 6.2% administrative assessment. This will also include housestaff wages charged to projects in Fund 209.**

**Employer cost of Required Benefits & Assessments:**

REQUIRED BENEFITS	OPS- Non-Students on Funds 201, 209, 211, 214, 221, 222	OPS- Non-Students on All Other Funds & Housestaff
Soc. Sec.	0%	0%
Medicare	1.45%	1.45%
Worker’s Comp.	.98%	.98%
Unemploy Comp.	.12%	.12%
Admin. Assess.	0%	6.20%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2.55%</b>	<b>8.75%</b>

**OPS Students should continue to be budgeted at .98% (Worker’s Comp only)**

For more details on this article go to:  
<http://www.admin.ufl.edu/DDD/default.asp?doc=11.7.1876.12>

**GRANTS WORKFLOW ENHANCEMENT**

A pre-award task force, working in conjunction with UF Bridges, identified a few areas within the grant workflow that needed improvement. Based on the feedback, the workflow that is now in production includes the following modifications:

**1. Uneditale Fields:**

- Once workflow is in process the Dept ID fields, Subdivision fields, and Resource-Professionals section will no longer be editable fields. When inputting proposals into Peoplesoft for the purpose of obtaining institutional approval, pay close attention to the data being input into these particular fields.
- Once DSR approves, the proposal status will change from “Pending Approval” to “Institution Approved”
- Once this occurs DSR is allowed to override the status and change it back to “Draft”, make any necessary changes, and then set the status back to “Institution Approved”.

**2. Workflow approval:**

- The PI can now be listed on two separate projects.
- A PI listed on two separate projects will only have to approve in workflow once at the PI/CO-PI level.

**3. NRS Deans:**

- The routing of the workflow for non-research proposals (HSC Patient Care contracts) to the VP for Health Affairs has been corrected. Those inputting Patient Care contracts into Peoplesoft to obtain the VP for Health Affairs approval should choose “NONRS” as the proposal type.

For more details on this article go to:

<http://www.bridges.ufl.edu/advisory/advisory96.shtml>

**UF PROJECT MANAGEMENT –GRANT AWARD BUDGETING**

Effective February 1st, 2006, a re-budgeting page (UF Project Management) was made available for all projects that are set at commitment control level 3. This modification will reduce re-budgeting labor by the Contract & Grants offices and allow the departments to manage their budgets at a level 5 for reporting purposes. Starting in March, Project reports will use the detailed budget information from the UF Project Management page. The new functionality will require a new role (UF\_GM\_PC\_BUDREPT\_MGR).

For more details on this article go to:

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