

Below is a copy of an email from Provost Garson to University Deans and select University Vice Presidents on the topic of Stimulus Funding

Sent: Wed Mar 04 00:37:37 2009

Subject: Stimulus funding

I write to bring you additional information on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), and the University's role, process, and procedures in applying for funds from the stimulus package. You should have received a copy of the Federal Stimulus Package Research Highlights, distributed by Tom Skalak on February 18. A copy of that message is appended, below.

Right now, stimulus funds are available through three major avenues:

1. Through federal agencies (NIH, NSF, etc.) which are awarding funds associated with proposals already submitted. This was described in Tom's e-mail, and a number of your faculty may have been contacted by their program officers. Some faculty already have been notified of increased funding;
2. Through new grant proposals submitted directly to federal agencies; and
3. Through funds provided directly to the Commonwealth of Virginia.

We are still learning about the process for applying for and receiving all types of stimulus funds. The University is working with our Federal Relations staff to determine which portions of ARRA are particularly pertinent to University initiatives. If you are interested in submitting a proposal for consideration of funding, I would encourage you to review the information found on the VPR web site for guidance on the types of projects for which funding might be available. We will update this web site as more information becomes available:

http://www.virginia.edu/vpr/econ_stim.html

Vice President Colette Sheehy is our contact for state stimulus funds. On Friday, February 27, the University submitted a list of capital construction and renovation projects to the state for consideration. This list was comprised of projects listed in our 2008-14 Capital Plan. Other requests for funding may be submitted to the state as we learn more about what types of funding are available.

Keep in mind that the funds associated with the stimulus package are temporary; that is, the funds are not available for on-going projects. It also is likely that there will be a requirement that stimulus funds be expended within a defined period of time, and that defined period may be quite short (usually two years). Any request for stimulus funds which requires an on-going commitment (i.e. beyond the two years of stimulus funding) will need to be approved prior to submission.

As I stated earlier, some requests will be submitted directly to federal granting agencies, per Tom Skalak's earlier e-mail, by way of the program officer contacting the faculty member or by a direct grant application to the sponsor. In these instances, the University is required to provide notice to the Governor that we have requested these funds. Some applications for stimulus funds will require prior approval of the Governor. Therefore, it is important that we coordinate such requests centrally. Items which must be submitted for prior approval include those associated with infrastructure, capital construction/renovation, service, and student aid.

Any stimulus funds ultimately received by the University, whether those funds are grant funds from a Federal agency or funds received from the state, must be tracked separately and a report on the subsequent use of those funds submitted to the Governor. The report will include information on all stimulus funds received by the University.

While we are still ironing out the details, if you or members of your faculty have plans to submit a request for stimulus funds, I ask that you follow these guidelines:

1. Requests for competitive research awards directly from Federal agencies should be submitted through our normal processes, i.e. through the Office of Sponsored Programs. We will receive a report from OSP on those proposals which are requests for funding from stimulus funds, which will allow us to provide the necessary notice of application to the state.
2. Requests for stimulus funds from the state, rather than directly from a Federal agency, will be coordinated centrally. These requests should be submitted through our office (see individuals below). If more than one request is being submitted by your school, I ask that you prioritize those requests prior to submission to this office.
3. Requests for stimulus funds (regardless of source) associated with infrastructure, capital construction/renovation, service, and student aid should be submitted through our office (see individuals below). These types of requests will require prior approval of the Governor.
4. Requests for stimulus funds directly from a Federal agency which are non-research related also require prior approval of the Governor, and should be submitted through our office (see individuals below).
5. Requests for stimulus funds which carry obligations beyond two years will require University approval, so I ask that you submit these types of requests through our office (see individuals below) so that we can discuss whether or not the request should move forward.

For those requests submitted through our office (items 2 through 5), I ask that you copy the following individuals on your submission: Anda Webb (alwebb@virginia.edu), Milton Adams (jma@virginia.edu), Tom Skalak

(tskalak@virginia.edu) and Jeff Blank (jblank@virginia.edu). We will work with Colette Sheehy in coordinating our submission to the Governor. If you have specific questions, please email them to Milton Adams who can then route them to the correct person.