

TIGER TIPS

RESOURCES FOR AUBURN RESEARCHERS

Research Performance Progress Reports and the NIH

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has been promoting the use of the eRA Commons [Research Performance Progress Report \(RPPR\)](#) module for submitting Streamlined Noncompeting Award Process ([SNAP](#)) and Fellowship progress reports since October 2012. The use of this new module will be required for awards with start dates on or after July 1, 2013 (i.e., due dates on or after May 15, 2013, for SNAP awards and May 1, 2013, for Fellowships). The functionality of the RPPR is also expanding on April 18, 2013 to include requests from the awarding Institutes and Centers (ICs) for additional materials following submission of an RPPR and electronic submission of the additional materials by a grantee.

The official [Guide Notice](#) provides more detailed information. But you should get familiar with the new process now if you have not already tried using the eRA RPPR module. RPPR has been available as an option to all NIH grantees since [October 2012](#). You want to note as well that RPPR will be replacing the eSNAP tab in eRA Commons, and eventually eSNAP functionality will be retired.

Some clarifications:

The Streamlined Non-Competing Award Process ([SNAP](#)) includes a number of provisions that modify requirements for annual progress and financial reports and for Notices of Award. eSNAP is the electronic version of the SNAP progress report, which grantees have been required to use for SNAP progress reports since August 2010.

RPPR is a federally mandated reporting format for all federal grant agencies (NIH, NSF, DoD, etc.) designed to provide consistent information on the progress of federally funded research and research related activities. RPPR will replace the eSNAP progress reports for SNAP awards and PHS 416-6 for Fellowship progress reports in May 2013, and will eventually replace the use of the PHS 2590 for non-SNAP awards.

The eSNAP module will be replaced by the RPPR for SNAP awards in May 2013.

There is currently no change to non-SNAP award progress reports at this time but the NIH eRA team continues to develop an electronic solution for these reports and information regarding an implementation timeline for non-SNAPs will be provided by NIH at that time.

The [RPPR web page](#) has some very good information on it that might help ease the transition to this federally-mandated reporting scheme. In particular, there is the October 2012 webinar [NIH RPPR Training Webinar for Grantees](#) presented by the Office of Policy for Extramural Research Administration (OPERA). There is also an [NIH RPPR Instruction Guide](#)!

In addition to all the above changes, you will see the expansion of Progress Report Additional Materials (PRAM) functionality. The PRAM link that can be found in the Action column of the eRA Commons Status page should be used to provide either the public access compliance information, the additional materials requested by IC, or both, depending on which is applicable to the particular RPPR.

Use of the PRAM link to respond to PRAM requests is not mandatory at this time; faculty may still respond via email to the Grants Management Specialist (routed through the Office of Sponsored Programs). However, NIH expects to mandate use of the electronic PRAM feature in the future and has encouraged grantees to familiarize themselves with the functionality.