ASPIRE II Terms and Conditions

Grant Period: The project period will begin 07/01/2020 and end 06/30/2022. If you need an earlier start date, please contact Beth Herron (bherron@mailbox.sc.edu).

Account Set-Up: These accounts will be established by the Controller’s Office as N accounts. If any additional information is required, the Controller’s Office will contact departments directly. The accounts/projects will be created, and the project IDs will be provided to the departments. For all requests concerning your ASPIRE account, please provide your project ID.

Expenditures: For ASPIRE II awards, only a portion of the balance will be transferred at the start of the award (~70%). To receive the remainder of your funds, you must submit an interim report, including a detailed accounting of your award, as outlined in the reporting section below.

You must follow established University procedures in expending the funds for your project. Pay special attention to policies and procedures relating to such items as purchasing, travel, participant incentives, graduate student tuition requirements, and personnel. Should any cost overruns occur, they will be charged to your department/campus. Accounting of your expenditures may be requested by the Office of Research at any point during the project period or after completion of the project. If at the end of your project period you have unexpended funds of more than $250 remaining in your ASPIRE account(s), these funds will be transferred back to the Office of Research.

If one of the ASPIRE II PIs leaves USC during the award period, the team must notify the Office of Research, outlining a plan for continuing the work. Failure to do so may result in forfeiture of ASPIRE funding. ASPIRE funds are awards to the PI, not a general award to the department. As such, ASPIRE funds may only be used for the awarded project by the awarded PI(s).

Compliance Issues: If your project includes the use of humans as research subjects, you are responsible for ensuring that the use of these subjects is approved by the IRB. If vertebrate animals are used in your project, you must have a valid IACUC approval number. You may not expend funds related to human subjects or animal care until you have your IRB or IACUC approval; please forward your approvals from either the IRB or IACUC to Beth Herron at bherron@mailbox.sc.edu. Projects will be audited for compliance with this condition.
Publications or Presentations: Any publications produced or presentations given as a result of this award should contain an acknowledgement of support such as, “This work is partially supported by an ASPIRE grant from the Office of the Vice President for Research at the University of South Carolina.”

Extensions and Budget Revisions: A single no-cost extension will be granted under unusual circumstances only. Requests must be made via e-mail at least 30 days prior to the project end date. Please send requests to Beth Herron at bherron@mailbox.sc.edu. Changes in budget categories of more than 10% must be sent to Beth for approval by the VPR’s office or the ASPIRE funds may be forfeited.

Reporting:

An interim report in a format of your choosing must be submitted to Beth Herron at bherron@mailbox.sc.edu by June, 2021. The interim report should include the following:

1. A brief summary of activities performed to date.
2. A listing of any submitted publications or external grant proposals.
3. A detailed budget showing how funds have been spent through May 31, 2021.

The balance of ASPIRE II funds will not be transferred to teams until an interim report is filed.

A final report in a format of your choosing must be sent to bherron@mailbox.sc.edu 30 days after the end date of your project. Failure to submit these reports will preclude you from receiving funding from the VPR’s office in the future. The final report should include the following information:

1. A brief summary of activities performed
2. A detailed budget statement describing how funds are being spent/have been spent
3. A list of all external funding requests (i.e. proposals) developed and submitted as well as those that received funding as a result of your ASPIRE grant. When you submit external proposals in USCERA related to your ASPIRE award, please indicate that in the appropriate place on the PAP Form.
4. Any publications and other scholarly activities resulting from ASPIRE funding.