ASPIRE I Terms and Conditions

Grant Period: The project period will begin 07/01/2021 and end 09/30/2022. 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: 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 $100 remaining in your ASPIRE account(s), these funds will be transferred back to the Office of Research. 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). If the PI leaves UofSC during the award period, remaining funds will need to be returned to the Office of Research.

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 acknowledgment 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.”

As a condition of this award, postdoctoral ASPIRE recipients are required to present at Discover USC 2022 (which will be held in late April).
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% and/or changes to key project personnel also must be sent to Beth for approval by the VPR’s office or the ASPIRE funds may be forfeited.

Reporting: 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 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.