



FEDERAL
DEMONSTRATION
PARTNERSHIP

Increasing the Quality and Impact of Research through Reducing Administrative Burden

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ABOUT THE FDP / *Researchers doing Research*

- The Federal Demonstration Partnership's (FDP) mission is to **streamline the administration** of federally sponsored research and **foster collaboration** to enhance the national research enterprise while maintaining high standards of stewardship and accountability.
- FDP provides a **unique forum** for individuals from Universities and research institutes to work collaboratively with federal agents to improve the research enterprise.
- FDP is a cooperative initiative of the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine in collaboration with PGA and GUIPRR



FDP MEMBERSHIP

217

Institutional Members

- 22% are Emerging Institutions
- 15% are Minority Serving Institutions

10

Federal Members

- NSF, NIH, ONR, USDA, AFOSR, ARO, AMRMC, NASA, EPA, DHS

- FDP Participants include federal officials, research administrators, faculty members, and electronic research administration managers.
- The FDP format for finding solutions to research burden is through demonstrations.
- FDP Participants **identify, test and advance** new directions in research administration, practice, compliance, and strategies.



WHY DOES BURDEN PERSIST?

1

Exponential Increase in New Regulations & Policies Adopted and/or Substantial Modifications of Existing Regulations/Business Practices

- **172% Increase** from (2013-2023)
- *Aggregated Regulatory Requirements Impacting Federally Funded Research Since 1991, COGR (June 2023)*

2

Lack of Alignment Between Federal and Institutional Objectives

- Data sharing versus data protection
- Results oriented versus fundamental/basic research
- Agency agenda versus research areas of interest
- Compliance with rules easier to measure than success of research endeavors

3

Lack of Harmonization

- Differing conflict of interest policies
- Unclear export controls/emerging technologies
- Open Science requirements differ by agency

4

Increased Complexities in the Research Environment

- Global cooperation
- National security threats
- Congressional mandates with unrealistic timelines

HIGHLIGHTED ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE FDP TO REDUCE BURDEN



NIH Data Management & Sharing Pilot

Starting in 2023, NIH requires a DMS plan for all NIH-funded projects (previously required for projects with \$500K or more in annual costs)

In collaboration with NIH, FDP created and tested potential DMS Plan templates which will help institutions reduce time spent on this plans.



Subaward Templates and Tools

Administrators reported spending large amounts of time negotiating federal subaward and subrecipient monitoring.

FDP created subaward templates, samples, FAQs, guidance documents and other tools designed to expedite and streamline this workload area.



Compliance Unit Standard Protocol

IACUC/Animal Subjects was identified as the workload area with the highest priority for change in compliance requirements in the 2018 Faculty Workload Survey.

In collaboration with NIH, FDP is developing an online resource where participating institutions can share standard procedures used in animal care protocols.



Expanded Clearinghouse

Administrators reported spending large amounts of time sending and reviewing important documents to subrecipients

FDP provides a centralized online repository of entity information to enable pass-through entities to perform essential subrecipient monitoring functions.



Data Transfer and Use Agreements

Data transfer and use agreements were a high priority for change for faculty in the 2018 Faculty Workload Survey

DTUA templates, samples, FAQs, guidance documents and other tools designed to expedite and streamline negotiations between institutions.



SciENCv

Faculty reported a high workload burden associated with creating biosketches and Current & Pending Support forms.

In collaboration with NSF, FDP created a curriculum vitae network to address this issue.

OPPORTUNITIES TO IMPROVE EFFICIENCY AND QUALITY IN RESEARCH

Reduce the Risk of Research

- Create good faith environment to support all parties in research
- EG: Enhance the capacity of SciENCv to guide disclosures and provide consistent requirements that are easy to follow
- EG: Increase education and awareness about the responsible and ethical research goals and requirements

Enhance Harmonization and Standardization of Cross Agency Programs

- Increase consistency in policy interpretation
- Adopt best practices across federal agencies
- EG: Continue to develop agency sponsored training modules (to lower costs to institutions for compliance)
- EG: Use common forms and tools for completing them in a consistent manner

Increase Support for Federal Workforce and Institutional Research Administration

- Increase funding that supports institutions to build capacity
- Build capacity in federal agencies

FDP LEADERSHIP TEAM 2025



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