

Research Security Update

Department of Energy (DOE)

DOE issued Financial Assistance Letter [FAL 2025-02](#) on October 7, 2024:

- Effective Date: May 1, 2025
 - Completion of research security training is mandatory for all Covered Individuals (including any new Covered Individuals added to the project) to apply for DOE R&D financial assistance awards.
 - Definition of Covered Individuals may be specific to individual NOFO.

DOE issued Financial Assistance Letter [FAL 2024-05](#) on August 8, 2024:

- Standard DOE biographical sketch and current and pending support forms are currently under development and are expected to be available in 2025.
- Effective Date: May 1, 2025
 - Required Biographical Sketch and Current and/or Pending (Other) Support disclosures must include a digital persistent identifier (PID).

DOE ORCID iD: Digital Persistent Identifiers (PIDs)

For financial assistance related to R&D activities under the Department of Energy (DOE), as directed in [Financial Assistance Letter No. FAL 2024-05](#):

- Individuals required to submit Biographical Sketch and Current and/or Pending (Other) Support disclosures must provide a PID in such disclosures as part of the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) application. Included PIDs must meet the common/core standards specified in the [NSPM-33 Implementation Guidance](#) or successor guidance (e.g., an [ORCID iD](#)). **The inclusion of an individual's PID will be optional until May 1, 2025, and mandatory thereafter.**
- Throughout the lifetime of the award, those individuals conducting research and development (R&D) under the award at the prime and subaward level must obtain and use a PID for themselves that meets the common/core standards specified in the [NSPM-33 Implementation Guidance](#) or successor guidance (e.g., an [ORCID iD](#)).
- Use of ORCID iD already required by NSF and NIH. Other agencies will be required to follow suit, per the [NSPM-33 Implementation Guidance](#).

Research Security Training: Background and Context

1

NSPM-33

Presidential memorandum established uniform guidelines for research security across government.

2

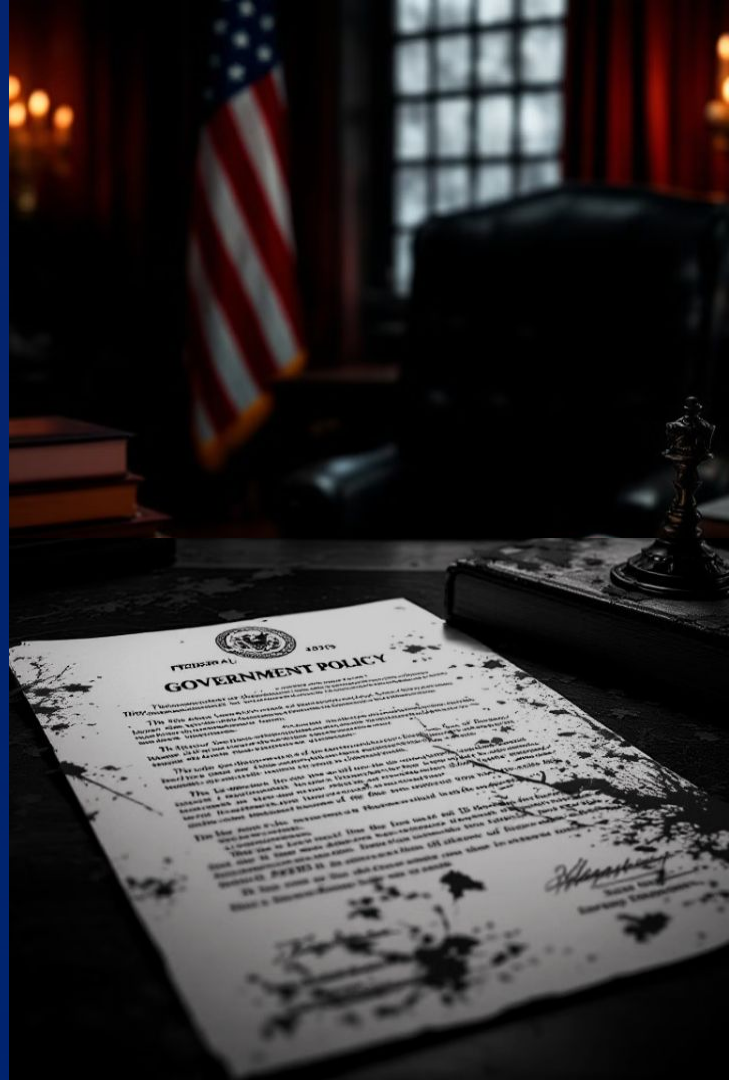
CHIPS and Science Act

Signed into law in 2022, it strengthened research security provisions across federal agencies.

3

DOE Implementation

The Department of Energy's specific requirements for research security training.



"Covered Individuals"

1 Principal Investigators

All PIs on DOE-funded research must complete training before proposal submission.

2 Key Personnel

Co-PIs and senior researchers who have significant responsibilities on projects.

3 Project Directors/Project Managers

Anyone with access to non-public research data or who makes intellectual contributions.

4 Others?

Any individual performing these roles functionally, regardless of title



Training Content and Format



Research Security Training

Federal Modules 1-4 Condensed and Combined

BEGIN →

Research Security

Protecting research data from digital threats and unauthorized access.

Disclosure Requirements

Proper reporting of foreign collaborations and conflicts of interest.

Risk Mitigation and Management

Identifying and mitigating security vulnerabilities in research.

International Collaboration

Guidelines for safe and compliant global research partnerships.

The training is delivered online



Certification Process

1

Complete Training

Researchers finish all four required modules online.

2

Obtain Certificate

Generated from Learning Management System

3

PI Certification

Provide to SPO

4

Institutional Validation

SPO verifies certifications before proposal submission.

DURC-PEPP Compliance: Upcoming Deadline

Implementing compliance with the new Dual Use Research of Concern and Pathogens with Enhanced Pandemic Potential (DURC-PEPP) oversight framework.





What is DURC-PEPP?

1 Dual Use Research of Concern (DURC)

Research with legitimate scientific purpose that could be misused to pose a threat to public health or national security.

2 Pathogens with Enhanced Pandemic Potential (PEPP)

Research involving enhanced pathogens that could potentially trigger widespread outbreaks or pandemics.

3 Unified Framework

A comprehensive federal oversight structure consolidating previously separate policies into one cohesive approach.

Key Changes in the New Policy

Expanded Scope

The policy now covers a broader range of biological agents and toxins. This includes previously unregulated pathogens with pandemic potential.

Two Categories

Category 1 (DURC) includes research with specific agents and experiments. Category 2 (PEPP) addresses enhanced pathogens with pandemic potential.

New Oversight Roles

Clearly defined responsibilities for researchers, institutions, and funding agencies. This creates multiple layers of review and accountability.



Institutional Requirements

1

Institutional Review Entity

(IRE) Establish a committee of experts to review potential DURC-PEPP research. Members should have diverse expertise in relevant scientific fields.

2

Institutional Contact

(ICDUR) Appoint a designated individual to serve as liaison between researchers, institution, and funding agencies.

3

Assessment

Processes Develop standardized procedures to identify, review, and mitigate risks of DURC-PEPP research.

4

Documentation

Systems Implement record-keeping protocols to track reviews, decisions, and risk mitigation plans.



Important Deadline: May 6, 2025

Policy Effective Date

All NIH-funded research must comply with DURC-PEPP requirements by May 6, 2025.

1

Institutional Readiness

Institutions must establish necessary infrastructure, committees, and processes before the deadline.

3

2

Scope of Application

Applies to new awards, competing renewals, and supplements after the effective date.

4

Consequences

Non-compliance may affect funding eligibility and research approval.

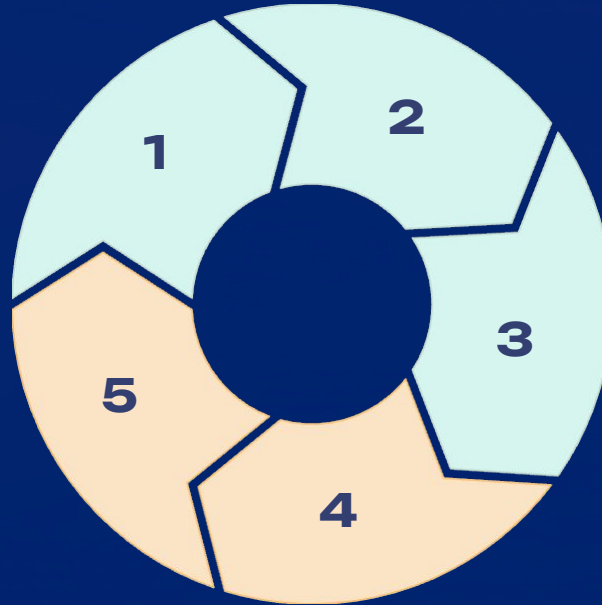
Researcher Responsibilities

Initial Assessment

Evaluate research proposals for DURC-PEPP potential

Ongoing Monitoring

Continue assessment throughout research lifecycle



IRE Collaboration

Work with review entity on risk assessment

Mitigation Planning

Develop strategies to minimize risks

Agency Notification

Report potential Category 1 or 2 research

Researchers must maintain awareness of their critical role in identifying and managing potential dual use concerns at every stage of their work.