Research Administration Workflow (online approvals) Training Session

Research Services Office, June 2019



Outline

- Purpose
- Background and Project Timeline
- Basic Principles
- Approval Path
- Approval Groups and Maintenance
- Demo New Proposal Request
- Approval Options and Ways to Approve
- Q and A



Purpose

- The purpose of the project is to implement automated workflow (online approvals) to replace physical signatures for the following research administration processes or signature forms:
 - New Research Application/Proposal/Project Request
 - Project Amendment Request
 - Request for Authorization of Temporary OE
 - Agreement Acknowledgement Report
 - Subgrant Request



Purpose

- The overall objective of the project is to simplify and streamline the gathering of signatures for these processes.
 - Save time
 - Ensure consistency compliance is system managed
 - Make approvals required under University of Alberta policies and procedures (UAPPOL) easier to track



Background

- We currently gather > 31,000 approvals/year
 - A manual process that involves a lot of paper, time, and energy (i.e. running around time)
- When PeopleSoft Grants 3.0 (i.e. introduction of the Researcher Home Page) was implemented, a future roll-out of electronic approvals was considered in the design of the research administration pages (forms) used to generate the current signature forms we use.
- Electronic approvals was also one of four main recommendations that came out of the RSO Consultation review conducted by the VP Research and completed in June 2016



Project Timeline

- Discovery Phase January to March 2018
 - Involved input from faculties
 - Over 80 requirements were identified
 - Approval to move forward with project obtained in late spring 2018
- Implementation Phase June 2018
 - Design finalized, with additional input from faculties, October 2018
 - Technical (system) development began September 2018
 - Initial system testing done by IST and RSO began September 2018
 - User Acceptance Testing with RSO, IST, and faculty staff May 2019
 - Procedure and training material under development
 - Communication plan underway
 - Training sessions will be offered to faculties beginning in June 2019
- Go-Live scheduled for mid-June 2019



Basic Principles

• Don't Print. Press Submit.

- Printing U of A signatures pages and obtaining physical signatures no longer required. U of A required approvals are obtained online, including CoPI acknowledgements.
- Pushing the submit button on the request page triggers workflow (i.e. the online approval path).
- Supporting documents (e.g. applications) are attached online. Paper copies should no longer be required, unless the sponsor requires a signature on their application.





Effective mid-June 2019, printing forms and obtaining physical signatures is no longer required.

This is now done online, through Researcher Homepage.

Flip this card for more details or visit uab.ca/RSO



Approval Path



Approval Path

















Co-PI(s) Acknowledgement

The first person submits the transaction and then it goes to:

- 1. Principal Investigator (PI) it will come to the PI first if they weren't the first person to submit the transaction, otherwise it will automatically go to the next person in the chain if submitted by the PI
- 2. Department Reviewers (optional)
- 3. Department Approvers (Chair)
- 4. Faculty Reviewers (optional)
- 5. Faculty Approver (Dean)
- 6. RSO

Workflow Approver	Definition
Submitter (aka Requester)	The individual who pushes the submit button on the request page.
Principal Investigator	Individual identified as the Principal Investigator (PI) on the Researcher Home Page in PeopleSoft.
Co PI(s), if applicable	Applies to New Proposal/Project Request and UofAB co-applicants only. In addition to acknowledging their participation in the project, Co Pis will need to answer 3 yes/no questions as part of their approval step.
Project Holder	Individual identified as the Project Manager/Project Holder on the Researcher Home Page in PeopleSoft. This approval step only applies to the subgrant and OE authorization requests.
Department Reviewer	An optional approver step. A group of 1 or more Reviewers can be defined for each department (DeptID). Only one reviewer in the group needs to approve. If a reviewer is assigned in the approval group, the approval step is a required step in the approval chain.
Department Approver	Individual approving on behalf of the Department. A group of one or more Approvers need to be defined for each department DeptID. Only one approver in the group needs to approve.
Faculty Reviewer	An optional approver step. A group of 1 or more Reviewers can be defined for each Faculty DeptID. Only one approver in the group needs to approve. If a reviewer is assigned in the approval group, the approval step is a required step in the approval chain.
Faculty Approver	Individual approving on behalf of the Faculty. A group of one or more Approvers need to be defined for each Faculty DeptID. Only one approver in the group needs to approve.
RSO	Users who have the RSO approval role on their user profiles. These individuals will receive notifications and have access to the worklist showing <u>all</u> pending approval transactions. These individuals will be responsible for further assigning the work within RSO.



Approval Path – General

- Approvals, in main path, are sequential whereby one approval happens prior to the next approver being able to approve.
- U of A CoPi acknowledgements are collected in a parallel path.
- Approvers are able to approve, send back, or deny at each approval step
- If no reviewers are defined in the approval group this approval step is skipped
- The required approval steps vary by transaction type
- Approval steps will auto approve if individual in an approver group has approved at a previous step unless they are the PI*.
 - *An individual will be skipped as an approver if they are the PI except when PI is the only approver in approval group.
- With the exception of the RSO approval step, steps will auto/self approve where approver is equal to submitter



Approval Chain by Request Type

Request Type	Submitter*	PI	U of A CoPI	Project Holder	Department Reviewer (an optional step)	Department Approver	Faculty Reviewer (an optional step)	Faculty Approver	RSO
New Proposal Request	Yes; may or may not be PI	Yes	Yes, if applicable	n/a	Yes, if set up in approval group	Yes	Yes, if set up in approval group	Yes	Yes
Agreement Acknowledgement	RSO Staff	Yes	n/a	n/a	Yes, if set up in approval group	Yes	Yes, if set up in approval group	Yes	n/a – RSO is submitter
Amendment Request	Yes; may or may not be PI/Holder	Yes	n/a	n/a, except for change of holder amendments	Yes, if set up in approval group	Yes	Yes, if set up in approval group	Yes	Yes
Subgrant	Yes; may or may not be PI/Holder	Yes	n/a	Yes	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Yes
Over Expenditure (OE) Authorization	Yes; may or may not be PI/Holder	No	n/a	Yes	Yes, if set up in approval group	Yes	n/a	n/a	Yes - for processing purposes
OE authorization where PI/Holder = Chair (department budget owner)	Yes; may or may not be PI/Holder	No	n/a	Yes	Yes, if set up in approval group	No** - transaction will route to the Dean	Yes, if set up in approval group	No** transaction will route to the Dean	Yes - for processing purposes
OE authorization where PI/Holder = Dean (Faculty budget owner)	Yes; may or may not be PI/Holder	No	n/a	Yes	Yes, if set up in approval group	No** - transaction will route to the Provost	Yes, if set up in approval group	No** transaction will route to the Provost	Yes - for processing purposes
OE authorization where PI/Holder = VP (department or "Faculty" budget owner)	Yes; may or may not be PI/Holder	No	n/a	Yes	Yes, if set up in approval group	No** - transaction will route to President	Yes, if set up in approval group	No** transaction will route to President	Yes - for processing purposes

Approval Groups



Approver Groups

- Department and Faculty approval steps are managed through a group of reviewers (optional) and/or approvers whereby only one individual in the group needs to approve at each step.
- The ability to manage approval groups (i.e. add and remove individuals) is tied to a deptid-level security role that is assigned to an individual. The role is requested by the faculties through IST.
- Adding individuals to an approval group is essentially a delegation of signing authority
 - Departments and faculties need to be comfortable with approvers they've set up for the different situations they might encounter.
- Approval group applies to <u>all</u> request types.



Approval Group Set Up

 An approval group needs to be set up for each DeptID used in PeopleSoft Grants.

Research Approvers SetID: UOFAB Department: 100300 Faculty: 100000	University of Alberta ALES AFNS General ALES Fac of Ag Life&EnvironSci
*Empl ID Name 1 1112753 Q Fifiqi,Uelosi 2 1117407 Q Vunqxywi,M	is equal to the Deptib that the Froposal and/or



Approver Groups – Some Added Considerations

- Strongly recommend more than one approver be included in each approval group.
- In cases where PI is the only approver in the group (at either the Department or Faculty level) the system will self/auto approve at that step. Approval will route to other approvers in cases where multiple approvers are in existence.
- Having a back up for cases where primary approver is not available.
- There is nothing in the system that prevents U of A CoPIs from approving at the department or faculty level.
- Approver groups will be set up (i.e. populated) for go-live based on the list of names provided to RSO.
- Post go-live departments and faculties will manage and maintain their approver groups, including the set up of any new deptids.



What does my approval mean?

- As per UAPPOL "Research Administration Roles and Responsibilities Procedure".
 - Outlines responsibilities of PIs, Department, Faculty and RSO and states what "signatures" mean.
 - Faculties should keep this in mind when setting up approval groups.
- Reviewer step
 - Is an "approval" step, but not defined by U of A policy. To be defined by departments and faculties as they deem appropriate.
- Need to think about what's attached in the system when you click "approve".

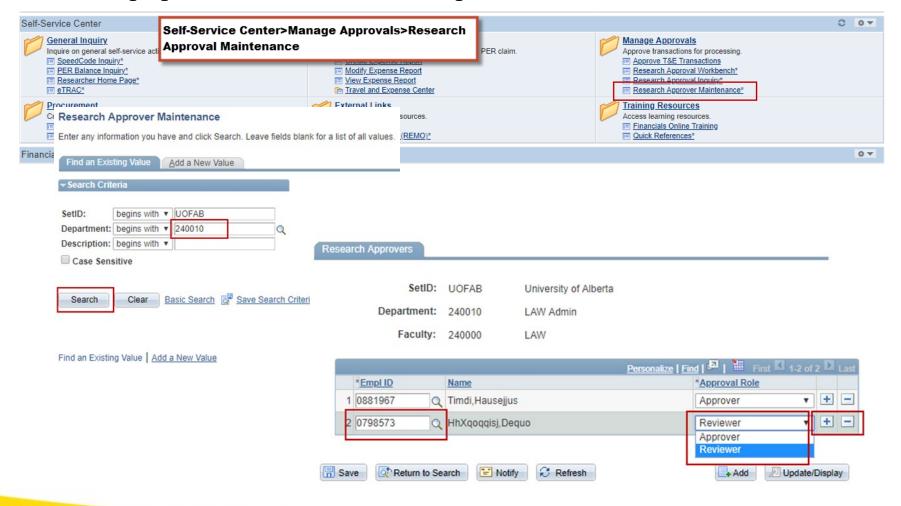


Approver Group Maintenance

- Managed through a security role
- The approver group maintenance role will also be assigned prior to go-live based on names provided to RSO.
- Any changes post go-live will be done through a security request form submitted to IST.
 - Request for Administrative Applications Access "PeopleSoft Financials/SupplyNet Access"
- Changes (i.e. additions and deletions) are instantaneous, but newly added approvers/reviewers will only be part of "future" approval chains.
 - Requests submitted prior to changes being made will not be redirected and will still need to be approved by someone who was in the approval group at the time the request was submitted.



Approver Group Maintenance

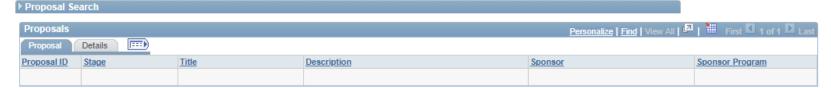


Demo New Proposal Request Approval

New Proposal Request

Researcher Home Page

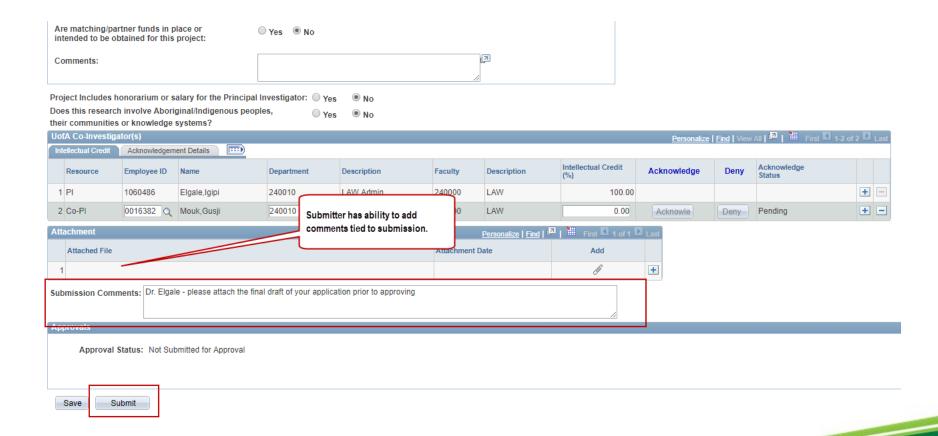




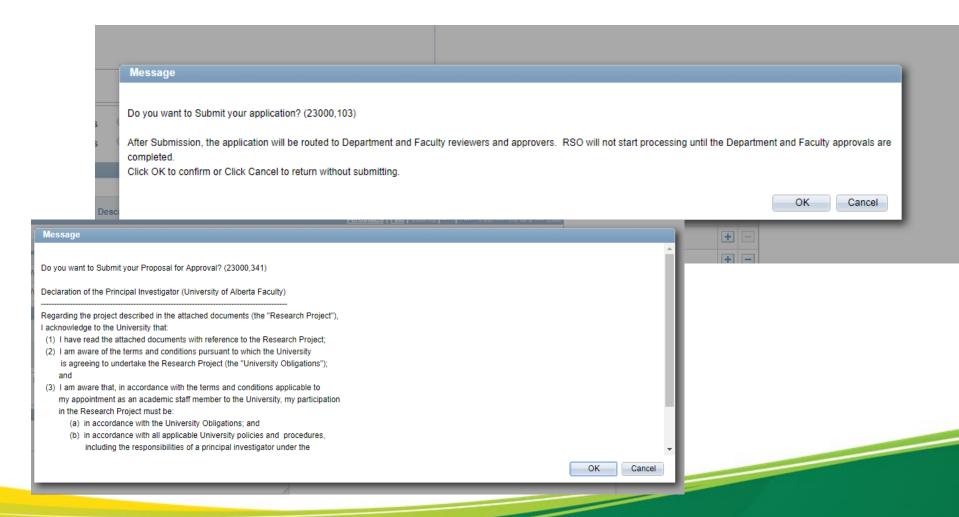
New Field - Sponsor Deadline

PI Section	
Proposal ID: NEXT	Version ID: V0 Request Status:
Description(Project Title):	new proposal request for training demo Contact for Pickup:
*Request Type:	Application/ Proposal -New ▼
*Principal Investigator (PI): Is PI the Project Holder	1060486
Project Holder ID:	1060486 Elgale,lgipi
*Department:	240010
Sponsor Deadline:	06/21/2019 Unless otherwise specified, RSO has an internal
Start Date:	07/01/2019 deadline of 5 business days in advance of the sponsor deadline
End Date:	11/30/2020 Indirect Cost Requested Yes No
	Evternal w

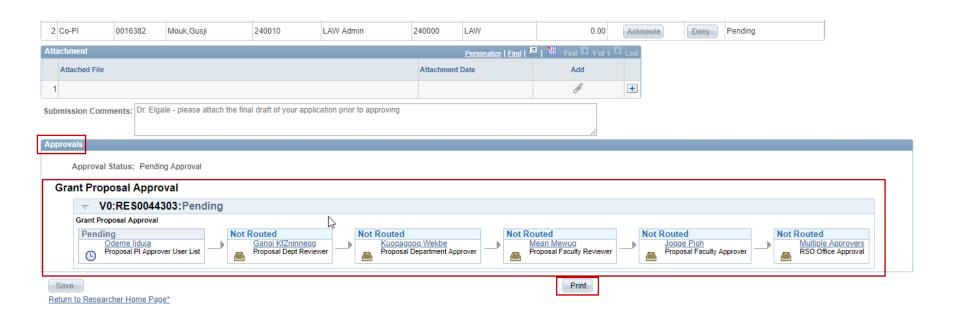
Submit Button Triggers Workflow



Pop Up Messages/Declarations



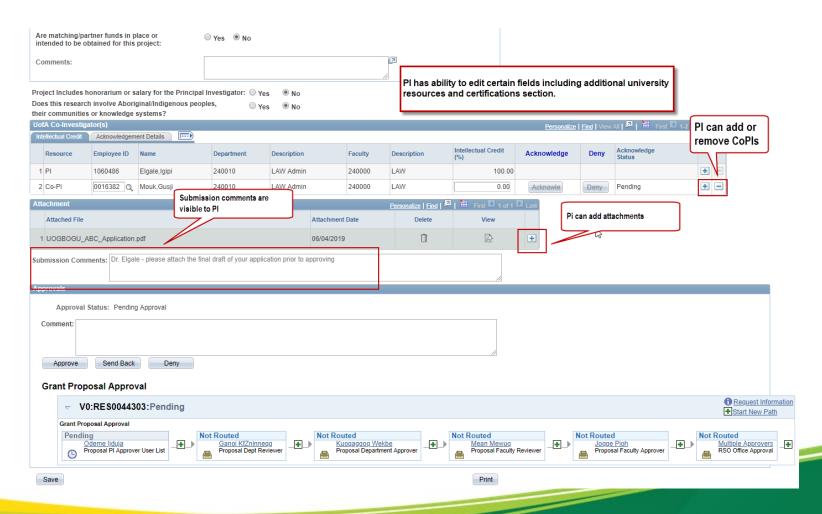
Approval Path



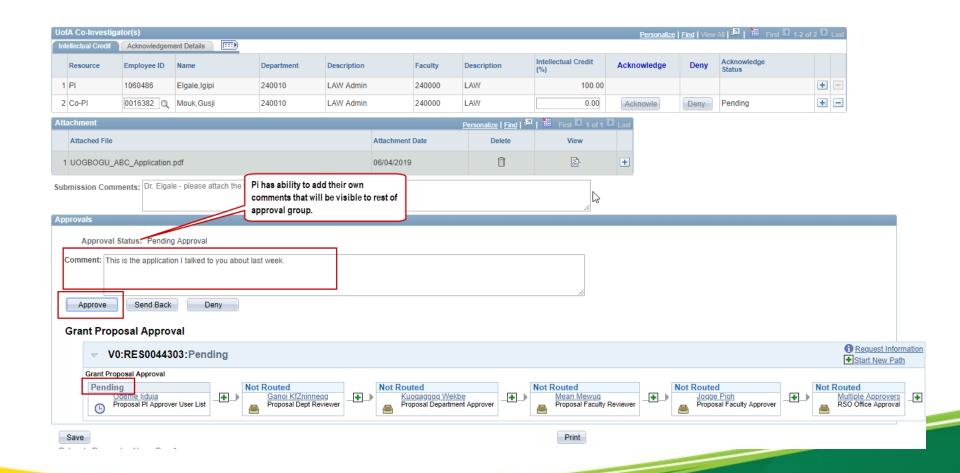
Print Reports

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA Request Type: New RESEARCH SERVICES OFFICE RES0044303													
Principal Investigator: Elgale, Igipi Project Holder: Elgale, Igi													
Department: 240010 LAW Admin Faculty: 240000 LAW													
Description (Project Title): new		request for training											
Project Information	риорессии												
Source of Funds: ☐ Internal ☑	Evtorna	I 🗆 Both	Total Award F	Requested: \$ 10,000,000.00									
Sponsor	LXterna	I Dotti	Contact	Amount									
ABC Demo				\$10.000.000.0									
ABC Defilo				\$10,000,000.0	,								
Additional Details													
Have indirect costs been included?		\boxtimes	Yes 🗆 No	Proposed Start Date: JUL-01-2019									
Refer to UAPPOL's Financial Manageme Indirect Costs Recovery Rates Procedure	ent and Prac	ctices Policy (see links f	or "Application for	Project End Date: NOV-30-2020	.								
Indirect Costs Recovery Rates Procedure	and <u>indire</u>	ct Costs of Research Pro	ocedure).	Project End Date: NOV-30-2020	·	-l							
Project includes honorarium or salary f	for the Princ	cipal Investigator: 2	es 🛚 No	Please attach the following:	Co-Inve	stigator #1 (Uni	versity of Alb	erta Fa	culty only)				
Does this research involve Aboriginal/I	ndigenous	peoples, their	es 🗵 No	Application/Proposal, including scope budget.		dge to the University:							
Communities or knowledge systems? Space (Additional or Modifications):	Communities or knowledge systems? Space (Additional or Modifications): □ Yes ☒ No								tigator's Declaration, about rd on behalf of the research				
Technical Support:		□ Y		from Sponsor or Faculty Scope of Work: Description of research	. ,		agator will adminion	or are awa	id on bondin of the research	iii gioap.			
Student Funding: Teaching Relief/Release:		□ Ye		research proposal		In addition, I certify that: New or additional resources are required from my Faculty/Department					□ Yes □ No		
Faculty/Department letter or e-mail confi	irming suppo			☐ Budget: Provide detailed project expenditures	Budget. Provide detailed projet			ching relea		1 165 1 NO			
Matching/partner funds applicable:		□ Ye				Faculty/Department letter or e-mail confirming additional resources is attached:					□ Yes □ No		
Other (describe): Comments:		□ Ye	es 🗵 No		Project in	cludes honorarium or salary for the Co-Investigator:							
UofA Co-Investigator(s)													
Name	Role	Department		Faculty	Created By Anocediwk D	Otnivi	Last Updated Anocediwk Dt		Creation Da JUN-04-201		Print Date JUN-04-2019	Page Number Page 1 of 2	
Mouk,Gusji	Co-PI	240010 LAW Admin		240000 LAW	Anocediwk Diolki Anocedik			3014-04-2015			0011012010	rage roiz	
Certifications Required													
Note: RSO requires all applicable and	current proto	ocol numbers on file before	ore funding can be r	eleased.									
Human □ Yes ⊠ No Animal □ Yes ⊠ No					UN DE	IVERSITY OF ALE	BERTA			Request 1	ype: New		
Biohazard ⊠ Yes □ No					RESEARCH SERVICES OFFICE				RES00	RES0044303			
	Stem Cell Yes No				Co-Investig				Co-Investigator Name		Date Signed		
Declaration of Principal Inve	stigator				X Pending On-Line Acknowledgement		Mouk,Gusji						
Regarding the project described in the atta	Regarding the project described in the attached documents (the "Research Project"), I acknowledge to the University that:					Declarations of Principal Investigator's Faculty							
(1) I have read the enclosed documents v													
(2) I am aware of the terms and conditions pursuant to which the University is agreeing to undertake the Research Project (the "University Obligatia"). (3) I am aware that, in accordance with the terms and conditions applicable to my appointment as an academic staff member of the University, my pa				I/We acknow	wledge to the Universi	y that the Faculty a	nd Departi	ment will comply with their	responsibilities under	all University policies a	nd procedures applicable		
the Research Project must be:				to the Research Project, including responsibilities under the Research Administration Roles and Responsibilities Procedure Chair Signature Chair Name Date Signed									
(a) in accordance with the University Obligations; and (b) in accordance with all applicable University policies and procedures, including the responsibilities of a principal investigator unde						On-Line Approval		Chair Na	ime		Date Signed		
Research Administration Roles and Responsibilities Procedure				Dean Signa			Dean Name			Date Signed			
Principal Investigator Signature X Pending On-Line Approval - Elgale, Igipi	ı		Date Signed			On-Line Approval		Dean Na	1110		Date Signed		
Co-Investigator #1 (University of Alberta Faculty only)					RSO Ap								
						p							
Lacknowledge to the University:					RSO Signa	iture		Name			Date Signed		
						On-Line Approval		. taille			Date digited		
											1		

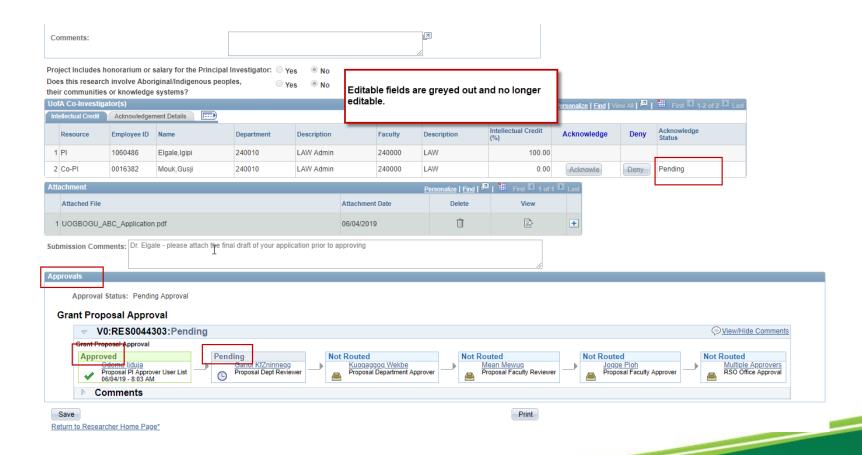
PI Approval Step



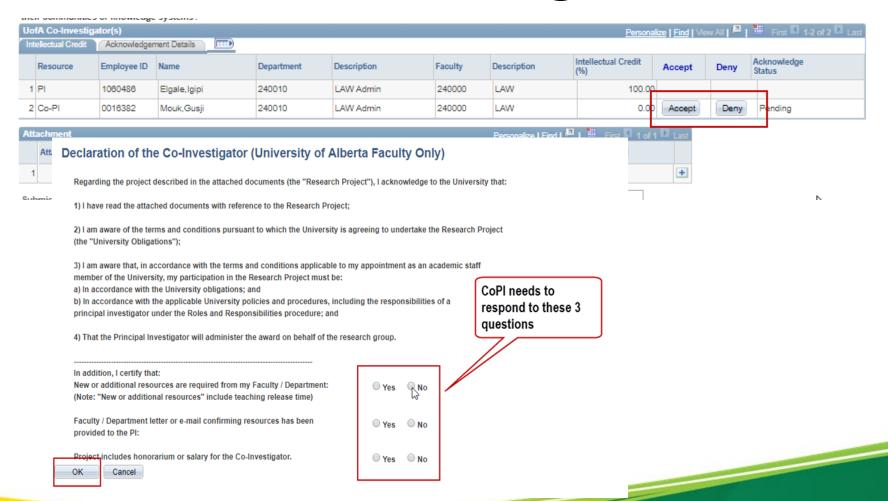
PI Approval Step



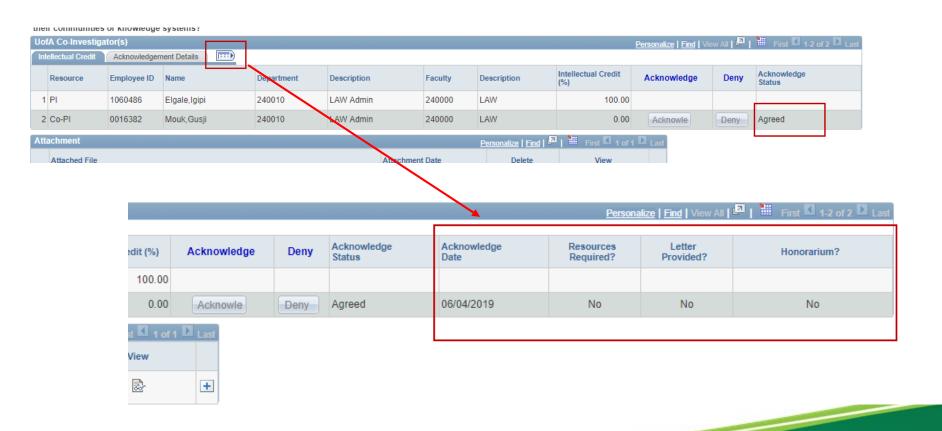
PI Approval Step



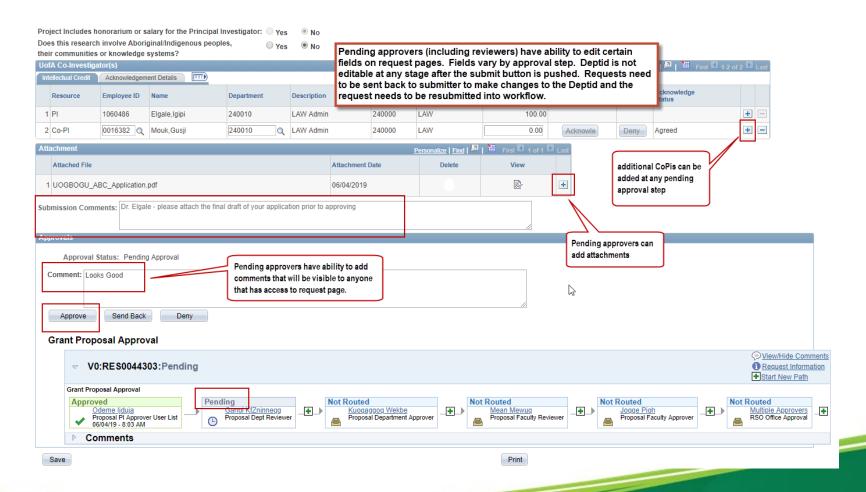
CoPI Acknowledgement



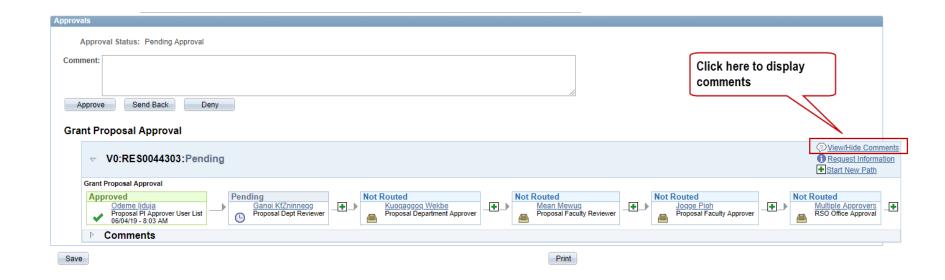
CoPI Acknowledgement con't.



Department/Faculty Approval Step



View Comments



View Comments



Approval Step Actions



Pending Approval Step Actions

Pending approvers, including the PI when they are not the submitter, have the option to approve, send back, or deny a request at each pending approval step in the approval chain/path.

Action	Definition	Notification	
Approve	Routes request to next approver in approval chain/path.	Next approver in chain is notified via email that there is a pending approval waiting for their action. Submitter is notified via email that request has been sent back for revisions.	
Send Back	Sends request back to submitter for revisions. Once revisions are made request is resubmitted for approval.		
Deny	Terminates request. No ability to resubmit.	Submitter is notified via email that request has been denied.	

Send Back

- Returned to submitter for revisions.
- Can be resubmitted into workflow
- Potential reasons
 - Deptid is incorrect
 - Pi has not attached the required supporting documents (e.g. copy of application)
 - PI declarations (i.e. additional university resources and certifications) need to be redone





Deny

- Can't be resubmitted into workflow
- Potential reasons
 - Application not supported by Department or Faculty
 - Revisions won't fix issues or concerns



Ways to Approve and Track



Approval Options

- Individual request pages
 - As demonstrated for the New Proposal Request
- Email
- Workbench
- Inquiry page
 - Used for tracking approvals

Email

- Sent to all pending reviewers and approvers, including PIs if they are not the submitters.
- Sent to CoPIs as they are added to New Proposal Requests.
- Sent to Submitter when a request is sent back, denied or received by RSO.
- Sent from aissuppt@ualberta.ca
 - **This email address is used to send a number of notifications from PeopleSoft
- Approvers have ability to approve, deny, or send back a request via email.



Email

*** WARNING - TEST EMAIL ONLY PLEASE IGNORE *** RSO Approval Request - New Project Request - RES0044304 UAT Test er

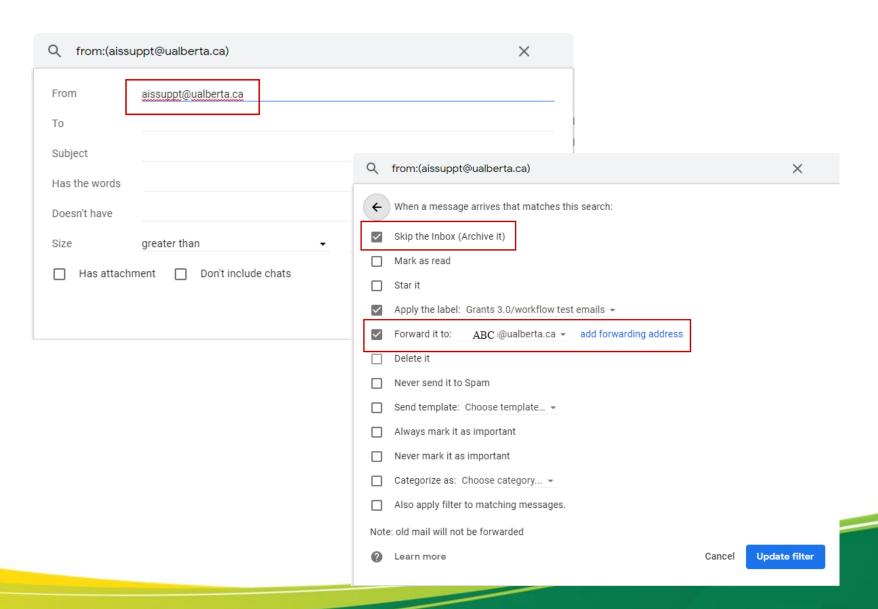
aissuppt@ualberta.ca to me 🕶 **Proposal Request** Proposal ID: RES0044304 Version ID: Title: CW Test Jun 4 2019 You must be logged into PI Name: Qowasuhi Nruym PeopleSoft to approve via Project Holder Name: Qowasuhi Nruym and/or use link in email. Department: 186000 Department Description: EDU Educational Psychology Source of Funds: External Sponsor Name: Merck Program Name: Sponsor Due Date: 2019-07-01 Indirect Cost: Total Award Amount: \$12,000.00 Clicking link takes you to I / We acknowledge to the University that the Faculty and Department will comply with their responsibilities under all University policies and procedures applicable to the the request page. Research Project, including responsibilities under the Research Administration Roles and Responsibilities Procedure. ... To navigate to the approval page, click the link below. To approve, send back, or deny this request, add an optional comment and click the appropriate butter https://www.devps.ualberta.ca/psp/uafsuat/EMPLOYEE/PSFT_EP/c/ZGM_CUSTOM.ZGM_PROPOSAL.GBL?Action=U&BUSINESS_UNIT=U0FAB&PROPOSAL_ID=RES0044304&VERSION_ID=V0 Comment: Approve SendBack Deny



Gmail Filters

- Individuals can manage their incoming mail using Gmail filters to send emails to a label, or archive, delete, star, or automatically forward their mail.
- Subject lines for research administration workflow emails have been set up with filters in mind.
- Steps for setting up Gmail filters, along with recommended settings will be covered in procedures.





Email Subject Lines

C つ 唇 쿠 100% マ \$ % .0 .00 123マ Arial マ 11 マ B I S A ◆ 田 至 マ 三マ 土マ ☆マ 下マ ロ 田 田 マ マ				
Transaction	Event	Sent To:	Subject line	
New Project Request	Submit/Approve	Next set of Pending Approvers	RSO Approval Request - New Proposal - RESOOXXXXX	
			Co-PI Acknowledgement - RES0041477 is requesting your agreement to	
New Project Request	Submit / Co-PI Add Remove	Co-PI	participate	
New Project Request	Deny	Submitter	RSO Proposal - RESO00XXXXX has been denied	
New Project Request	Send Back	Submitter	RSO Proposal - RESO00XXXXX has been sent back for revisions	
New Project Request	Final Approval	Submitter	RSO Proposal - RES000XXXXX has been Received by RSO	
Sub Grant	Submit/Approve	Next set of Pending Approvers	RSO Approval Request - SubGrant - RES00XXXXX SXXX	
Sub Grant	Deny	Submitter	RSO Sub Grant - RES000XXXXX SXXX has been denied	
Sub Grant	Send Back	Submitter	RSO Sub Grant - RES000XXXXX SXXX has been sent back for revisions	
Sub Grant	Final Approval	Submitter	RSO Sub Grant - RES000XXXXX SXXX has been Received by RSO	
Over Expenditure	Submit/Approve	Next set of Pending Approvers	RSO Approval Request - OE Authorization - RES000XXXXX	
Over Expenditure	Deny	Submitter	RSO OE Authorization - RESOOXXXXX has been denied	
Over Expenditure	Send Back	Submitter	RSO OE Authorization - RESOOXXXXX has been sent back for revisions	
Over Expenditure	Final Approval	Submitter	RSO OE Authorization - RESOOXXXXX has been Received by RSO	
Project Amendment	Submit/Approve	Next set of Pending Approvers	RSO Approval Request - Project Amendment - RES00XXXXX	
Project Amendment	Deny	Submitter	RSO Project Amendment - RESO00XXXXX has been denied	
Project Amendment	Send Back	Submitter	RSO Project Amendment - RESO00XXXXX has been sent back for revisions	
Project Amendment	Final Approval	Submitter	RSO Project Amendment - RESO00XXXXX has been Received by RSO	
Agreement Acknowledgement	Submit/Approve	Next set of Pending Approvers	RSO Approval Request - Agreement Acknowledgment - RES00XXXXX	
Agreement Acknowledgemen	Deny	Submitter	RSO Agreement - RES000XXXXXX has been denied	
Agreement Acknowledgemen	Send Back	Submitter	RSO Agreement - RES000XXXXXX has been sent back for revisions	
Agreement Acknowledgement	Final Approval	Submitter	RSO Agreement - RESO00XXXXX has been approved	

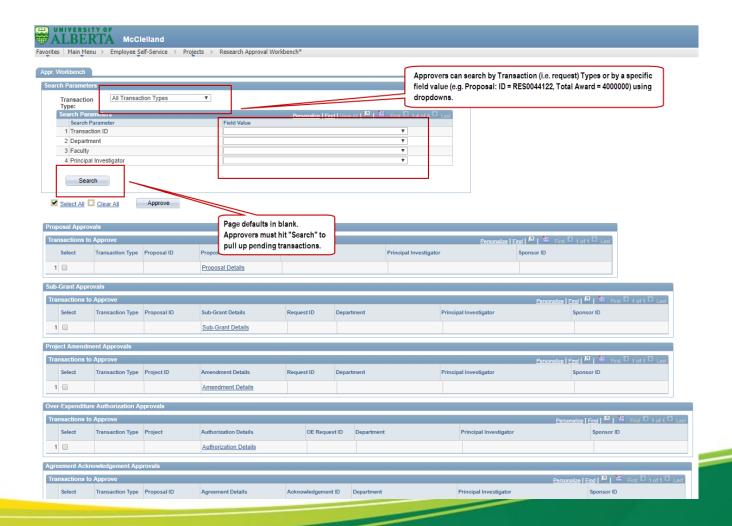
Approval Workbench

- An organized "list" of pending requests tied to a specific individual/approval step.
- Provides approvers a central repository of pending approvals for all 5 request types.

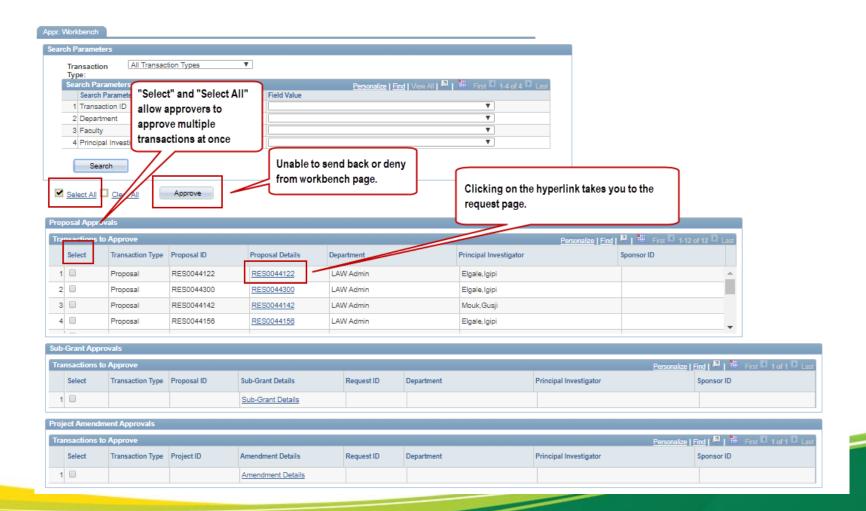




Approval Workbench

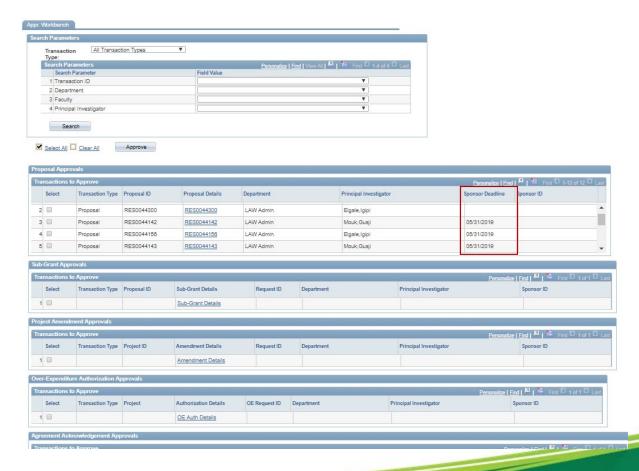


Approval Workbench





Approval Workbench Sponsor Deadline



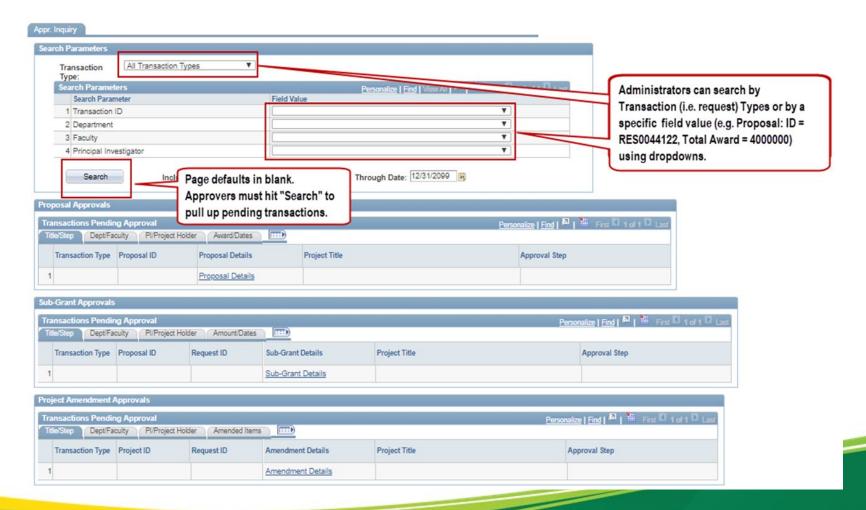
Research Approval Inquiry

- An "Inquiry" page.
- A "list" of pending transactions (requests) for all Proposals/Projects within a given deptid(s).
- Access to page is tied to eTRAC Administrator access.
 - Request for Administrative Applications Access "PeopleSoft Financials/SupplyNet Access"

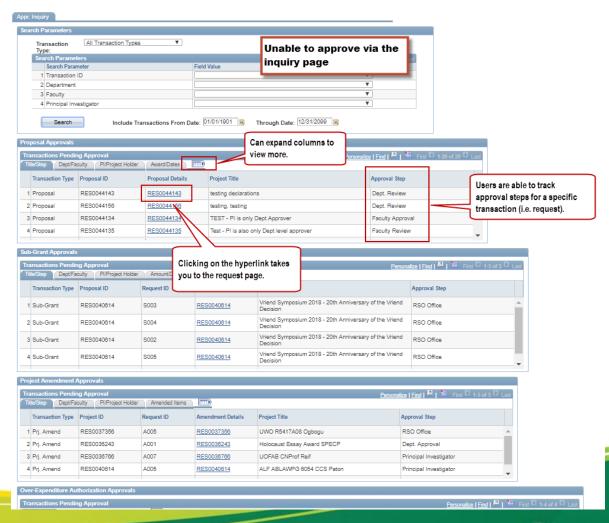




Research Approval Inquiry



Research Approval Inquiry



Final Notes

- Go-live currently scheduled for June 16th, 2019
- Procedures to be posted on the RSO website:
 - Website: www.ualberta.ca/research/services
- Questions/Comments/Help
 - Please contact your Research Facilitator or myself at julie.stephens@ualberta.ca or by phone 2-9189
- Contact IST Support (helpdesk) via email at ist@ualberta.ca
 - Contact RSO first for guidance on whether or not a ticket should be logged



Q and A





Thank you For Coming

