Important Update – Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Award (NRSA) Stipends, Tuition Fees and Other Budgetary Levels Effective for Fiscal Year 2012

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) issued a new notice on January 20, 2012 which establishes new stipend levels for FY2012 Kirschstein-NRSA awards for undergraduate, predoctoral, and postdoctoral trainees and fellows. The new rates are effective with awards made on or after October 1, 2011. The Tuition and Fees, Training Related Expenses for trainees, and the Institutional Allowance for individual fellows remain unchanged.

Please review the Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA) Stipends, Tuition/Fees and Other Budgetary Levels Effective for Fiscal Year 2012 (NOT-OD-12-033) in its entirety for specific stipend amounts.

All FY 2012 awards issued using FY 2011 stipend levels will be revised to increase the stipend amount to reflect the FY 2012 level. For institutional Training Grants where trainees are already appointed, the department must amend the appointment to reflect the FY 2012 stipend level. This should be done once a revised notice of award is received from NIH. Amended appointments must be completed and submitted through xTrain on eRA Commons. Retroactive adjustments or supplementation of stipends on awards made prior to October 1, 2011 are not allowed.

Additional Guidance – NIH Publishes FAQs and SRA Webinar on Salary Cap

As previously advised in G&CAlert (Volume 1, Issue 2) the NIH Salary cap has been lowered to Executive Level II, effective with grant awards with an Initial Issue Date on/after 12/23/2011.

The following are useful links to additional guidance on the NIH Salary cap change:

**SRA Webinar**
Thursday, February 23, 2012
11:30 am – 12:30 pm, EST
Registration is required

**NIH FAQs**
NIH has created a table that summarizes the applicable Executive Level salary limitation for the 2 cohorts of FY2012 grants: 1) Awards with an Initial Issue Date On/Before 12/22/2011; and, 2) Awards with an Initial Issue Date On/After 12/23/2011, as well as answers to many Frequently Asked Questions (http://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/fy2012_salary_cap_faqs.htm)

Finally, a plan for an upcoming GCA/GCFA Brown Bag is underway. Please look for a soon to be announced meeting date and location that will further clarify the process and Yale’s implementation of this new requirement.

Please feel free to contact your GCFA representative if you have any questions or need additional assistance.