



SOCIETY OF  
RESEARCH  
ADMINISTRATORS  
INTERNATIONAL

# Training PI's and Research Personnel in Post Award Management

Laura Sheehan  
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# Laura Sheehan



- Manager of Research Administration, Department of Family Medicine, Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA
- 24 years in academic research administration
  - 3 years in Civil/Environmental Engineering research administration at University of Southern California (USC)
  - 10 years in Pediatric Infectious Diseases research and fellowship administration, and divisional financial management at UCLA
  - 11 years in Family Medicine research administration and financial management at UCLA
- Management of approximately \$10M in contract and grant funding annually
- Department consistently ranks in top 10 nationwide for federal funding among all Family Medicine Departments

# Objectives

- Clarify best practices for training PI's and study personnel in post-award management
- Provide tools needed to create department-specific training, guides, and fillable forms

## Typical Post-Award Training:

Targeted to fund managers/research administrators

Utilizing Institutional Financial Management Software

Understanding Fund Manager Responsibilities/ Fund Management Tools

How to Set Up Awards

Reconciliation of Funds

Close-Out Instructions

How fund numbers/cost centers/GL Strings/financial account units are created

Running Detail Ledgers/Creating Financial Reports

Handling Expired Funds

Making Financial Adjustments/Direct Retros/NPEARs

Creating Payroll Projections and Payroll Reconciliation

Indirect Cost Reconciliation

Understanding Overdraft Reports

Subaward Set-Up

Detailed Guidelines on How to Complete Internal Forms

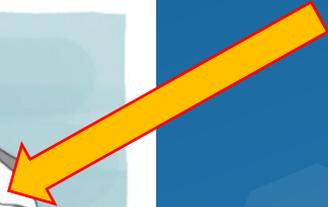
C&G Relinquishment

Interdepartmental Recharges

## Topics that will be of relevance for PI's and Research Staff



This is probably you





# NIH GRANTS POLICY STATEMENT

PD/PIs are members of the recipient team responsible for ensuring compliance with the financial and administrative aspects of the award. They work closely with designated officials within the recipient organization to create and maintain necessary documentation, including both technical and administrative reports; prepare justifications; appropriately acknowledge Federal support of research findings in publications, announcements, news programs, and other media; and ensure compliance with other Federal and organizational requirements. NIH encourages PD/PIs to maintain contact with the NIH PO with respect to the scientific aspects of the project and the GMO/GMS concerning the business and administrative aspects of the award. The [NIH staff contacts list](#) includes contact information for NIH grants management and program staff at each IC.

# *Give Your Team the Tools They Need*

- Training so they understand WHAT tools they need and WHY they need them
- Skill building: HOW to use those tools (e.g. accounting basics, reading ledgers, etc.)
- Written guidelines/How-To's that they can refer to again and again
- Fillable Forms to simplify and standardize common procedures
- Teach them where to go if they have questions

## PI and Research Personnel Investment



Image from [icanhascheezburger.com](http://icanhascheezburger.com)

*What do  
principal  
investigators  
care about?*

# PI and Research Personnel Investment



Image from icanhascheezburger.com

## Carrot

- Research will run more smoothly
- Ensures funds are spent in full; better able to obtain additional funding
- Gives them more control

## Stick

- Out of compliance with institutional, sponsor, and/or governmental policies
- Potential loss of funding
- The dreaded A-word

## Determine Format

- Completely new, or piggy-back onto existing infrastructure?
- Mandatory for all? Required for new/junior personnel only? One-time vs. Annual?
- How to make materials available at all times (e.g. post to website, shared folder)
- Different training for PIs vs. other research personnel?
- Coordinate with similar departments/divisions?
- How to keep personnel updated of changes, revised guidance, reminders

# Determine Content

- No single right answer
- Write down questions received, scour through old inquiries, look for recurrent themes, commonly-needed information, frequent problem areas
- Reach out to neighboring departments/central admin for their training material, don't reinvent the wheel

## Major areas to cover:

- Who are the players, what are their roles?
- Life of an award (proposal to close-out)
- What is expected of them
- Understanding common documents (contracts, notices of awards, ledgers/financial reports, purchase request forms, etc.)
- Importance of regular meetings with finance team
- How to manage common scenarios (e.g. pre-award spending, managing subawards, re-budgeting, annual reporting, closing an award)
- Where to go for more information/questions

# *Who are the players?*

For example....

# ORCA

## Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research & Creative Activities

### ORA

Office of Research  
Administration

Manages most of  
the alphabet soup:

OCGA, EFM,  
OHRPP, ORIS,  
ORDM, and OBFS

### TDG

Technology  
Development Group

Manages Industry  
(for profit)  
sponsored  
research, MTAs,  
patents, inventions,  
royalties, etc.

### REO

Research  
Enhancement Office

Limited submissions,  
funding opportunities  
newsletters and  
resources, UCLA  
Grand Challenges,  
etc.

### RPC

Research Policy &  
Compliance

Animal Research,  
Conflicts of  
Interest, Biosafety,  
Dual Use Review,  
Export Control,  
etc.

**ORA**  
Office of Research  
Administration



**OCGA**  
Office of Contract and  
Grant Administration

**EFM**  
Extramural Fund  
Management

**ORDM**  
Office of Research Data  
Management

**OHRPP**  
Office of Human  
Research Protection  
Programs

**ORIS**  
Office of Research  
Information Systems

**OBFS**  
Office of Business and  
Financial Services

## Make a Reference Sheet

- Contact information (names, departments, emails, phone numbers, websites)
- Concise summary of what that person/dept is responsible for (based on common inquiries)
- Encourage people to print and hang near their computer, or save file on their desktop for easy reference
- Post to website/shared folders/Box/Google Drive

Name	Department	Phone	Email/Website	Area
Bob Hipaa	Office of Human Subject Protection	555-867-5309	<a href="mailto:bhippa@edu">bhippa@edu</a>	IRB questions
Sho Mi Damoney	Office of Financial Affairs	555-123-4567	<a href="mailto:SMDamoney@edu">SMDamoney@edu</a>	Questions about financial reports, transfers of funds
	Support Team; Contract & Grant Office	800-888-8888	<a href="http://www.oco.edu/NIHOS_guidance">www.oco.edu/NIHOS_guidance</a>	Questions about NIH Other Support, Biosketches, and Progress Reports

# *Life of an Award*

From notice of award to closing of award

TIP: Focus on big picture. Give overview and explain where they fall within that landscape.

For example....

## Department

If sponsor sends notification of award to the PI, they should forward it to Laura so she can submit it to OCGA/TDG.

PI performs work and works with sponsor spending.

The sponsor gave us the award. What's taking so long?

Prepares invoices and/or financial reports based on deliverable categories and due dates in PAMS. Conducts process payments. Conducts closing of fund at the end of the award (in conjunction with Dept).



## OCGA/TDG

Receives award notice and negotiates terms/conditions with the sponsor. Executes award. Completes Award Data Coding Sheet. Submits to

When can I start the project?

## ORDM

Takes info from ADCS and imports into PAMS and Financial System. Assigns number, links expenses accounts and generates Award Snapshot



# *What is Expected of Them*

For example....

## Responsibilities of PIs and their teams:

- Acquisition of appropriate approvals (e.g. IRB, human/animal subjects, biohazardous materials, etc.) and licenses
- Scientific/technical conduct and reporting
- Fiscal and programmatic management of the project
- Understand and comply with all guidelines, restrictions, terms, and conditions
- Ensure that appropriated funds are allocated into applicable budget categories
- Review and approve financial transactions
- Conduct monthly reconciliation, make necessary adjustments

# *Key Points/Takeaways*

- Make it Engaging
- KISS – Keep It Simple, Stupid
- Repetition

For example....

# Monthly Meetings with Fund Manager

Are they actually required?

YES!

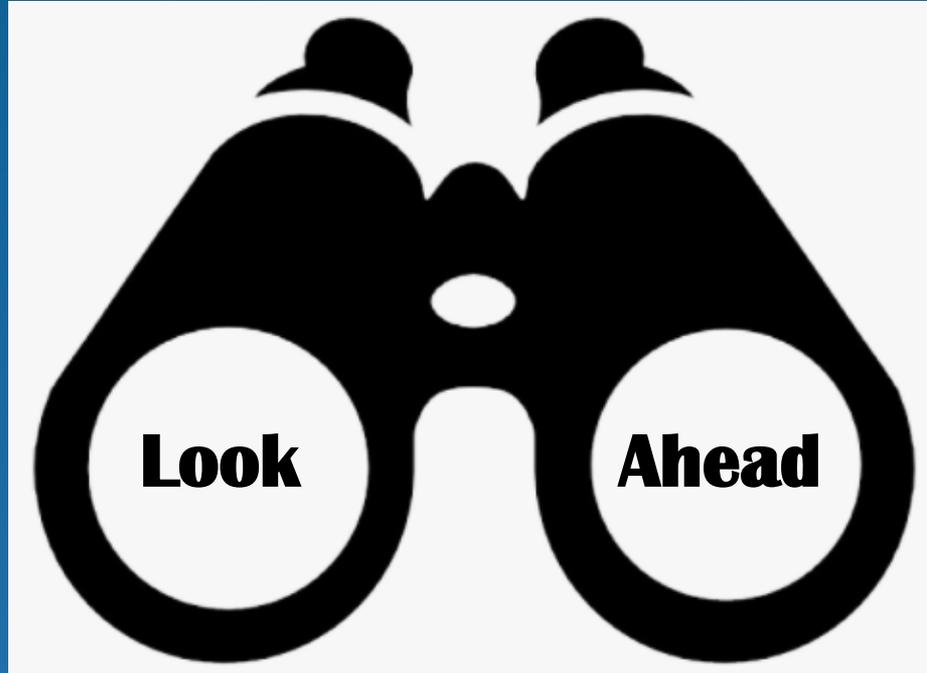


## Notices from ORA Reports ([portal@research.ucla.edu](mailto:portal@research.ucla.edu))

- Sent automatically at 90-, 60-, and 30-day mark prior to budget period end date
- If you've been meeting monthly with your Fund Manager
- If you have NOT been meeting monthly with your Fund Manager



# Monthly Meetings with Fund Manager



# *Provide Specifics Where Needed*

For example....

# Monthly Meetings with Fund Manager

- **First meeting**

- Review budget
- Review Notice of Award
- Discuss any changes
- Discuss timing of anticipated expenses
- Approve/initiate transfers and subaward set-ups, etc.

# Monthly Meetings with Fund Manager

## • Regular Monthly Meetings

- Review **financial reports** (aka FR's, GL)
- Ensure that all recorded expenses are allowable, applicable, complete
- Determine if adjustments need to be made
- Review encumbered items
- Monitor spending rate

*Are sister departments/subawards performing as expected? Are they spending down/invoicing? Is the project making progress as expected? If not, is carryforward/NCE necessary/allowed? Is the effort being charged for personnel accurate? Does it need to change in the upcoming months? Is that charge applicable? Are there any applicable charges missing? Why is that item still encumbered?*

# Avoid Jargon



Or better yet...  
**explain it**

# *Common Documents*

- Show actual documents wherever possible
- Be sure to remove confidential/private information
- Walk through them piece by piece
- Emphasize important/key areas

For example....

# Financial Reports

## Sum of Funds

August 2021 Summary of Funds														
UCLA														
Department: Family Medicine														
PI: PICARD, JEAN-LUC														
Fund Manager: GRANGER, HERMIONE														
Date: 10/18/2021														
Fund Title	Fund Grouping	Account	CC	Fund	Fund End Date	Approp. ITD (08/21)	Expenses ITD (08/21)	Approp.	Exp.	EML	Future Exp./Adj.	Projected Balance	Rchg Id No	
CAVDHCS 18-9322 CLAUS 09/22 26%	C&G - State	621435	JP	18282	09/29/22	184,793	95,479	416	422	0	95,549	(6,240)		
NIH U01DA012345 PICARD 4/20 56%/26%	C&G - NIH	441435	JP	29006	04/30/23	107,286	3,947	0	2,400	0	0	100,939		
NIH U01DA012345 PICARD 4/20 56%/26%	C&G - NIH	441435	J1	29006	04/30/23	14,931	14,551	0	1,876	0	0	(1,496)		
NIH U01DA012345 PICARD 4/20 56%/26%	C&G - NIH	441435	J2	29006	04/30/23	57,072	27,127	3,321	0	16,093	0	17,173		
RAS NIH P30MH058012 PICARD 1/21 54% 26%	C&G - NIH	441435	JP	29263	10/31/21	43,000	38,987	0	0	0	0	4,013		
UCLA FDN/UNITED FEDERATION OF PLANETS	Gifts	441435	JP	54468	09/09/25	23,171	2,821	0	824	514	0	19,013		
VULCAN INC. PO17001899:03 PICARD 26%	C&G - Private	441435	JP	57478	11/30/21	243,389	252,578	21,581	0	0	0	12,392	VU34	
TOTAL DIRECT COST						673,641	435,489	25,317	5,521	16,607	95,549	145,793		

# Common Scenarios

- Depends on your institution/department and audience
- Coordinate with your team and major players to get an idea of FAQ
- Examples:
  - What to do if funds are delayed?
  - What if I have to re-budget?
  - How do I manage subawards?
  - What if I need an extension/supplement?
- Present as “What If” scenario:
  - Before training: to get them in the right head space and to demonstrate they may need to pay attention to the answer
  - After training: for content retention

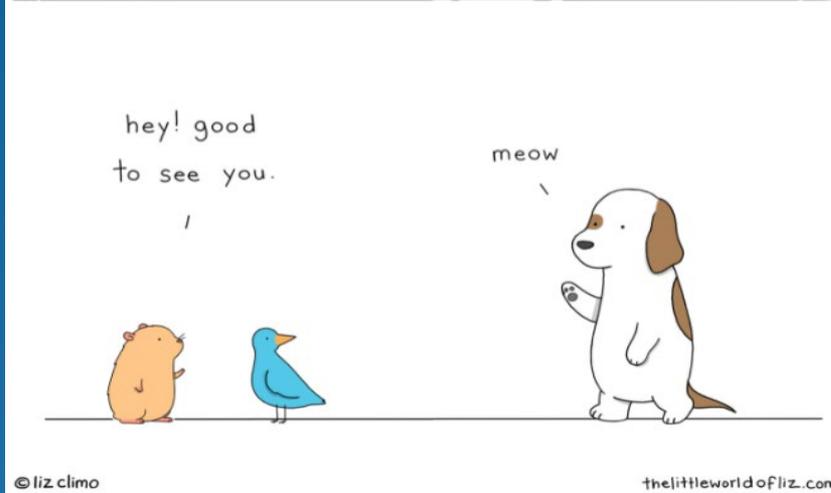
For example....

## Re-Budgeting

When does re-budgeting require prior approval from the sponsor?

- A. When the change is greater than 10%
- B. When the change is greater than 25%
- C. It depends on the sponsor and the terms of the agreement
- D. It is always required

When prior approval is required, you will likely need to submit a revised detailed budget, budget justification, and Scope of Work (or ensure no changes in scope).



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## Refer for Further Training

- Work with your team
- Institutional resources (e.g. training by Central Admin, Human Resources, fellow departments)
- External Resources (e.g. LinkedIn Learning, Khan Academy, SRA, etc.)

# *Give Your Team the Tools They Need*

- Training so they understand WHAT tools they need and WHY they need them
- Skill building: HOW to use those tools (e.g. accounting basics, reading ledgers, etc.)
- Written guidelines/How-To's that they can refer to again and again
- Fillable Forms to simplify and standardize common procedures
- Teach them where to go if they have questions

# *Creating Materials*

- Easy to follow
- Tailored to specific needs
- Links to additional information in order to KISS
- Three main types:
  - Detailed Guidelines
  - Decision Tree Checklists
  - Fillable Forms

# Detailed Guidelines

- To **teach** people policies on **broad** topics
- Intended to serve as **reference material**
- Good for conveying **large amounts** of information or **multiple topics**
- Can contain links to further information, but should be fairly comprehensive
- Easy to follow/find information needed (e.g. **Table of Contents**)
- If you have more than 3 of these, you're probably doing it wrong

# Decision Tree Checklist

- To **guide** people through **specific scenarios**
- Intended to be utilized **each time that scenario arises**
- Good for conveying **complicated** information on a **single topic**
- Can contain links to further information, but should be fairly comprehensive
- Easy to follow/find information needed (e.g. **decision tree**)
- If you have more than 3 of these, you probably work at an institution with lots of red tape

# Fillable Form

- To **instigate** an action
- Intended to be utilized **each time that scenario arises**
- Good for **gathering** specific information
- Can contain links to further information, but should be fairly comprehensive
- Easy to follow/find information needed (e.g. **clear instructions**)
- If you have more than 3 of these, you probably work at an institution with lots of red tape



# Detailed Guideline

## Decision Tree Checklist

## Fillable Form

### Independent Contractor/Consultant Checklist UCLA Department of Family Medicine

#### 1. Basic/Financial Information

Requester Name:		Email:						
Contractor/Consultant Name:		Email:						
City and State (or country) where services will be provided/performed:								
Justification (business purpose):								
Account	CC	Fund	Project (optional)	Object	Fund Name	Amount	(or)	%

Add lines if needed

#### 2. Are you are requesting payment to a non-individual (e.g. community clinic)?

- No** Skip to #3 and then complete the remainder of this form
- Yes** Provide *only* the following items:
- Scope of Work (SOW)
  - Proposal Budget Justification (if being paid from a contract/grant source)
  - Insurance or Insurance Waiver (refer to Insurance section in #3 below and select the appropriate response)
  - Answer Item #6 on this form and attach all required documents
  - This checklist, with only the following sections completed: #1, #2, Insurance item in #3, #6, #11, and #12

#### 3. If you are requesting payment to an individual, please be sure to review and complete the rest of this Checklist in its entirety. The following forms are required:

- We have completed and attached the [Independent Contractor Pre-Hire Worksheet](#) This is a UCLA Purchasing form that determines the type of working relationship between the employer and the vendor. Be sure to sign as the "Person who Prepared this Form."
- We have completed and attached the [UCLA Purchasing Independent Contractor/ Consultant Form](#) This is a UCLA Purchasing form that gathers information about the scope of work/type of service, performance dates, etc.
- We have attached the **Resume/CV**
- We have attached the **Scope of Work** This duplicates some information gathered on the UCLA Purchasing Form, but we are required to upload the SOW as a separate document.

#### 4. Is this being paid from a contract or grant?

- No** Skip to #6. (The Purchaser should add a note on the Requisition so that Purchasing knows that the proposal/budget justification attachment is inapplicable.)
- Yes** Please attach a **copy of the proposal** or the **budget justification**. We recommend highlighting the relevant section of the budget justification, especially if vendor is not listed by name.

DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY MEDICINE  
RESEARCH UNIT  
**PURCHASING GUIDE**

**ORDERING COMPUTERS/IT EQUIPMENT**

- Determine your needs by discussing your planned purchase with you
- Contact DGIT to [create a ticket](#) (or email [digitsupport@mednet.ucla.edu](mailto:digitsupport@mednet.ucla.edu) purchase, determine the best item for purchase, and obtain a quote.
- Once a request is placed, a dedicated IT technician will review the or the appropriate vendor, and return that quote to you.
- You should then complete the [Purchase Order Request Form](#), clarify justification, along with any other required information.
- Submit both the PO Request Form and the Quote to your Authorizer
- Once the Authorizer has signed off, please submit everything to the f
  - For CBAM employees: Jenn will submit everything after she s
  - For non-CBAM employees: your PI will likely want you to obt you will be responsible for submitting everything to the Fund attach the quote to your PO Request Form.
- The Fund Manager will review the request and, if it does not need to information, will approve and submit it to the Purchaser for processir
- The Purchaser will then create the PO and communicate that PO to th
- The item will be delivered to DGIT so that it can be verified and install

**GIFT CARDS – HUMAN SUBJECT PARTICIPANTS**

Full and updated guidelines regarding human subject payments are available on the [Finance website](#), but this is a quick starter guide:

- IRB approval is required** before submitting a request for disbursement/ payment for study participants.
- Your **team must be in compliance** with [BUS-49](#) (Policy for Cash and Cash Equivalent Received), [UCLA Policy 361](#) (Cash Handling and Security), and [UCLA Safe Requirements](#) (if storing cash/gift cards). If you are requesting e-gift cards, then things are much simpler.
- You must **keep track of payments made to each participant** (even if the form of payment is a gift card).
  - If a participant receives \$600 or more within the calendar year, you must collect their W-9 form.
  - A complete list of participants who received \$600 or more, their payment totals, and they will only their W-9s must be submitted to Accounts Payable by December 20 of each calendar year. We are not allowed to email W-9s due to security concerns, and they will only accept mailed version if they are sent via courier. Therefore, please work with Valencia to arrange for Mail Document and Distribution Services (MDS) to deliver. You must complete the packet (list amounts paid, and the accompanying W-9s) and then provide the FAU/recharge to Valencia so that she can place the internal order for delivery and charge the FAU accordingly. (If you have any questions about this process, you can reach out to Michelle Vides in Accounts Payable at [mvides@finance.ucla.edu](mailto:mvides@finance.ucla.edu).)
  - AP will then make sure that a 1099 is issued to each participant who was paid \$600 or more during the calendar year.
  - If the participants were paid via check request, then Accounting will handle 1099 disbursement automatically. If they were paid via cash, gift card, or e-gift card, then you are responsible for making sure AP has the list, totals, and W-9s for all participants that meet the \$600 payment threshold.
- If you are going to request gift cards or e-code (e-gift cards), please review the [Gift Card Guide](#). We recommend that you utilize preferred gift cards. This will make ordering much faster and will allow you the option to return unused cards, plus there is no shipping/processing fee. As of Jan 2020, the list of preferred cards is as follows:

**PREFERRED GIFT CARDS**

Card Type	Denominations	Shipping/Processing Fee
Amazon	\$15, \$25, \$50, \$75, \$150, \$250	N/A
Target	\$5, \$10, \$15, \$20, \$25, \$30, \$75, \$100, \$150, \$200, \$240, \$250, \$325, \$400	N/A

- To request [cash, gift cards, or e-codes](#), you must download and complete the correct form from Box.

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**Detailed Guideline**



# Tips

- Don't reinvent the wheel
- Determine who your audience is
- Refer to institutional/sponsor policies to make sure you are in compliance
- Refer to institutional/sponsor policies to make sure you are gathering all required information
- Beta test materials with team members on both sides of the form (the people filling in the forms AND the people extracting data from submitted forms)
- Regularly assess existing documents for improvements/updates (include revision dates or version numbers for fillable forms)

# *Be Accessible*

- All materials, including training materials, should be accessible even if you are not in the office
  - Post on your department's website
  - Upload to a shared drive/folder/Box
  - Email
  - Have hard copies in a central location
- They should be easy to find (e.g. navigable from main website)
- Include contact information

For example....

FAMILY MEDICINE  
Research

Family Medicine

The UCLA Department of Family Medicine Research Program consists of research groups in the country committed to improving the partnership with ethnically diverse communities.

We have a wide array of expertise in various issues including:

- Care and prevention of chronic diseases (diabetes, cancer, etc.)
- Mental and behavioral health
- HIV care and prevention
- Adolescent and women's health
- Health and health care for under served and ethnically diverse communities
- Medical education and its linkage to under served communities
- Addressing disparities and minority health
- Communication in health care settings

About Us +

Education +

For Patients

Our Clinicians

Research -

Center for Behavioral and Addiction Medicine

**For Family Medicine Research Unit Employees**

Multi-Campus Research Day Committee

FAMILY MEDICINE

For Family Medicine Research Unit Employees

Research

Here are some commonly needed documents/forms for Department of Family Medicine Research Unit employees. If you have any questions or do not see the form you require, please contact Laura Sheehan, Manager of Research Administration at [LSheehan@mednet.ucla.edu](mailto:LSheehan@mednet.ucla.edu).

Center for Behavioral and Addiction Medicine

For Family Medicine Research Unit Employees

Multi-Campus Research Day Committee

Research Day

Research Faculty

UCLA Sports Medicine Program

TRAINING/HOW-TO GUIDES:

Information Sheet for New Fam Med Oppenheimer Suite Employees

Travel/Entertainment/Food Reimbursement Request Guide

Purchasing Guide

Accounting Policies/Training

Post Award Training

Effort Reporting Guide

PURCHASING/FINANCIAL FORMS:

Check Request Form (Family Medicine)

Debarment and Anti Lobby Certificate

Foreign Wire Transfer Requests (Fam Med Res Unit)

Independent Contractor/Consultant Checklist

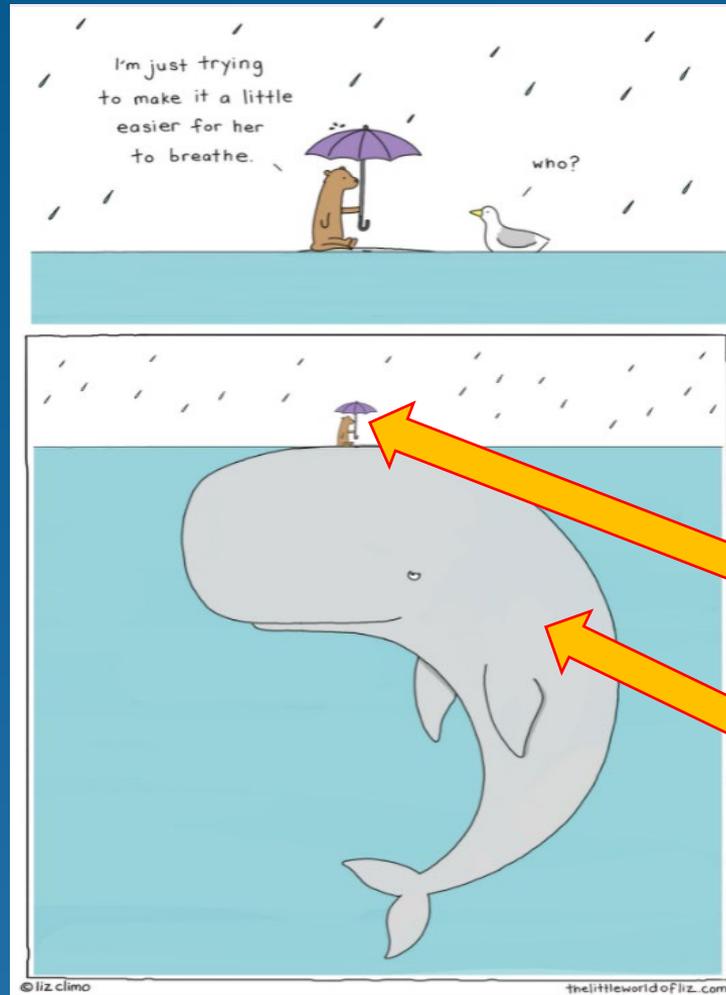
Mileage Form (Fam Med Res Unit)

Ordering from At Your Service Catering

Purchase Order Request Form (Fam Med Res Unit)

<https://www.uclahealth.org/departments/family-medicine>





*Thank You*

*My email is:  
Lsheehan@mednet.ucla.edu*