Symposium for Research Administrators

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Grant Management – The Game!

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Does grant management feel like a game?

Who are the players?
What are the game rules?
Who makes the rules?
Who goes first?
Who are the winners and losers?
What are the prizes and the penalties?
Games are fun, so grant management is too!
Let’s play a game!
Grant Land is not a game of chance!

Object of the Game

To reach the award Closeout Mothership by managing the award correctly from the time of award. Avoid award management pitfalls that send you back to start or delay your progress.
The Rules of the Game

- Draw a card and move game piece as instructed. If you land on a junction, choose your route.
- Discuss the scenario on the card. Is it good or bad? Or does it depend?
- Don’t ignore the scenario and move on; it will delay closeout and create extra work or rework.
Tips for Winning!
(aka managing an award)

• Plan ahead – Get Prior approval
• Communicate
• Be timely
• See the BIG picture
• Do not assume
• Remember, “it depends”
• Know the terms and conditions of an award before spending
• Know policies and procedures at all levels
Tips for Winning!  
(aka managing an award)

• Know more about the award than just the numbers
• Seek assistance, ask questions
• If it looks odd, it is odd
• Reconcile
• Go to trainings
• Dig into the details
• Use your resources
• Look at every situation from various perspectives