Subject: Guidance on Applications for Unrestricted Gift Funding

Dear Colleagues,

As you consider applying for opportunities described as "unrestricted gifts," particularly with companies, please be aware of important institutional requirements that may affect your ability to submit applications or accept such funding on behalf of the Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois.

Faculty ***may not directly*** submit applications on behalf of the University if:

- An Authorized Organizational Representative (AOR) signature for submission is required;
- The funds are to be awarded to the University; or
- The application includes terms and conditions that bind the University.

In addition, if the application process requires agreement to terms and conditions, including via a checkbox or embedded link, you should not accept those terms. Instead, please contact Sponsored Programs Administration (SPA) for review and guidance prior to submission.

Examples of terms that may bind the University include, but are not limited to:

- Intellectual property and licensing provisions
- Indemnification requirements
- Infringement clauses
- Liability provisions
- Governing law/jurisdiction
- Rights granted to the funder (e.g., publication restrictions or access to results)

Please note that a funding opportunity labeled as an "unrestricted gift" does not automatically qualify as a gift. If the terms and conditions impose obligations on the University or provide specific benefits to the funder, the funding may not be accepted or processed as a gift under University guidance.

If the determination is made that the funding can be processed as a gift, the application should be submitted with the "University of Illinois Foundation" as the recipient of payment.

If you have any questions or would like assistance reviewing an opportunity, please contact SPA (spa@illinois.edu) before proceeding.

Thank you for your attention to these requirements.

09102026