

**DATE:** 1/6/2025

**SUBJECT:** NOTICE OF AWARD (NoA)

**PROJECT NAME:** Utah Suicide Mortality Research Study (USMRS)

**PROJECT DIRECTOR:** Dr. Hilary Coon, PhD, Professor and H. A. and Edna Benning Endowed Chair, Department of Psychiatry, University of Utah

**AWARD ADMINISTRATOR:** Dr. Erin Rothwell, PhD, Vice President for Research and Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, University of Utah

**FUNDING AMOUNT:** \$2,000,000.00

**PROJECTED FUNDING DURATION:** 5 YEARS FROM DATE OF INITIAL FUNDING TRANSFER AND CONTINGENT UPON ANNUAL BUDGET APPROVAL. [NOTE: NO EXTENSIONS WILL BE AUTHORIZED]

Dear Hilary Coon,

Congratulations to you and your team of investigators!

This Notice of Award (NoA) is provided to outline the terms, conditions and deliverables associated with funding supporting the Utah Suicide Mortality Research Study (USMRS) following approval by University of Utah President Taylor Randall.

Funding is being provided primarily to conduct high-impact studies using Utah data resources that uniquely allow discovery of risks leading to suicide death. Financial support is being provided to enhance opportunities for greater scientific impact through supporting infrastructure costs; ensure stability of ongoing resource growth to facilitate increased scientific output and increase likelihood of highly sustainable funding; and enhance collaboration, potential for recruiting success, and research capacity through increases in data/analytic efficiency.

The funding will be administered by Dr. Erin Rothwell, University of Utah Vice President for Research. Dr. Coon, in her role as developer of these USMRS research resources and current collaborative research team, will be responsible for the development of a leadership model governing the activities of the USMRS and stewardship of resources provided in support of all planned research activities. Dr. Jim McDonough, Executive Director for Department of Defense (DoD) Research will serve as the Project Lead within the Office of the Vice President for Research Office (OVPR) and be responsible for day-to-day oversight of the study's progress.

In recognition of the sensitive nature of this data resource and extensive trust relationships in place that govern its continued use, additional leadership and oversight of data and specimen uses will be provided by USMRS representatives having affiliations with the Utah Department of Health and Human Services, Intermountain Healthcare, and University of Utah Health.

Funding will be released in annual allocations and upon satisfactory completion of identified milestones and deliverables, including the submission/review/approval of the investigator's next annual budget documentation.

Any carryforward will be applied to the next funding year and will reduce the funding support for subsequent years. At the end of the total funding period, any unused funding will be transferred back to the original funding account.

Conditions of award, expected deliverables, and all other terms/conditions of this award are outlined below:

### **GENERAL CONDITIONS**

**Acceptance of Application & Terms of Agreement.** By drawing or otherwise obtaining funds from the Vice President for Research Office, the recipient acknowledges acceptance of the terms and conditions of the award and is obligated to perform in accordance with the requirements of the award.

**Certification Statement:** By drawing down funds, the recipient certifies that proper fiscal management controls and accounting systems, to include personnel policies and procedures, have been established to adequately administer the award and funds drawn down.

**Recipient Specific Terms and Conditions.** All funding provided under this award must be used by the Recipient exclusively for the project referenced in the Notice of Award. This includes any approved revisions, as applicable, made after the Recipient's approved application.

### **SPECIFIC CONDITIONS**

This funding award will support infrastructure goals specified in the attached document, "Proposed Sustainability Support for University of Utah Suicide Mortality Translational Research." Funded areas to be supported include:

**Goal one:** Enable strategic planning for sustained growth. (\$5,000/year; total of \$25,000 over 5 years)

**Goal two:** Build capacity for state-of-the-art data/statistical infrastructure to support innovative basic and clinical research. (\$382,000/year in years 1-2; \$177,000/year in years 3-5; total of \$1,295,000 over 5 years)

**Goal three:** Build capacity for sustainable wet lab infrastructure to safeguard valuable samples and support transformative research. (\$185,000/year in years 1-2; \$95,000/year in years 3-5; total of \$655,000 over 5 years)

**Goal four:** Dissemination, building community partnerships, development of innovative community-informed research approaches. (\$5,000/year; total of \$25,000 over 5 years).

### **DELIVERABLES**

Upon acceptance of terms and conditions, the recipient will provide to the Award Administrator:

1. An overview of the approved governance/stewardship model overseeing the implementation of the planned research activities [NLT Q2].
2. A proposed budget supporting the implementation of planned research activities [NLT Q2].
3. A schedule of semi-annual In-Progress Reviews (IPRs) of planned research activities and progress toward goals [NLT Q2].
4. One Semi-annual IPR annually conducted by USMRS team members to interested stakeholders [NLT Q3].
5. An Annual Progress Report and Presentation on research accomplishments and future research plans and activities [NLT December 15<sup>th</sup>].

### **OTHER TERMS OF ACCEPTANCE**

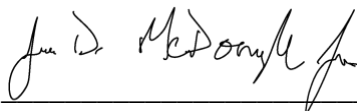
1. The PI is responsible for managing the budget of this award. All funding distributed by the VPR Office is subject to audit. The VPR will not bear the burden of over-expenditure, which must be rectified by the PI and their academic unit.
2. The VPR Office may ask internal funding recipients for images, media, and other communication aids to assist in the dissemination of internal research projects to the University of Utah research community and other community/State stakeholders and audiences. Upon acceptance of the award, the PI agrees to provide communication materials (e.g., research images, video, graphics, links, presentations, etc.) if requested.

3. The PI, and all events of the funded project, must adhere to any relevant University Policy, including all Purchasing procedures and best practices. An award letter from the VPR Office does not allow any investigator to neglect University policy.
4. Alterations to the attached budget are subject to approval in writing by the University of Utah Office of the Vice President for Research.
5. This funding is subject to an annual written progress report to be presented to the Office of the University of Utah Vice President for Research.



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Erin Rothwell, PhD  
Vice President for Research  
Professor of Obstetrics & Gynecology | School of Medicine  
University of Utah



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Colonel (U.S. Army, Ret.) Jim McDonough  
Executive Director, Department of Defense Research  
Vice President for Research Office  
University of Utah



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Hilary Coon, PhD (award recipient)  
Professor of Psychiatry | School of Medicine