

## § 70.35

## 28 CFR Ch. I (7-1-08 Edition)

to the current fair market value of the equipment. If the recipient has no need for the equipment, the recipient must request disposition instructions from the Department. The Department will determine whether the equipment can be used to meet the agency's requirements. If no requirement exists within that agency, the availability of the equipment must be reported to the General Services Administration by the Department to determine whether a requirement for the equipment exists in other Federal agencies. The Department will issue instructions to the recipient no later than 120 calendar days after the recipient's request and the following procedures will govern.

(1) If so instructed or if disposition instructions are not issued within 120 calendar days after the recipient's request, the recipient may sell the equipment and reimburse the Department an amount computed by applying to the sales proceeds the percentage of Federal participation in the cost of the original project or program. However, the recipient may be permitted to deduct and retain from the Federal share \$500 or ten percent of the proceeds, whichever is less, for the recipient's selling and handling expenses.

(2) If the recipient is instructed to ship the equipment elsewhere, the recipient may be reimbursed by the Federal Government by an amount which is computed by applying the percentage of the recipient's participation in the cost of the original project or program to the current fair market value of the equipment, plus any reasonable shipping or interim storage costs incurred.

(3) If the recipient is instructed to otherwise dispose of the equipment, the recipient may be reimbursed by the Department for such costs incurred in its disposition.

(4) The Department reserves the right to transfer the title to the Federal Government or to a third party named by the Federal Government when such third party is otherwise eligible under existing statutes. Such transfer will be subject to the following standards.

(i) The equipment must be appropriately identified in the award or oth-

erwise made known to the recipient in writing.

(ii) The Department will issue disposition instructions within 120 calendar days after receipt of a final inventory. The final inventory must list all equipment acquired with grant funds and Federally-owned equipment. If the Department fails to issue disposition instructions within the 120 calendar day period, the recipient may apply the standards of this section, as appropriate.

(iii) When the Department exercises its right to take title, the equipment is subject to the provisions for Federally-owned equipment.

### § 70.35 Supplies and other expendable property.

(a) Title to supplies and other expendable property vests in the recipient upon acquisition. If there is a residual inventory of unused supplies exceeding \$5000 in total aggregate value upon termination or completion of the project or program and the supplies are not needed for any other Federally-sponsored project or program, the recipient may retain the supplies for use on non-Federal sponsored activities or sell them, but must, in either case, compensate the Federal Government for its share. The amount of compensation must be computed in the same manner as for equipment.

(b) The recipient must not use supplies acquired with Federal funds to provide services to non-Federal outside organizations for a fee that is less than private companies charge for equivalent services, unless specifically authorized by Federal statute as long as the Federal Government retains an interest in the supplies.

### § 70.36 Intangible property.

(a) The recipient may copyright any work that is subject to copyright and was developed, or for which ownership was purchased, under an award. The Department reserves a royalty-free, nonexclusive and irrevocable right to reproduce, publish, or otherwise use the work for Federal purposes, and to authorize others to do so.

(b) Recipients are subject to applicable regulations governing patents and inventions, including government-wide

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regulations issued by the Department of Commerce at 37 CFR part 401, “Rights to Inventions Made by Non-profit Organizations and Small Business Firms Under Government Grants, Contracts and Cooperative Agreements.”

(c) The Department has the right to:

(1) Obtain, reproduce, publish or otherwise use the data first produced under an award; and

(2) Authorize others to receive, reproduce, publish, or otherwise use such data for Federal purposes.

(d)(1) In addition, in response to a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for research data relating to published research findings produced under an award that were used by the Federal Government in developing an agency action that has the force and effect of law, the Departmental awarding agency shall request, and the recipient shall provide, within a reasonable time, the research data so that they can be made available to the public through the procedures established under the FOIA. If the Departmental awarding agency obtains the research data solely in response to a FOIA request, the agency may charge the requester a reasonable fee equaling the full incremental cost of obtaining the research data. This fee should reflect costs incurred by the agency, the recipient, and applicable subrecipients. This fee is in addition to any fees the agency may assess under the FOIA (5 U.S.C. 552(a)(4)(A)).

(2) The following definitions apply for purposes of this paragraph (d):

(i) *Research data* is defined as the recorded factual material commonly accepted in the scientific community as necessary to validate research findings, but not any of the following: preliminary analyses, drafts of scientific papers, plans for future research, peer reviews, or communications with colleagues. This “recorded” material excludes physical objects (e.g., laboratory samples). *Research data* also do not include:

(A) Trade secrets, commercial information, materials necessary to be held confidential by a researcher until they are published, or similar information which is protected under law; and

(B) Personnel and medical information and similar information the dis-

closure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, such as information that could be used to identify a particular person in a research study.

(ii) *Published* is defined as either when:

(A) Research findings are published in a peer-reviewed scientific or technical journal; or

(B) A Federal agency publicly and officially cites the research findings in support of an agency action that has the force and effect of law.

(iii) *Used by the Federal Government in developing an agency action that has the force and effect of law* is defined as when an agency publicly and officially cites the research findings in support of an agency action that has the force and effect of law.

(e) Title to intangible property and debt instruments acquired under an award or subaward vests upon acquisition in the recipient. The recipient must use that property for the originally-authorized purpose, and the recipient must not encumber the property without approval of the Department. When no longer needed for the originally authorized purpose, disposition of the intangible property must occur in accordance with the provisions of § 70.34(g).

[Order No. 1980-95, 60 FR 38242, July 26, 1995; Order No. 1998-95, 60 FR 57932, Nov. 24, 1995; Order No. 2289-2000, 65 FR 14407, 14410, Mar. 16, 2000]

### § 70.37 Property trust relationship.

Real property, equipment, intangible property and debt instruments that are acquired or improved with Federal funds must be held in trust by the recipient as trustee for the beneficiaries of the project or program under which the property was acquired or improved. Recipients are required to record liens or other appropriate notices of record to indicate that personal or real property has been acquired or improved with Federal funds and that use and disposition conditions apply to the property.