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## RESEARCH CAPACITY BUILDING INITIATIVE (RCBI) 2005 FUNDING AGREEMENTS


November 2004

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## RCBI 2005 Funding Agreements

**What's the Deal?**


- DoHA is offering new standard Commonwealth funding agreements in line with those already accepted by ANU, GGT, Lismore, Tamworth and Shepparton
- DoHA will provide University Departments with the same level of funding in 2005 as they received in 2004
- University Departments will be expected to undertake basically the same range and level of activities in 2005 as in 2004

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## RCBI 2001 Agreement Variations

**What do University Departments need to do?**

1. Accept the Variation to the 2001 Funding Agreements which:
  - removes the requirement for a Final Report in March 2005 as required in Clause 1.8; and
  - removes Clause 9.6 requiring the return of unspent funds. The new Funding Agreement will allow DoHA to offset any unspent funds against payments due under the new Agreements.

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## RCBI 2001 Agreement Variations

**What's the benefit?**

- Final Report covering 2001-2004 not required until March 2006
- Unspent funds remain within the PHC RED Strategy


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## RCBI 2005 Funding Agreements

2. Accept the offer of funding for 1 January to 31 December 2005

2005 Funding Agreement Requirements


- 2005 Business Plan due by 31 March 2005
- Financial Statement to 30 June 2005 due by 31 August 2005
- Annual Progress Report against the 2005 Business Plan, incorporating Minutes of meetings and the Research Capacity Measurement Report as specified in Schedule 3, due by 28 February 2006

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## RCBI 2005 Funding Agreements

2005 Funding Agreement Requirements

- Financial Statement to 31 December 2005 due by 28 February 2006
- Final Report covering the period 2000-2005 due by 31 March 2006
- Final Acquittal Report due by 31 March 2006

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## RCBI 2005 Funding Agreements

**Main changes from previous agreement :**

**Payments and Financial Reporting**

Four payments to be made on invoice:

1. 15 January 2005
2. 15 May 2005 (payment reduced by amount of unspent funds as at 31 December 2004)
3. 15 October 2005 (subject to receipt of financial statement to 30 June)
4. 28 February 2006

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## RCBI 2005 Funding Agreements

**Main changes from previous agreement :**

**Payments and Financial Reporting**

Universities must keep separate ledger accounts rather than separate bank accounts

A senior financial officer (or internal audit officer) who is not involved in the day-to-day administration of the Project can prepare the financial statements – previously an external Qualified Accountant was required.

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## RCBI 2005 Funding Agreements

**Main changes from previous agreement :**

**Payments and Financial Reporting**

Mid-year financial statement to 30 June

Final Report now to cover 2000-2005

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## RCBI 2005 Funding Agreements

**Main changes from previous agreement :**

**Acknowledgement and Publications**

University Departments must acknowledge the contribution of the Department of Health & Ageing to the Project in any relevant:

- correspondence;
- public announcement;
- advertising material;
- research reports; or
- other material produced by or on behalf of the University Department.

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## RCBI 2005 Funding Agreements


**What's not changed?**

Intellectual Property

Universities cannot charge infrastructure levies to Departments

Advisory/State-wide Committees must:

- advise on and facilitate the implementation of the Business Plan
- assist the Department to achieve its objectives
- meet at least twice per year

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## RCBI 2005 Funding Agreements

**Reminder**

- All funds must be expensed, not committed, by 31 December 2005, for example
- staff positions cannot be paid beyond this date
- workshops, training sessions etc must be completed

**What about Statewide Coordinators' funding?**

- DoHA will negotiate the four Agreements individually as most will be adding additional responsibilities to their role in 2005

# QUESTIONS

