



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA MERCED
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Dear Colleagues,

We would like to take this opportunity to share updated information and remind everyone of our shared responsibility around export controls. As you may be aware, export controls are regulations that govern the export of certain technologies, data, and materials outside the US and are now being increasingly applied to research environments, particularly in areas involving emerging technologies.

Expanded Scope of Controlled Items: Recent updates have broadened the scope of technologies, including software, hardware, and technical data, that are subject to export control regulations. This may affect any research involving fields such as artificial intelligence, quantum computing, biotechnology, and other areas categorized as [emerging technologies](#). Items and research related to these fields may now fall under heightened scrutiny and may require specific licensing before sharing with international collaborators. ORED's Export Control Office can provide guidance on applicability of these controls to your activities and can determine if an export license is needed.

Increased Scrutiny on International Collaborations: Researchers engaging in collaborations with foreign institutions, companies, or individuals should be especially vigilant. Any transfer of controlled materials, data, or technologies—whether physically or electronically—may require an export license. If you are unsure whether a particular research output, collaboration, or technology may be subject to export controls, consult with the Export Control Office before sharing or disseminating information.

Export controls and research security: Export controls are closely linked to the wider framework of research security. Collaboration with international partners is vital to the university's mission of advancing the knowledge and innovations needed to tackle some of the world's most urgent challenges. However, the U.S. government has expressed significant concerns about certain foreign governments attempting to exploit the openness of our research environment in ways that jeopardize U.S. national and economic security. To address these concerns, a number of actions have been undertaken by the U.S. government. These actions include the requirement for covered institutions to create a research security program (as outlined in this White House Office of Science and Technology Policy [research security implementation guidance](#)) and the requirement by multiple federal funding agencies for senior personnel to disclose foreign activities to funding agencies at the time of proposal and throughout the life of the award. This guidance [table](#), titled *NSPM-33 Implementation Guidance Pre- and Post-award Disclosures Relating to the Biographical Sketch and Current and Pending (Other) Support*, provides reference information regarding pre-award and post-award disclosures. It includes:

- The types of activities to be reported.
- Where such activities must be reported in the application.
- When updates are required in the application and award lifecycle.



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- Activities that are not required to be reported.

University of California and research security policies: Due to the increased scrutiny on research security, University of California, Office of the President (UCOP) has implemented a review process in which all international affiliations and agreements involving [emerging technologies](#) and [countries of concerns](#) are reviewed by the campus, then directed to UCOP for review and approval. At UC Merced, the International Relations and Export Controls Workgroup is the local body that will review all affiliations and agreements meeting these criteria. If you are planning an international engagement that involves emerging technologies and a country of concern, inform the Office of Research Compliance and Integrity (RCI) at RCI@ucmerced.edu as soon as possible so that we may route the engagement for review.

We are committed to facilitating the research mission of our university and making sure it is carried out in compliance with all U.S laws and regulations, at the same time we recognize that these updates and related procedures may necessitate adjustments to your current activities. Please do not hesitate to reach out to the Office of Research Compliance and Integrity at RCI@ucmerced.edu or Export Control team exportcontrols@ucmerced.edu for any questions or clarifications regarding how these regulations apply to your work.

Sincerely,

Gillian Wilson
Vice Chancellor for Research, Innovation and Economic Development

Leslie Teixeira-Porto
Assistant Vice Chancellor for Research Compliance and Integrity