Overview: COVID-19 and NIH Funding

The NIH Has a Website with Detailed Notes About Research Changes:
https://grants.nih.gov/grants/natural_disasters/corona-virus.htm
It will be continually updated based on current information and investigator feedback.

The current topics on the website include:
- Proposal Submission and Award Management
- Human Subjects and Clinical Trials
- Animal Welfare
- Peer Review
- FAQs
- Funding Opportunities Specific to COVID-19
- Other Resources

WATCH THIS (8:38) NIH VIDEO summarizing the information on their website:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jLmBi5wvifk&feature=youtu.be

Cliff Notes Version of the video

Application Deadlines:
- You may submit your application late without pre-approval
  - In lieu of pre-approval, submit a brief cover letter describing why the application is late. (NIH will be accommodating about the reason)

Report Deadlines:
- You may submit your reports* late
  - Notify grants management that you will be late
  - * This applies to progress, budget, final, closeout, and audit reports

Budgeting:
- Re-budgeting is permitted as long as it remains consistent with the scope of your project
- No pre-approval is required for re-budgeting unobligated balances,
- You may carry unobligated balances over

Salaries and Staffing:
- You may charge NIH grants for salaries and trainee stipends even if personnel/trainee are unable to work right now

Administrative Supplements:
- NIH knows that the research pause will throw timelines and budgets into disarray and will be releasing opportunities to request supplemental funds to help with shortfalls

Travel
- You can charge cancelation fees for meetings, hotel registrations against NIH grants

Peer Review
- NIH peer review being conducted remotely through the next review cycle

Human Subjects
- Work with your IRB to determine what changes do and do not require IRB approval
Animal Research

- NIH Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare conducted webinar on Pandemic Contingency Planning
  - Link: https://olaw.nih.gov/education/educational-resources/webinar-2020-03-19.htm

Detailed NIH Guide Notices:

- “General FAQs-Proposal Submission and Award Management Related to COVID-19”

- “Flexibilities Available to Applicants and Recipients of Federal Financial Assistance Affected by COVID-19”

- “Guidance for NIH Funded Clinical Trials and Human Subjects Studies Affected by COVID-19”

- “NIH LATE APPLICATION Policy due to Public Health Emergency for United States for 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)”