New Export Control Reforms Could Impact Your R&D Efforts

Chad Afrons and Mary I. Edquist, McDonald Hopkins

Researchers at your institution will soon have more – or less – leeway to conduct their work with or without government issued licenses and approvals.

The State Department’s Directorate of Defense Trade Controls (DDTC) and the Commerce Department’s Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) have issued proposed rules that will change export control regulations applicable to colleges and universities. The proposed changes primarily focus on revisions to critical regulatory definitions. Below are a few of the key proposed reforms and information about the potential impact on your institution.

Are your researchers providing defense services?

DDTC’s proposed revision of the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR) marks the agency’s third attempt to redefine “defense services.” Currently, many research activities fall into this overly broad category, triggering ITAR registration and licensing
requirements. Prior attempts to revise the definition of defense services raised concerns because of DDTC’s failure to exclude assistance given to foreign persons based solely on the use of information available in the public domain, as opposed to export controlled technical data or other proprietary information. Educational representatives believed this would increase their costs and burdens by requiring them to obtain licenses in order to collaborate with foreign researchers and students – without any positive impact on national security....

Compensation for University Presidents

Kurtis G. Lindamood, Senior Associate, Mercer

Compensation at academic institutions is a topic that has received increased attention over the last few years. Particularly as institutions have decreased spending with employer-sponsored employee benefits, colleges and universities look to maintain a competitive total rewards package. More specifically, compensation for the President of academic institutions is a topic that attracts considerable attention. While there is an abundance of data on cash compensation, there has been little focus on severance, and no studies devoted solely to severance packages in colleges and universities.

Mercer, a global consulting leader in talent, health, retirement, and investments, and Witt/Kieffer, a leading executive search firm, announced the results of the 2014/2015 Severance Survey for Presidents of Non-Profit Colleges and Universities. The report summarizes severance benefit practices for Presidents of 63 colleges and universities across the United States and marks one of the few comprehensive efforts to capture severance data from academic institutions.

A high-level overview of the Severance Survey can be found here.

A whitepaper about the Survey can be found here.

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