The Office of Research is pleased to announce a new TARA module – QuickFiPS - for financial projections. QuickFiPS is a module within the Total Access for Research Administration (TARA) system and is designed to give researchers and administrators the ability to easily access account balances and perform financial projections. The system leverages existing account level security and allows users to view summaries of their accounts, model various expense and income scenarios, as well as perform projected budget changes.

Projections created in QuickFiPS can be saved, versioned, and revisited or downloaded at any time. Attached is a brief User Guide to help get you started; the FiPS User Guide can also be downloaded from the Office of Research web site (http://research.usc.edu/financial-projection-system-fips/). Help is also available by clicking the question mark icon on any of the QuickFiPS screens or by contacting the TARA team at tarahelp@usc.edu. QuickFiPS is the initial version of FiPS, which will be enhanced in 2014 to include the ability to automatically import financial rates to expedite projections.

QuickFiPS Training
The following training sessions have been scheduled for QuickFiPS. Should you wish to attend, please RSVP to tarahelp@usc.edu.

* Friday, August 2nd at 9:00am in UGB 110
* Friday, August 9th at 11:00am in KAM 310

About TARA
TARA offers a collection of tools to support the administration of research at USC, including:

* Post-Award account administration, through Kuali Coeus post-award
* Financial projections for existing accounts, through QuickFiPS
* Billing and accounting for shared core laboratories, through CORES
* Protocol submission and review, through iStar
* Conflict of interest disclosure, through diSClose

Over the next year, these tools will be added:

* Pre-Award budget creation, proposal routing and system-to-system proposal submission, through Kuali Coeus pre-award
* Protocol submission and review for radiation and biological safety, through iSafety
* Invention disclosure and intellectual property management, through Wellspring
* Automated effort certification
* Enhanced financial projections, through FiPS

More information about TARA can be found at http://research.usc.edu/usc-research-administration-system/