U.S. export controls consist of a broad, diverse, and complicated array of regulatory requirements that have varying and often surprising impacts on the activities of university personnel. There are three areas in particular that give rise to most export control issues in the university setting.

First, the Export Administration Regulations (EAR) and International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR) prohibit the unauthorized disclosure or transfer of controlled software, technology, and technical data to non-U.S. persons, both abroad and in the United States. Second, export controls regulate the shipment, transmission, carriage, or provision of certain goods, software, technology, and services outside of the United States. The items subject to the regulations include the EAR-controlled items on the Commerce Control List (CCL) and the ITAR-controlled items on the U.S. Munitions List (USML). And finally, the Foreign Assets Control Regulations impose economic sanctions against several countries as well as the individuals and organizations on the Specially Designated Nationals List (a U.S. Government official list of the bad guys). The country-wide sanctions include robust restrictions on travel and trade to and from the targeted countries, affecting the ability of University personnel to study, teach, or conduct research in those locations.

Each participant in any CCEFP-funded project or activity must comply with the export control policy of his or her home institution. Any CCEFP-funded project personnel facing a potential export controls issue should not hesitate to seek guidance from their respective university's official responsible for export controls compliance. Some general guidelines for such circumstances are listed below.

When should I consult my university’s export controls compliance official?

• Whenever you face a potential export controls issue, such as in the following circumstances: Whenever sponsors attempt to impose publication or personnel access restrictions on research activities.
• Before receiving export-controlled technical information from an outside party, such as an industry or U.S. Government research sponsor.
• Whenever documents from sponsors or other parties refer to the Export Administration Regulations, the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR), the Foreign Assets Control Regulations, or export controls and economic sanctions generally.
• Before accepting hardware, software, technology, or technical data from an outside party (such as an industry sponsor) to be used in a project as part of an instructional course.
• Before preparing to export from the U.S. any technology, equipment, materials, or chemical or biological agents (including toxins and genetic elements) on the Commerce Control List.
• Before handling or preparing to export from the U.S. any goods, technical data, or services subject to the ITAR.
• Before traveling to an embargoed country.