

Segments of a Research Award

- ***Direct Costs***
- Direct research costs are what people generally think of when it comes to federal support of research projects. These costs normally include laboratory supplies, specific research equipment, salary support for researchers and lab personnel, and travel for conducting research or disseminating research results. This is the core of university research, and it is also where the bulk of the federal investment is spent. Direct costs can be specifically identified to a research project and must generally align with the proposal budget as well as comply with the terms and conditions set forth by the awarding agency.

Segments of a Research Award

Indirect costs

- Mechanism used to reimburse college for infrastructure support costs associated with sponsored research. Some examples of these costs are:
 - Depreciation and interest cost associated with physical plant
 - Operating and maintenance costs: Utilities, security, custodial, etc.
 - Common administrative functions: Payroll, purchasing, etc.
- Because it is impractical to account separately for F&A costs, an approved rate is developed and charged to sponsored awards
- Portion of F&A is appropriated to the campus for distribution by Budget Committee per approved campus financial plan
- [Federally approved campus F&A rates for Buffalo State College](#)



Facilities and Administrative (F&A) Costs Funding

- When Buffalo State conducts research on behalf of sponsor, sponsor funds direct costs of the research as well as F&A services required to conduct the research
- F&A costs are real costs, without which faculty would not be able to conduct research

Buffalo State's Recovery at the Federally approved F&A rate.



Direct Costs

Pay for the costs of conducting the research including:

- Salaries, benefits for researchers
- Award-specific supplies
- Award-specific equipment
- Travel to conferences
- Publication costs
- Other costs directly related to the research

F&A Costs

Maintain research infrastructure, including:

- Facilities, lab maintenance
- Utilities
- Building, equipment depreciation
- Library
- Total costs per \$1.00 = 14 cents

Administrative F&A

- Department/college administrative costs
- Research support offices
- Proposal submission, approval
- Purchasing, payroll, HR
- Invoicing, reporting services
- Compliance management
- Total costs per \$1.00 = 18 cents

F&A and Salary Recovery

- F&A and IFR salary recovery support campus infrastructure costs of doing research
- Without these reimbursements, colleges could not maintain research program
- Most sponsors expect these costs to be included in grant budgets
- Without cost recovery, state support to fund our college academic enterprise by default is subsidizing our research activities

New Policies Pertaining to Sponsored Programs

F&A Recovery and Distribution Policy

- F&A costs are real costs, without which faculty would not be able to conduct research
- Policy provides consistent approach for recovering F&A costs
- Maximizes return to campus
- Ensures all requests for F&A waivers are reviewed and approved in consistent manner
- Provides consistent plan to return portion of recovery to campus to support future research initiatives

