

COM Indirect Cost Recovery Expectations and Guidelines

Authorized by the COM Senior Associate Dean for Research

Indirect cost recovery is a means by which the University obtains from funding agencies a portion of the expenses associated with supporting the research of its faculty and their associates. The inclusion of these charges results in the support of research efforts across the campus, and more specifically, research efforts at the College of Medicine (COM).

Expectations for indirect cost recovery at COM incorporate [FSU Policy 7A-12 Indirect Cost Recovery](#) and include the following:

Indirect costs (IDC) will be charged at the appropriate negotiated rate or sponsor-mandated rate.

Principal investigators (PIs) may apply to foundations, corporations, governmental agencies, and other research funding entities that do not, by stated policy, provide IDC.

For sponsors that *do* allow IDC, PIs are expected to include in their proposal budgets the full negotiated rate for the University or the maximum IDC allowed by the sponsor.

PIs do not have authority to negotiate IDC rates with sponsors. Any requests to negotiate IDC should be directed to the COM Office of Research Administration, which will facilitate next steps with FSU.

Should a PI have reason to request a reduced IDC rate or waiver, the request must be submitted through RAMP for COM chair and dean approval before it is sent to the Vice President for Research for final approval. Requesting waivers of negotiated and allowable charges means a decreased research funding pool and a corresponding reduction in the research and creative activities that the University stimulates and supports, and may impact research operations at COM. All requests for reduced IDC rates or waivers must be explicitly justified, including the positive impacts to the institution that will result from the reduced or waived IDC.

Indirect costs are required for COM participation on non-COM proposals.

Institutional research collaborations are encouraged and supported by COM leadership. COM participation does involve costs to the college, however, and allocation of IDC commensurate with resource commitment is expected.

COM investigators involved in collaborative projects should make this expectation clear to non-COM PIs and confirm that COM will hold approvals for collaborative proposals until an appropriate IDC allocation to COM is visible in RAMP.

IDC allocations to COM should consider:

- Facility resources committed by COM: e.g., machines, clinics, labs, storage.
- Number of COM personnel participating on the project (including students).
- COM impact to the project. For instance, a single investigator providing as-needed consultation would impact a project differently than two investigators providing animal work under COM protocols.

- Budgetary concessions allowed by COM. For instance, if a COM investigator has been approved to participate on a project at no cost to the grant, IDC allocation to COM should reflect that.
- COM IDC may or may not reflect the same percentages for investigator effort or investigator credit. While that is a typical approach applied by multiple colleges, those percentages may not reflect the impact to the project. For instance, if the one COM investigator on a project is committing 5% effort but is also responsible for managing all aspects of a primary component or Aim of the project, COM's IDC expectation would be higher than 5%.

Indirect costs must be allocated to collaborating FSU departments.

For the same reason that COM requires IDC on collaborative proposals, it is expected that COM will provide appropriate IDC allocations to our research partners.

Each PI should manage this conversation with collaborators and determine each department's anticipated and appropriate IDC allocation. Conflicts can be negotiated at the chair or dean level.

COM will hold proposal approval until all partnering units are assigned IDC and allocation is visible in RAMP.

Indirect costs must be allocated to participating COM departments and the COM Dean.

IDC allocated to COM must be divided to allocate 15% of the total percentage to the COM Dean. For instance, if COM will receive 100% IDC, 15% of that total will be allocated to the COM Dean and the remaining 85% will be distributed to participating COM departments.

All COM departments participating on a project should receive an IDC allocation. PIs should work with their participating colleagues to determine anticipated distribution. Conflicts can be negotiated at the chair level.

COM will hold proposal approval until all participating COM departments are assigned IDC and until allocation to the COM Dean is visible in RAMP.