



Policy Governing the Distribution of Indirect Cost Recovery

All federal agencies and some private funders pay overhead or indirect costs in addition to the direct costs of grant-funded projects. Indirect costs cover facilities, utilities, administration, etc.—those costs which cannot easily be detailed and allocated to a specific project.

The SC Legislature allows colleges and universities to keep indirect costs (or Facilities & Administration costs) on all research grants and on other grants in excess of \$200,000. Non-research grants over \$200,000 must remit all IDC to the SC Budget and Control Board annually.

The following policy sets forth a plan for distributing these funds. The intent of this policy is that the use of these funds be viewed as a **research reinvestment plan** providing support, matching funds, and incentives to the University's research support program, as well as a means to offset other real costs incurred through grant and research activities. Deans and the Director of Sponsored Awards will be accountable to the Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs for effective utilization of these funds and achievement of the stated general objectives.

20% USC-Columbia (required)

Institutional support such as incentive grants; IRB for Human Subjects approval; resource library; application technical support; signatory authority; Contract and Grant Accounting

20% General Research Fund

Support of grants process: support for service and institution-wide grants, consultants/grant writing, professional development

10% Sponsored Awards and Research Support

To fund research and scholarship incentive awards for faculty and students

20% School or College

Support for grant development/acquisition: proposal writing release/stipends, travel to grant workshops, matching funds

20% Division or Department

(or 10% each to SARS and College or School if there are no Divisions or Departments)

Recognition of faculty efforts in grant acquisition: matching funds, professional development of grant faculty, equipment

5% Principal Investigator

To be used for travel, professional development, etc.

5% Business Affairs

Support fiscal aspect of post-award activities: accounts payable, purchasing, grants records, human resources, facilities utilization