

MINIMUM ALLOWABLE PI EFFORT

Summary

The University receives federal funding for a variety of research and other sponsored activities. The federal government has clarified that, except in very unusual circumstances, each federally funded project should have allocated to it some level of committed Principal Investigator/Project Director (PI) effort. As the federal government requires that it be charged no more than any other sponsor, the University is generally required to charge all sponsors for some portion of faculty effort related to any sponsored activity.

Application

The minimum allowable PI effort for purposes of proposing, accounting, and reporting is 1% of a PI's salary. The 1% can be:

1. Allocated and charged to each sponsored project or
2. *Allocated and charged to the project's related cost-sharing amount
The only federal exception to this policy is for "programs for equipment and instrumentation, doctoral dissertations, and student augmentation" [1] that involve only an insignificant amount of the PI's time and effort.

Reference:

This policy is derived from an OMB Clarification memo referenced in the footnote below and viewable at the following link: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/memoranda/m01-06.html>

Office of Management and Budget, M-01-06, Memorandum for the Heads of Executive Departments and Establishments, Clarification of OMB A-21 Treatment of Voluntary Uncommitted Cost Sharing and Tuition Remission Costs, January 5, 2001