

# OSP Monthly



Office of Sponsored Projects, 1027 University Circle Ogden, UT 84408-1027  
<http://weber.edu/OSP/default.html>

## Facilities and Administration (F&A) aka Indirect Costs

-By Chris Millard

High on the list of misunderstood federal grant/award concepts is the issue of Facilities and Administration (F&A), also known as indirect costs.

The government acknowledges there are costs for a university that cannot be readily identified with a particular cost objective when sponsored project work is accepted.



The government is willing to pay its fair share of all costs. Major functions of an institution—the infrastructure—is burdened when sponsored projects are received. Some of the hidden costs of doing business are identified in OMB Circular A-21: central administration salaries and costs, Dean's offices and salaries, department salaries and expenses, library expenses, student administration, etc.

The federal government determines the F&A rate for a university. If a university's sponsored project work does not exceed \$10m, a simplified procedure is used. The university's most recent annual financial report and immediately available supporting information are used as the basis in determining the rate. Under this method Weber State University (WSU) has been assigned a rate of 36% of salaries, wages, and benefits.

When a university's sponsored project work exceeds \$10m the calculation to determine the rate is done on what is called the *long form*. Based on the latest fiscal year, expenses are grouped in pools of like nature expenses.

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Each pool is distributed to the related cost objectives according to government regulations. This is a highly sophisticated process, consuming time and energy, but producing a great degree of benefit for the university.

Many things go into the calculation such as depreciation on buildings, parking lots, capital improvements, operation and maintenance costs, utility services, etc.

Under the long form, the university is in a position to recover to a greater degree, the actual and real costs of doing business. Recovered costs build the infrastructure and strengthen the institution, positioning the university to compete for larger awards. This cycle happened many years ago at the two largest state institutions.

WSU is approaching the \$10m milestone in externally funded work. This is a landmark for us, a signal that we are entering a new arena where we can successfully compete with many universities doing similar work. Our track record speaks for itself. The Office of Sponsored Projects is proud to be a part of this great university and support the faculty and staff who engage in externally funded work.

**Agency:** Utah State  
**Principal Investigator:** Jeff Morris  
**Proposed Amount:** \$ Unspecified

**Agency:** National Science Foundation  
**Principal Investigator:** Adolph Yonkee  
**Proposed Amount:** \$ 180,000

**Agency:** Utah Arts Council  
**Principal Investigator:** Bradee Johnsen  
**Proposed Amount:** \$ 5,000

**Agency:** Utah State Office of Education  
**Principal Investigator:** Julie Snowball  
**Proposed Amount:** \$ 10,000

**Agency:** Health and Human Services  
**Principal Investigator:** Richard Hooper  
**Proposed Amount:** \$ Unspecified

**Agency:** Utah Division of Water Quality  
**Principal Investigator:** John Cavitt  
**Proposed Amount:** Unspecified

**Agency:** National Institute of Health  
**Principal Investigator:** Aaron Ashley  
**Proposed Amount:** \$ 50,000

**Agency:** National Institute of Health  
**Principal Investigator:** Lauren Fowler  
**Proposed Amount:** \$ Unspecified

**Agency:** Department of Education  
**Principal Investigator:** Eddie Hoyle  
**Proposed Amount:** \$ 300,000

**Agency:** National Science Foundation  
**Principal Investigator:** Lauren Fowler  
**Proposed Amount:** \$ 78,883

**Agency:** Utah System of Higher Education  
**Principal Investigator:** Julie Snowball  
**Amount:** \$ 10,000  
**Title:** Perkins Leadership Subgrant – Aerospace Symposium  
**Synopsis:** Project will offer an Aerospace Symposium in the late spring of 2006 to introduce high school and university CTE students to the future opportunities of the aerospace industry in northern Utah.

**Agency:** BearingPoint, Inc.  
**Principal Investigator:** Laird Hartman  
**Amount:** \$ 537,360  
**Title:** Training Modules  
**Synopsis:** US Air Force training on Purchasing and Supply Chain Management across AF workforce.

**Agency:** Utah System of Higher Education  
**Principal Investigator:** Laird Hartman  
**Amount:** \$ 50,000  
**Title:** Jobs Now Initiative  
**Synopsis:** Provides funding assistance for additional students to attend the Utah Law Enforcement Academy (ULEA) at WSU and ultimately increase the pool of trained applicants in the state of Utah that would be eligible for employment in the law enforcement, corrections and probation/parole fields.

**Agency:** U.S. Department of the Interior; Bureau of Reclamation

**Due Date:** March 24, 2006

**Amount:** \$ 1-3 mil

**# of Awards:** Unspecified

**Synopsis:** Notice seeking proposals for reducing salinity contributions to the Colorado River. Preference will be given to projects that are located in the Colorado River Basin above Hoover Dam and control over 1,000 tons per year of salt loading.

<http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&oppld=7487>

**Agency:** U.S. Department of Defense; U.S. Department of the Army; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; U.S. Army Humphreys Engineer Center Support Activity.

**Due Date:** March 9, 2006

**Amount:** \$ 1 mil

**# of Awards:** Unspecified

**Synopsis:** Notice seeking pre-proposals for environmental technologies in the following topics: Military Munitions Detection, Discrimination, and Remediation; Range Sustainment; Remediation of Contaminated Groundwater; and Remediation of Contaminated Sediments.

<http://www.fbo.gov/spg/USA/COE/DACA72/BAA%2D06%2D0004/SynopsisP.html>

**Agency:** United States Department of Agriculture; Natural Resources Conservation Service

**Due Date:** March 20, 2006

**Amount:** \$ 20 mil

**# of Awards:** 50

**Synopsis:** Notice seeking proposals in the following CIG components: Natural Resource Concerns; Technology; and the Chesapeake Bay Watershed.

<http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&REVNUM=0>

**Agency:** National Endowment for the Arts

**Due Date:** March 13, 2006

**Amount:** \$ 5,000-\$150,000

**# of Awards:** Unspecified

**Synopsis:** Notice seeking applications for the Access to Artistic Excellence program. This program encourages and supports artistic creativity, preserves diverse cultural heritage, and makes the arts more widely available in communities throughout the country.

<http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&oppld=7554>

**Agency:** National Eye Institute; National Institute of Allergy & Infectious Diseases; National Institute of Arthritis & Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases; National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences; National Institute of General Medical Sciences; National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke

**Due Date:** April 11, 2006

**Amount:** \$ 10 mil

**# of Awards:** 10-15

**Synopsis:** Seeking applications for Countermeasures against Chemical Threats (CounterACT) Cooperative Research Projects. Letters of intent are optional and due March 10, 2006. <http://grants1.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-NS-06-004.html>

**Agency:** Directorate for Education and Human Resources; Division of Undergraduate Education

**Due Date:** April 12, 2006

**Amount:** \$ 50 mil

**# of Awards:** 110

**Synopsis:** PA announcing grants to institutions of higher education to support scholarships for academically talented, financially needy students, enabling them to enter the workforce following completion of an associate, baccalaureate, or graduate level degree in science and engineering disciplines. Letters of intent are optional and due March 15, 2006.

<http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2006/nsf06527/nsf06527.htm>

**Agency:** U.S. Department of Energy; National Energy Technology Laboratory

**Due Date:** March 21, 2006

**Amount:** \$ 2.6 mil

**# of Awards:** 5

**Synopsis:** Master announcement notice seeking cost-shared applications for research and development efforts to enhance and sustain the domestic supply of natural gas. The overall goal for this announcement should be to work towards the demonstration of the technology at a commercially scalable size. There are two areas of interest: Electronics and drilling technologies.

<http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&oppld=7696>

**Agency:** Environmental Protection Agency; Office of Water

**Due Date:** March 10, 2006

**Amount:** \$800,000

**# of Awards:** 1

**Synopsis:** Notice seeking applications in support of a new tribal project that will establish a national Tribal Water Program Council (Council). The Council is intended to promote information exchange, facilitate the exposure of tribal water program employees to best management practices for addressing water quality concerns, and encourage the enhancement of tribal water protection program development and implementation.

[http://www.epa.gov/water/downloads/twpc\\_rfc.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/water/downloads/twpc_rfc.pdf)

**Agency:** U.S. Department of Education; Office of Postsecondary Education

**Due Date:** March 9, 2006

**Amount:** \$ 12 mil

**# of Awards:** 4

**Synopsis:** Notice seeking applications to support early college preparation and awareness activities for low-income students.

<http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&opId=7707>

**Agency:** U.S. Department of Education; Office of Postsecondary Education

**Due Date:** March 10, 2006

**Amount:** \$20.4 mil

**# of Awards:** 36

**Synopsis:** Notice seeking applications to assist HSI's to expand educational opportunities for, and improve the academic attainment of, Hispanic Students. The HSI Program grants also enable HSI's to expand and enhance their academic offerings, program quality, and institutional stability.

<http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/01jan2006/1800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2006/E6-829.htm>

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services; Health Resources & Services Administration

**Due Date:** March 31, 2006

**Amount:** \$ 5.1

**# of Awards:** 12

**Synopsis:** Notice seeking applications to provide training and technical assistance to potential and existing health centers and social services organizations to strengthen the consolidated health center program.

<http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&opId=7788>

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

**Due Date:** March 30, 2006

**Amount:** \$851,400

**# of Awards:** Unspecified

**Synopsis:** Notice seeking research applications to develop Urban Partnership Academic Centers of Excellence that are expected to actively foster an environment conducive to reciprocally beneficial collaborations among health scientists, social scientists and a targeted high-risk community with the common goal of reducing youth interpersonal violence, injury and death.

<http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&opId=7805>

**Agency:** National Aeronautics And Space Administration (NASA); Glenn Research Center

**Due Date:** March 20, 2006

**Amount:** \$Unspecified

**# of Awards:** Unspecified

**Synopsis:** Pre-solicitation notice seeking proposals for the fabrication of an electrically-heated, water-cooled, closed-loop Brayton electrical power system.

<http://www.fbo.gov/spg/NASA/GRC/OPDC20220/NNC06144158R/SynopsisP.html>

## Office of Sponsored Projects

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