

## Simplified Overhead Distribution Allocation

May 2021 rev.

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The following distribution schedule provides a uniform method for determining the allocation of indirect cost funds associated with research and other forms of externally sponsored collaborative activity.

For Funded Research (typically, federal and foundation funding) the Indirect Cost Rate is either established by RISD's federally negotiated rate agreement, currently 48.9, On-Campus and 22.7%, Off-Campus through 6/30/2024 or the rate designated by federal or non-federal sponsors and agreed to by RISD.

Where no rate is specified, we recommend negotiating with the sponsor an indirect cost rate of maximumly 48.9% and minimally 10%, as an institutional standard. Any other arrangements should be reviewed and agreed to by the Provost.

For Strategic Partnerships (typically, corporate partners sponsoring executive programs, studios, workshops, and travel programs, etc), Direct Costs (i.e. faculty compensation, teaching assistants, travel, publishing costs, external critics, materials, departmental administration) can be estimated with relative confidence based on past projects. Indirect costs are negotiated with the partner at a range around 30%.

Because some sponsoring agencies may not allow for overhead costs, a waiver may be required in such cases in order to secure a grant of significance. In those circumstances, RISD Research will make a recommendation to the Provost, based on an assessment of the programmatic and developmental advantages of the funding opportunity, weighed against its internal resources needs. If approved, the Provost will inform the SVP of Finance and Administration and the Comptroller prior to formal submission.

## Indirect Cost Allocation Matrix

<b>General Fund</b>	50%
<b>Provost's Fund</b> <i>Funds used at the discretion of the Provost to invest in further research and innovation initiatives.</i>	10%
<b>Research Advancement Funds</b> Principal Investigator(s) (P.I.) <i>Funds available to be used, at the discretion of the faculty member (PI), for purposes including conference attendance and related travel, research assistants, equipment, supplies and materials, budget overruns or disallowed project expenditures, to bridge project costs, grants or funding cycles, and to seed new projects.</i>	10%
<b>RISD Dean(s)</b> <i>Funds distributed based on Divisional population, to be used at the discretion of the Deans to seed new research initiatives and encourage advanced inquiry among faculty and students.</i>	15%
<b>RISD Research</b> <i>Funds offset the cost of maintaining an administrative infrastructure, including pre-award research development and post-award compliance, as well as support for a range of internally funded research and related activity (i.e. support Academic research and collaboration with non-profit partners, where adequate funds are not available with that partner).</i>	15%
<b>Total</b>	100%

### Unspent Funds

For unspent funds, not required to be returned to the sponsor, the PI may retain up to \$10,000 in a research account for use within 12 months. If those funds are not used within 12 months, they will be distributed according to the aforementioned Indirect Cost Allocation.