

## Summary

We will only pay the direct costs of research.

For universities, the UK higher education funding bodies provide funding for directly allocated and indirect costs associated with charity-funded research.

In England, this funding is called the Charity Research Support Fund. Similar funding is provided by the Scottish Funding Council, Higher Education Funding Council for Wales and the Northern Ireland government.

## What do we include?

The direct costs of the research include:

- staff salaries
- consumables
- animals
- travel
- equipment.

## What don't we include?

Organisations must cover overhead costs. They include:

- estates, eg building and premises
- research, technical and administrative staff whose time is shared across several projects
- administration, eg personnel, finance, library, and room hire.

## Why?

The principle behind FEC funding is that Research Organisations should indicate in their grant proposals the full economic cost of a project. Research Councils then pay a fixed percentage (80%) of this sum, which includes an attribution of the cost of academic staff time, and the institution's facilities, estates & indirect costs. This helps institutions to understand the full costs of the research they carry out and supports their research activities on a sustainable basis, with appropriate investment in research infrastructure, including buildings, facilities, and staff.

Where project studentship costs are paid on the grant, 100% of stipend and fees will be included, but these students must not be counted in the FTE when charging estates and indirect costs on the application form; nor should any investigator time be funded on the grant to cover provision for student supervision. Any other eligible resources requested for the project student as part of the grant proposal (such as equipment, travel, consumables) are funded at the standard 80% rate.

## What are the different headings you use?

Directly Incurred costs (DI) are those costs that are explicitly identifiable as arising from the conduct of the research, are charged on the basis of the cash amount spent and are verifiable and auditable from the accounting records.

Directly Allocated costs (DA) are shared costs charged on estimates, and do not represent directly auditable costs on a project-by-project basis. Other Directly Allocated includes costs of shared resources, such as pooled staff, infrastructure technicians and charge-out rates for equipment and major research facilities and animal costs (where there are no auditable records of use).

Indirect costs cover the costs of the Research Organisation's management and administrative services (including the personnel and finance departments, library, central computing and some departmental services); elements of academic research support time (including, for example, proposal preparation); and other research costs not directly chargeable to the grant (including general laboratory and office consumables, non-specialist computing costs and costs falling outside the grant period).

Can the costs of freeing up academic staff time for research, for example through teaching replacements, be requested?

No. FEC relates to research and the underlying principle is that the full cost of the research project should be calculated, including the cost of the researcher's time on the project. The cost of a teaching replacement is considered to be related to teaching, not research.

## Research costs in the NHS

For research conducted within the NHS, we follow AcoRD principles for non-commercial studies available [here](#)

For non-commercial studies the normal funding arrangements for research, NHS Treatment and NHS Support costs are:

- Research Costs - are usually met by grant funders through the award of a research grant. However, there are some specific research activities where, in England, the costs will be met by the Department of Health.
- NHS Treatment Costs - met through the normal commissioning process.
- NHS Support Costs - met from the R&D budget by the Health Departments of the United Kingdom.