

Costs of Sponsored Projects

Understanding Facilities and Administrative (F&A) Costs

Projects funded by external sponsors at CU Boulder result in new knowledge, technologies and creative work. Two fundamental components are involved in funding research and creative work: Direct Costs and Facilities and Administrative (F&A) Costs.

Direct Costs



Direct costs solely support and are traceable to a specific project. These costs may include laboratory supplies, research equipment, salary support for researchers and project directors, and travel. This is the core of university research, and it's also where the bulk of the sponsor investment is spent.

Facilities and Administrative (F&A) Costs



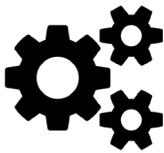
F&A costs cover a portion of the infrastructure necessary to conduct research (these costs cannot be readily identified to a specific project). These costs include utilities such as light and heat, telecommunications, and the administrative functions necessary to comply with regulations and conduct business.

What is included in Facilities and Administrative (F&A) Costs?



Operations & Maintenance

- Utilities (lights, heat, water, etc.)
- Custodial services
- Building and equipment maintenance
- Public safety
- Grounds and deferred maintenance
- Facilities Management Administration



General and Administrative Expenses

Costs associated with general and academic administration of benefit to the entire university, for example:

- Human Resources
- Accounting
- Information Technology
- Policy and Budget Analysis
- Academic Affairs



Library

- Running and maintaining the CU Boulder library system
- Purchase of new books
- Library administrative costs including, director, libraries and administrative staff, office supplies and other operating expenses



Building & Equipment Depreciation

- Depreciation for CU Boulder buildings and non-structural improvements
- Depreciation for capitalized equipment



Departmental Administration

- Research administrative costs of deans' department offices
- Administrative work of department chairs, faculty and other professional research and academic staff
- Other departmental support services and personnel including administrative staff, office supplies, postage and other operating expenses



Student Services Administration

Costs incurred for services to students, for example:

- Admissions
- Registrar
- Financial Aid
- Career Services
- Student Affairs



Sponsored Projects Administration

Costs incurred specifically for sponsored projects including:

- Sponsored projects accounting staff
- Research & Innovation Office
- Office of Contracts and Grants
- Animal Care Administration
- LASP Administration
- Research Compliance



Interest on Construction Bonds

- Interest costs incurred and identifiable to research buildings constructed after July 1, 1982