



## CYFS Policy on Non-F&A Generating Grant Proposals

The Nebraska Center for Research on Children, Youth, Families and Schools (CYFS)<sup>1</sup> recognizes that at times researchers are interested in submitting proposals to funders that prohibit or greatly limit indirect costs (also referred to as Facilities and Administrative [F&A] costs<sup>2</sup>) to be included in proposal budgets. In such cases (as per the funder's published policy), nominal costs will be added to grant budgets to cover actual expenses associated with research support activities incurred by the Center. These costs should be included in pre-award budget planning.

In most cases, the research support costs will equal 5% of the total direct costs, ensuring that costs to the grant are nominal yet aligned with actual costs incurred by CYFS to support grant projects. However, in cases where the budget and project execution will require significant effort associated with research operations, the lead grants specialist will review and determine if a rate higher than 5% is warranted. The higher rate then will be negotiated by the lead grants specialist with the PI. It is not expected that negotiated rates will exceed 15%.

Any requests to waive the research support costs (either fully or in part) must be made in writing to the CYFS lead grants specialist at least three weeks prior to the grant deadline.

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<sup>1</sup>The Nebraska Center for Research on Children, Youth, Families and Schools (CYFS) is a self-sustaining Program of Excellence at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. It provides a full-service experience for researchers submitting grant proposals (e.g., pre-award support including proposal development and coordination, budget development, methodology consultation, preparation of personnel and application documents) and executing funded research programs (e.g., post-award support for activities such as budget management, administrative and human resources, communications and media coverage, research technologies).

<sup>2</sup>Most (but not all) external sponsors allow a certain percentage of grant budgets to be allocated to facilities and administrative (F&A) research costs, also known as indirect costs or overhead. F&A represents the real costs of university operations that are not readily assignable to a particular project and are intended to cover a range of research support activities associated with conducting grant-funded projects.