

Tuition

OSPA NANO Session
9/20/06

Why does tuition matter?

- Budget too little and the department picks up the tab
- Budget too much and we loose out on indirect cost recovery
 - Note that tuition is one of the costs that are not subject to F&A (indirect costs) when using Modified Total Direct Costs (MTDC)

What is the “Super Secret” formula for calculating tuition?

- Tuition rates are set by the Board of Regents for each academic year
- The OSPA establishes an escalation rate to predict future years’ tuition costs by averaging the three previous years’ increases
- The current escalation rate is 5.6%
- OSPA provides a tuition table on the web with the current year’s tuition and future years increasing at the escalation rate

The Tuition Matrix

<http://www.ospa.iastate.edu/News/TuitionRates.aspx>

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Allowable Tuition Rates for Proposals
Effective 02/21/2006 (supersedes [previous rates](#))

see also, [Stipend Ranges](#)

Masters Student - Minimum Required **			
Academic Year (AY) = Summer, Fall, Spring			
Tuition Amount	Summer	Fall	Spring
AY 2005 - 2006	\$398	\$714	\$714
AY 2006 - 2007	\$413	\$742	\$742
AY 2007 - 2008	\$436	\$784	\$784
AY 2008 - 2009	\$460	\$827	\$827
AY 2009 - 2010	\$486	\$874	\$874
AY 2010 - 2011	\$513	\$923	\$923
AY 2011 - 2012	\$542	\$974	\$974

Masters Student - Maximum Allowed **			
Academic Year (AY) = Summer, Fall, Spring			

How Do I Read This Thing?

- Each line is broken out by the academic year, which happens to start with the Summer semester
- They are broken out between M.S. and Ph.D. students
- There is a minimum and maximum for M.S. and Ph.D. students

Minimum, Maximum & Match

- The Graduate College established a policy that states when a graduate student is put on a grant, a minimum amount of that student's tuition must be paid by the grant or some other funding
 - M.S. Minimum – 25% Maximum – 50%
 - Ph.D. Minimum – 50% Maximum – 100%

If the minimum amount is provided by the grant, then the Grad College will match the other half so the maximum is paid for the student.

Recommendations

- OSPA recommends including the maximum amount of tuition when it is an allowable cost
 - This frees up more funding for the Graduate College to offer non-research appointments such as Teaching Assistants
- If the grant will not allow tuition, it will have to come from some other source (PI Incentive, Departmental/College account)

Common Errors

- The semesters for which tuition is included do not match the period of the project
- Tuition is not included in the budget when it is an allowable expense
- Tuition is included in the budget when it is not an allowable expense
- Tuition is included with salary & benefits (it should be in Other unless the sponsor has a specific category for tuition/student support costs)

Questions?

