

Facilities and Administrative (F&A) Costs

Office of the Associate Dean for
Graduate Education and Research



PennState
College of Earth
and Mineral Sciences

Project Costs

- **Direct costs**: costs that can be identified specifically with a particular final cost objective, with a high degree of accuracy, and directly benefit the project
- **Indirect costs**, also called **Facilities & Administrative costs (F&A)** or **overhead costs**: costs that occur for a common or joint objective and cannot be easily and specifically identified to a particular sponsored project



Image Source: https://www.pinterest.com/pin/492018328029825981/?nic_v2=1a5Cn2uLg



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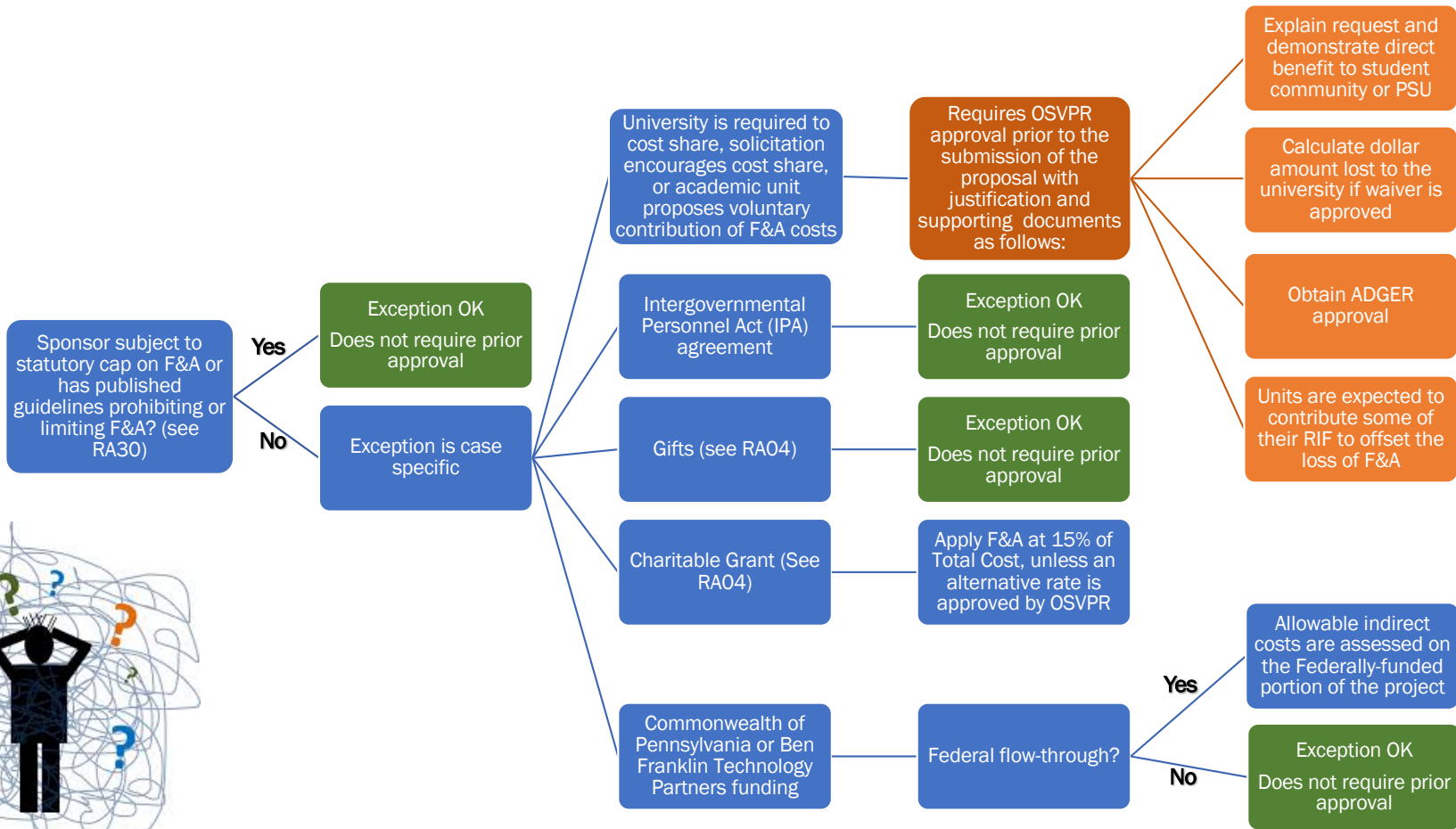
F&A Rates

- F&A rates are determined by an agreement with the federal government in accordance with the Code of Federal regulation
- Negotiated every 2-4 years with our cognizant federal agency, the Office of Naval Research
- Different F&A rates apply to different types of funded project (Research, Instruction, Outreach)

Type	On Campus (7/1/20 – 6/30/21)	Off Campus (7/1/20 – 6/30/21)
Research	60.50%	26.00%



F&A exceptions for not-for-profit or governmental [non-foreign] sponsors



F&A policies for private companies and foreign governments

- The university is responsible for ensuring that Federal sponsors do not subsidize indirect (F&A) costs of activities sponsored by industry and foreign governments.
- Penn State charges an additional 5% F&A on industrial-sponsored projects.
- Industry Membership Agreements are assessed at 15% Total Costs for F&A. See RA04 and RAG05



Image Source: <https://refinedimpact.com/do-your-office-policies-promote-a-happy-workplace/>



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Links to Additional Resources

- Referenced Policies

RA30 Facilities and Administrative (F&A) Costs:

<https://policy.psu.edu/policies/ra30>

RA04 Gifts, Grants and Contracts (The Funding Matrix):

<https://policy.psu.edu/policies/ra04>

RAG05 Establishing Research Institutes, Consortia, and Centers:

<https://policy.psu.edu/policies/rag05>

- OSP Guidance

F&A FAQ: <https://www.research.psu.edu/node/725>



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