

MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 1, 2023
TO: MPRC Faculty Associates and Department Chairs
FROM: Michael S. Rendall, Director, Maryland Population Research Center
SUBJECT: Updated MPRC Policy on Drif/Credit Allocation for Population Research Grants and Contracts Following Receipt of an MPRC Seed Grant

One of the primary goals of the Maryland Population Research Center (MPRC) is to promote **investigator-initiated research in population science**. Experienced researchers assist junior faculty and first-time proposal writers in developing a research plan. The Center's administrative staff is trained to handle the requisite paper work, budget preparation, and shepherding of the proposal through the various administrative levels so that researchers can devote the bulk of their time to writing the science. The MPRC also provides Seed Grants to investigators to help get them started on a successful grant proposal.

When a grant is successful and the project is administered by the Center, investigators can be assured that all project-related business is completed in a timely manner. Post-award management may include payroll set-up for university personnel, preparation of purchase orders, collaborative arrangements with other universities or foreign collaborators, monthly reconciliation and reporting of project expenses, as well as assistance for submission of IRB applications and renewals and support for timely submission of annual reports to the sponsor. MPRC post-award management relieves the investigator of the administrative burden so that work can be devoted to the science.

A condition of receiving an MPRC Seed Grant has been that the Seed Grant recipient have any resulting external grant proposal be submitted and managed through MPRC. More recently, Seed Grants have been awarded with the modified wording: "unless otherwise agreed with the MPRC Director" and in cases where MPRC has not submitted or managed the external grant proposal, CREDIT / DRIF allocations have been agreed with MPRC on an *ad hoc* basis. After consultation with UMD college / school and unit leaders of units with MPRC Faculty Associates, we have agreed to simplify these exceptions to a policy whereby the Seed Grant recipient agrees to allocate to MPRC 15% of the research project's CREDIT and DRIF allocation when resulting external proposals are prepared, submitted and administered by the home unit. As before, the Seed Grant recipient is asked to cc their Unit Head of their agreement to this and other standard conditions of accepting an MPRC Seed Grant. This updated policy is now codified in the updated "Maryland Population Research Center Policy on CREDIT / DRIF Allocation" (see next page).

Maryland Population Research Center

Policy on CREDIT / DRIF Allocation

Updated April 1, 2023

The Maryland Population Research Center (MPRC) requires that Faculty Associates who use MPRC research services, or whose external grant/contract submission result from an MPRC Seed Grant award, assign a portion of their population-related research project's CREDIT and DRIF allocation to MPRC as follows:

15% A Research proposal that is prepared and submitted through MPRC's Administrative Office, or a Research proposal that results from an MPRC Seed Grant award but that is not prepared and submitted through MPRC; 85% will be allocated to their home unit(s).

25% A Research award that is prepared, submitted, and administered by MPRC post-award; 75% will be allocated to their home unit(s).

The following assume that MPRC also prepared and submitted the award:

35% A Research award that is administered by MPRC and contains one or more U.S. subcontract agreements; 65% will be allocated to their home unit(s).

50% A Research award that is administered by MPRC and contains one or more foreign subcontract agreements; 50% will be allocated to their home unit(s).

This CREDIT / DRIF allocation **will be designated on the University's proposal routing form** and Faculty, Department Chairs, and College Deans will be asked to sign off on the routing form. The Credit / Drif split is project-specific. Each investigator who is an MPRC Faculty Associate will assign this Credit / Drif split as required by the above percentages. If an investigator has more than one appointment, s/he may divide the department's % between these departments. MPRC staff will assist in preparing the routing form to correctly allocate project Credit / DRIF.

The percentages listed are the percentage of DRIF re-allocation that is returned to departments and to MPRC. The total DRIF is roughly 16% of the overall indirect costs that are generated by research projects expenses.

Please note that MPRC grant support (seed grants, proposal preparation and post award management) is only available to MPRC Faculty Associates.

Examples of a range of proposals and their Credit/DRIF implication follow.

Note that all scenarios assume that project expenses are incurred as anticipated.

Scenario #1: R03 proposal submitted to NIH with a budget of \$50k direct costs per year; 56% indirect cost rate; Proposal prepared & submitted through MPRC; Project to be managed by the PI's home department.

The Routing Form Credit / DRIF allocation is completed as follows:

85% Credit / DRIF assigned to the PI's home department. Using the above assumptions, this project will generate approximately \$28,000 annually in indirect cost (56% of \$50,000); Department DRIF recovery is estimated at 16% of total indirect cost generated (16% of \$28,000 = \$4,480). Department DRIF recovery is estimated at 85% of \$4,480 or \$3,808 per year.

15% Credit / DRIF assigned to MPRC for proposal preparation and submission; using the above assumption, MPRC will receive approximately \$672 (15% of \$4,480) in DRIF per year.

Scenario #2: Proposal submitted to the Gates Foundation; \$500k direct costs per year; 10% indirect cost rate; MPRC prepares, submits, and manages this project post-award.

Routing Form Credit / DRIF allocation is completed as follows:

75% Credit / DRIF assigned to the PI's home department. Using the above assumptions, this project will generate approximately \$50,000 in indirect cost (10% of \$500,000); Department DRIF recovery is estimated at 16% of total indirect cost generated (16% of \$50,000 = \$8,000). Department DRIF recovery is estimated at 75% of \$8,000 or \$6,000 per year.

25% Credit / DRIF assigned to MPRC for proposal preparation, submission and post-award management; MPRC will receive approximately \$2,000 (25% of \$8,000) in DRIF per year.

Scenario #3: R01 proposal submitted to NIH with a budget of \$200k direct costs per year; contains a subcontract agreement with the University of Michigan; 56% indirect cost rate; MPRC prepares, submits, and manages this grant post-award.

Routing Form Credit / DRIF allocation is completed as follows:

65% Credit / DRIF assigned to the PI's home department. Using the above assumptions, this project will generate approximately \$112,000 in indirect cost (56% of \$200,000); Department DRIF recovery is estimated at 16% of total indirect cost generated (16% of \$112,000 = \$17,920). Department DRIF recovery is estimated at 65% of \$17,920 or \$11,648 per year.

35% Credit / DRIF assigned to MPRC for proposal preparation and submission; MPRC will receive approximately \$6,272 (35% of \$17,920) in DRIF per year.

Scenario #4: R21 proposal submitted to NIH with a budget of \$275k direct costs per year; contains 2 subcontract agreements: one in South Africa and one in India; 56% indirect cost rate; MPRC prepares, submits, and manages this project post-award.

Routing Form Credit / DRIF allocation completed is as follows:

50% Credit / DRIF assigned to the PI's home department. Using the above assumptions, this project will generate approximately \$154,000 in indirect cost (56% of \$275,000); Department DRIF recovery is estimated at 16% of total indirect cost generated (16% of \$154,000 = \$24,640). Department DRIF recovery is estimated at 50% of \$24,640 or \$12,320 per year.

50% Credit / DRIF assigned to MPRC for proposal preparation and submission; MPRC will receive approximately \$12,320 (50% of \$24,640) in DRIF per year.