College of Education Policy On Effort Supported By Organized Sponsored Research

Effective November 28, 2017

Definitions: Organized Sponsored Research and Related Faculty Effort (Buyout)

Organized sponsored research is research for which an external funder (e.g. a state or federal agency or private foundation) provides financial support. Often faculty members associated with an organized sponsored research project, or faculty investigators, secure a part of a total budget for an organized sponsored research project for their work effort on a project. Work effort supported by organized sponsored research is sometimes referred to as buyout of faculty investigator time. Buyout translates into organized sponsored funds (usually to support research) being used to support work effort in lieu of other university- or college-funds that would typically be used to pay that part of a faculty investigator’s salary. For instance, faculty investigators may desire to buy out of a teaching obligation (e.g. a course in the faculty investigator’s typical yearly teaching assignment) to do the research work promised to and supported by a funder.

Specifics of College Policy Concerning Teaching-related Buyouts Against a 9- or 12-Month Contract That Includes Teaching FTE

The OSU College of Education requires that faculty investigators budget for 10% of total salary, plus associated OPE (other payroll expenses, including benefits) for every course they wish as buyout via organized sponsored research funds. This policy is the same for faculty members on 9-month and 12-month appointments. Buyout is for a single 3- or 4-credit course.

Requests for considerations of exceptions to the policy rate (e.g. for buying out of courses other than 3 or 4 credits, or buyouts subject to limitations of the funder regarding faculty work effort support) should be advanced to the Associate Dean of Research, who will make a final decision concerning the final buyout rate.

A faculty member may buyout of multiple teaching obligations in any given academic year, but not all teaching obligations in an academic year; all faculty members who hold a distribution of effort that includes at least 0.1 FTE teaching must teach at least one course/year.
If a grant is awarded to a faculty investigator that includes buyout, then the faculty investigator must provide the College official notice three terms prior to the intended buyout, in order to allow the College time to find a teaching replacement. The faculty investigator must notify her/his supervisor via the form found at:

http://education.oregonstate.edu/sites/education.oregonstate.edu/files/request_for_course_buyout_0.pdf

The faculty investigator’s supervisor will then liaise with the program Chair and Lead, but it is ultimately the faculty investigator’s responsibility to make sure the appropriate Chair and Lead are in the know towards moving to schedule a replacement.

**Specifics of College Policy Concerning Summer Work Effort for Faculty Investigators On 9-Month Contracts**

Faculty investigators on 9-month contracts securing a part of a total budget for an organized sponsored research project for their work effort during summer months must budget 11.11% of total 9-month salary, plus associated OPE for every 1 month of summer work effort. Summer work effort support, in the case of faculty investigators on a 9-month contract, is not considered buyout.

**Where to Find Relevant OPE Rates For Budget Calculations**

OSU OPE rates, for various appointment types, can be found at:

http://research.oregonstate.edu/osraa/forms-and-rates/ope-information-and-rates