Uncommitted Cost Sharing

Example:

A PI is preparing a proposal budget. For the salary budget, the PI included their own estimated effort and the estimated effort of the Co-PI, research assistants, and technicians.

For competitive purposes, the PI also wants to mention a famous professor and include this professor in the budget by stating “Dr. Jones is available to consult on this project as required.”

Question:

How should Dr. Jones’ effort be treated?

Answer:

Since Dr. Jones’ effort was not committed to the sponsored project, it will be treated as Voluntary Uncommitted Cost Sharing, which does not need to be tracked.

However, if Dr. Jones’ contribution becomes significant so that it results in a change in effort distribution (normally over 5%), the amount of increase needs to be reflected in all effort certification and tracked in the cost sharing chartfield.