



Sponsored Programs Administration Handbook Case Study Topic: Cost Sharing

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.