

	Cost Sharing Policy	Responsible Administrative Unit: Office of the Senior Vice President for Research and Technology Transfer
	Issued: 10/14/2015 Revised: 10/14/2015	Policy Contact: Director of Research Development: kinzel@mines.edu

1.0 BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

To support faculty in fulfilling their research responsibilities, the university provides institutional funds to support a wide range of research activities and needs. In addition, some government programs and philanthropic foundations require that the university bear a portion of the direct cost of research through Cost Sharing as a condition of receiving awards.

The purpose of this policy is to establish the constraints on, and approval authorization for, cost sharing commitments on research proposals. It is intended to streamline approval processes and stimulate creative ideas for increasing funded research by encouraging Department Heads and College Deans to take an active role in planning and executing broad-based research strategies,.

2.0 POLICY

The university supports the following general forms of Cost Sharing. The first three are proposal-specific and, in each case, must be carefully targeted, justified by exceptional circumstances, done creatively to minimize impact on the general fund, and comply with state and federal regulations. Subject to guidelines published by the VPRTT, these forms of cost sharing may be approved as indicated.

- **Cash and In-Kind Cost Sharing** — The VPRTT Cost Sharing Guidelines authorize Department Heads and Center Directors to approve cost sharing using resources they control, such as Department/Center IDC Return, teaching relief and in-kind contributions. Requests for additional cost sharing will be submitted to the College Deans who are authorized to approve use of resources under their control, including IDC Return, facilities and services.
- **Reduced IDC Rate** — Reduced IDC Rates are contributions from the General Fund and will be documented (for internal purposes) as cost sharing. They must be approved by the appropriate College Dean or VPRTT and, in certain circumstances, other Vice Presidents or the President as outlined in the Reduced IDC Guidelines.
- **Major Research Initiation - IDC Return to the VPRTT budget** for research initiation supports major new initiatives that address institutional goals. It may be used to assist with planning and proposal preparation as well as selected post-award expenditures. Requests for research initiation support may be submitted to the VPRTT by the appropriate College Dean(s) as outlined in the Research Initiation Guidelines.
- **Comprehensive Institutional Support** - To achieve the Board of Trustees' goal of being a global leader in the earth, energy and the environment, the university provides financial support for a wide range of research activities. These commitments are summarized in the Institutional Support for Research Guidelines, are part of the institutional budget and are subject to review and change during the annual budget cycle.