

SIP Questions/Answers raised during the June 2015 AU SPAN Meeting

Q: Can a Frequently Asked Questions page be made available online?

A: Amanda Malone, Special Assistant to the Provost for Budget Management, can answer questions about the existing policy and new implementation guidelines. The policy and guidelines are available at http://www.auburn.edu/academic/provost/announcements/Scholarship_Incentive_Program.html

Q: Can investigators change their percent allocation each year of a multi-year project?

A: Yes. However, changes for faculty allocations will not be processed unless the change involves new, resigned, terminated or retired investigators or includes a modification to the awarded amount or scope of work that impacts an Investigator's effort on a project.

Q: What should unit-level implementation guidelines include?

A: College/school/unit-level implementation guidelines must include the minimum elements outlined in the FY15 implementation guidelines. Each college/school/unit can include other criteria as needed. Any internal revenue/cost sharing agreements (i.e. salary savings agreements, indirect cost recovery agreements) that would reduce the SIP payment amount should be included in the college/school/unit-level guidelines.

Q: How will the SIP award eligibility criteria be determined for sponsors without a specific award amount or with an estimated contract ceiling (such as a payment-upon-services-rendered agreement or a task order contract)?

A: The amount invoiced and paid by the end of the fiscal year for services-rendered agreements or the amount of each individual task order awarded under a task order contract will determine the eligibility and payment percentages for each investigator. Allocation credit to each investigator may reduce the SIP payment percentage for each participating investigator.

Q: If an investigator has a \$1M sponsored project and charges 2% of his/her time to the project, is he/she eligible for a SIP payment equal to 20% of his/her annual salary?

A: No. Assuming both faculty and sponsored project eligibility guidelines are met, the SIP payment will not exceed the amount of salary savings generated or 20% of his/her annual salary, whichever is lower. In this example, the SIP payment will not exceed 2% of his/her annual salary.