2018 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
Faculty Development-Technology Transfer (FD-TT) PROGRAM
RFP Number: 18-6135
Frequently Asked Questions
(Received through 11/5/18)

- *The definition of indirect costs in this RFA is something I have never seen before and is causing confusion. Indirect costs are typically "overhead costs" – not salaries and fringe benefits as defined here.*
    - Indirect Cost is derived from OMB Circular A-87, §F.1 (Cost Principles for State, Local and Indian Tribal Governments, Indirect Costs). There are (is) no allowance for 'Overhead Costs'.
        - From OMB Circular A-87, §F.1: General. Indirect costs are those: (a) incurred for a common or joint purpose benefiting more than one cost objective, and (b) not readily assignable to the cost objectives specifically benefitted, without effort disproportionate to the results achieved. The term "indirect costs," as used herein, applies to costs of this type originating in the grantee department, as well as those incurred by other departments in supplying goods, services, and facilities. To facilitate equitable distribution of indirect expenses to the cost objectives served, it may be necessary to establish a number of pools of indirect costs within a governmental unit department or in other agencies providing services to a governmental unit department. Indirect cost pools should be distributed to benefitted cost objectives on bases that will produce an equitable result in consideration of relative benefits derived.

- *Are overhead costs allowed? If yes, at what rate?*
    - No – see aforenoted answer.

- *We are applying for the technology transfer incentive program. I understand that we must complete Budget forms one and two. Is it also necessary to enter the same budget information into the Grants Gateway budget form?*
    - Yes – however, only involving budget categories permitted under Section I.E.2 (i.e., Travel, Contractual Services and Other).
        - NOTE: The following Gateway categories and/or Budget Form One categories are NOT ALLOWED under the Technology Transfer Incentive Program (Indirect Costs and Tuition). Enter a zero ("0") in each of these categories.

            Expenses that were not listed in the RFP (under the "Activities to be Supported with ESD Funds" section) as acceptable but funding could be allocated towards include: Personnel Costs (Salary & Fringe), Equipment, Materials & Supplies, and Operating Expenses. Applicants must demonstrate that technology transfer could not occur without these expenses being covered by this award and demonstrate that the amount requested is necessary to increase the likelihood of a success project.

- *I earned a PhD a few years back in geography, developed 3D, animated maps for studying and teaching NYS topography, trade, and transportation (canals and railroads). I'm interested in commercializing some of that technology, most immediately a mobile app for exploring historic maps and imagery. Would a TT grant be available for such a purpose? And would it need to go through my academic institution? I have an LLC to start commercializing some of my PhD research ideas.*
    - Yes – The Technology Transfer program seeks commercialization of intellectual property from (held by) a University through a project with a New York State company; however, the IP being commercialized must be from (held by) the University at the start. Likewise, if University is the legal owner of the IP, then this is (will be) the Applicant academic institution, with your company as its company partner named in the proposal.

- *We have the following question for the Faculty Development and Technology Transfer Program. Regarding Appendix B, Letter of Attestation- Retention: What type of written documentation regarding a bona fide solicitation of employment will the Applicant Institution be required to have on file within six months of the proposal submission deadline?*
    - There is no prescribed type or form of written documentation regarding a bona fide solicitation of employment, this is left to the respective Applicant Institution's document control practices.