Frequently Asked Questions

1. **When was the new policy on indirect cost implemented?**

   The policy for Distribution of Recovered Indirect Costs (IDC) was effective from and after July, 2014.

2. **What awards, grants, and other projects fall under this new policy?**

   Any "NEW" award received on or after July 01, 2014 will be administered by this new IDC policy.

3. **What are the new percentages of this new IDC policy?**

   University General Fund - 35%
   Division of Research and Federal Relations - 20%
   College or Administrative Unit - 15%
   Department/Unit of the Principal Investigator (PI) - 15%
   PI Research Incentive Account - 5%
   Institutional Investment in Research Fund - 10%

4. **What are the objectives of the Division of Research and Federal Relation's strategic plan?**

   * To integrate college deans and other administrative units into the university’s strategic research plan and recovered indirect costs distribution;

   * To incentivize principal investigators to expand their research capabilities and potential for greater research productivity; and

   * To develop an Institutional Investment in Research Fund that enhances and strengthens the university’s research culture and increases its research portfolio of large-scale and multi-disciplinary sponsored programs.

5. **Is a research strategic plan required prior to expending indirect cost funds under this new policy?**

   Yes. It must also be approved by the appropriate university staff. All expenditures must be in accordance to your approved plan.
6. **What are the reporting requirements of the indirect cost funds?**

The Division of Research and Federal Relations will require each recipient of the recovered indirect costs funds to provide an annual report on the expenditures, specifically as related to the impact on their approved Research Strategic Plan.

7. **What is the anticipated life of these indirect cost funds?**

Principal investigators will have 2 years to expend these funds. Funds not expended within two years of the grant end date or not provided to the principal investigator for performance reasons will be deposited in the Institutional Investment in Research Fund.

8. **Is 5% of an awarded project automatically placed into the PI Research Incentive Account?**

No. The recovery of indirect cost is based on actual expenditures. For example, if a project is awarded at $100,000 and only $50,000 was expended during the entire period of performance, the PI would recover only $2,500 in his/her incentive account.

9. **How often will JSU evaluate the progress regarding the use of these funds?**

At the end of each fiscal year, a committee comprised of the Provost, VP of Research and Federal Relations, VP of Business and Finance, and the Research Council will evaluate the progress being made towards accomplishing the goals and objectives of their respective strategic plans.

10. **What other circumstances should I know about this new policy on the distribution of indirect costs?**

Because F&A funds are awarded to the university, JSU reserves the right to change this policy at any time or to make exceptions to it on an individual basis.