

RSCA (Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity) F&A Reinvestment Program.

Principles guiding the RSCA F&A Reinvestment Program are in the [SJSU's RSCA Plan: Faculty and Student Intellectual Engagement and Performance](#) document. The Academic Affairs division derives the funding for the reinvestment program from monies reimbursed by the SJSU Research Foundation (RF) from grant overheads (known as Facilities & Administrative, F&A, or indirect costs) to the university after covering RF grant management costs and other mandatory university expenses. Annually the SJSU RF Board of Directors determines the reimbursement amount to the campus as required in [Board Resolution 210](#) , and as the Provost's designee, the AVP of Research oversees the RSCA F&A Reinvestment Program described here. Deployment of the RSCA F&A Reinvestment Program will occur in spring 2017 and distributions will be made twice a year into dedicated F&A accounts held by the Research Foundation for each recipient.

The RSCA F&A Reinvestment Program serves as one important financial source to implement and sustain initiatives for the RSCA agenda from department, college and university perspectives. The expected goal is to improve the tools to engage students and faculty, but also to favor interdisciplinary collaborations and enhancing beneficial impacts in the community or beyond. The overall objective from a university perspective is to continue to grow SJSU external funding for RSCA through a sustainable mechanism generated from the success of the initiatives developed at the department, college and university levels. Distributions are from this program according to the following percentages (based on their grant overhead revenue contributions):

- 15 percent to the principal investigator
- 15 percent to the principal investigator's department
- 55 percent to the principal investigator's college
- 15 percent to the Office of Research for central RSCA support programs

Maximizing funding for RSCA F&A Reinvestment Program.

SJSU and the federal government determine F&A reimbursement rates based on the university's real costs, but not all funding agencies or sponsors reimburse at these levels. The current portfolio of grants not recovering even enough F&A funds to pay for the RF share of the costs results in an annual subsidy by the university of \$1.3 million required to fund this shortfall. In order to assure robust funding for the RSCA F&A Reinvestment Program, the subsidy for grants unable to recover their RF administrative costs will be reduced to 67 percent of the current level over the next three years (stepped down from 100% to 89%, to 78% to 67%). To achieve this goal, a representative committee will evaluate monthly those proposals requiring subsidies using a rubric to assess alignment with strategic university priorities, including the [Four Pillars of Student Success](#). Submission of proposals rated as low alignment still could occur if the principal investigator secures other appropriate funding to cover RF grant management and mandatory university expenses.

It is important to note that the RSCA F&A Reinvestment program is only one arm of the RSCA funding available at the university. Other funds ([RSCA Infusion funds](#) and SJSU-funded and CSU-funded central RSCA grant programs) are also RSCA investments (but do not rely on F&A funds) to support and stimulate RSCA in the range of disciplines at SJSU including those with few external grant opportunities.