NIH Policy Regarding Tuition on T32s

Mar 13, 2018

Q. Our T32 is to support 4 postdoctoral trainees. What should we budget for tuition?

A. Majority of UCSF postdocs are not in a degree seeking program, and do not incur tuition and fees. However, if there is required course work that supports the training program, NIH will cover part of the cost. On the proposal budget include the complete cost of the course work. NIH will AWARD 60% of the tuition and fees or up to $4500 per trainee (for non-degree seeking postdoctoral trainees). In the proposal, include a justification for the course and be prepared to provide justification, or proof of costs during JIT. NIH GPS 11.3.8.3

If the UCSF postdoc is in a degree-seeking program that has associated tuition/fees, then the full actual tuition costs (excluding health insurance) should be reflected in the tuition section of the budget. It is important that you do NOT include health insurance as part of the tuition and fees as health insurance should be accounted for in training related expenses and included in the indirect cost base. NIH will only AWARD 60% of the tuition or up to $16,000 (for degree-seeking scholars). NIH GPS 11.3.8.3

Q. Our T32 supports 4 predoctoral trainees. What should we budget for tuition?

A. NIH policy states that you should put on the budget the full actual tuition costs. You can find the current tuition rates here. It is important that you do NOT include health insurance as part of the tuition and fees as health insurance should be accounted for in training related expenses and included in the indirect cost base. NIH will only AWARD 60% of the tuition or up to $16,000. NIH GPS 11.3.8.3

Q. A new Postdoc is being added to a T32 who is taking a biostatics course at UC Berkeley to support her training. Can the funds from the T32 be used to cover the cost of the course work if it wasn’t included in the original budget?

A. Tuition at the postdoctoral level requires NIH awarding IC prior approval. NIH GPS 11.3.8.3 While additional funds can be request to cover the costs of the tuition, it may not be awarded.

Q. Can we rebudget funds to cover the cost of tuition?

A. Unless otherwise restricted in the NOA, rebudgeting into or within stipends and tuition/fees is allowable. However, rebudgeting from stipend or tuition/fees to other categories requires prior approval. NIH GPS 11.3.1.9