

Programme grants/overheads

The University of Bayreuth provides its researchers with wide-ranging support in carrying out their research projects. One contribution to this is the possibility of using part of the individually obtained programme grant to cover **indirect project expenses** incurred at the respective institutes.

Funding for individual research is on an equal footing with group research. Both are also strengthened by a new internal funding pool at the University of Bayreuth. This is intended to incentivize and encourage coordinated collaborative projects or individual applications for third-party funding.

The programme grants serve to structurally maintain and promote the performance and competitiveness of German universities in the long term. Programme grants/overheads or other lump sums to cover overheads incurred in the project (indirect project costs) must be applied for from the funding provider if the latter offers the possibility. Indirect project expenses may arise, for example, from the infrastructure used in the course of project implementation (e.g. expenses for maintenance, software or energy consumption) or from the cooperation of persons who are not billed as project personnel (e.g. administration). Due to changes in Bavarian budgetary law, it has been necessary since 1 January 2023 to collect programme grants/overheads and similar funds via the corresponding revenue title of the university. This income is therefore no longer directly allocated to third-party funding.

The project managers are provided with funds to cover the indirect project costs incurred at their institutes (if the third-party funding provider approves programme grants or similar funds to cover indirect project costs). The funds may be used for purposes in accordance with the positive list applicable to the scientific sector that are indirectly related to the project. The project manager is responsible for ensuring that the funds are used for the intended purpose. Under no circumstances may the project grant be used for expenditure that could be claimed as direct expenditure in relation to the project. When using the funds, please ensure that the programme grants/overheads etc. are only used in accordance with the specifications. Since November 2023, it has been necessary to document the expenditure before procurement and to confirm that it has been used in accordance with the specifications. This is done using the electronic documentation of indirect project expenditure (eDiP for short). You will find the link to the *eForm electronic documentation of indirect project expenditure (eDiP)* as well as the *Positive list for eDiP*, which must be observed, on the [intranet](#) (Finances Unit, External Funding).

Important information on processing and the new regulations can be found in the *FAQs on the topic of new regulations concerning indirect project expenditure* on the [intranet](#) (Finances Unit, External Funding).

The External Funding division within the Finances Unit will be happy to advise you. You will find the responsible contact persons at the end of this document.

1. DFG grants

Within the context of its third-party funding, the DFG provides a programme grant amounting to 22% of the project funds to cover indirect project costs. This is divided as follows:

Collaborative Research Centres, research groups with project coordination by UBT, Research Training Groups, and Clusters of Excellence:

- 40 % infrastructure fund/community fund*
- 20 % direct allocations to the scientific areas/speaker funds*
- 40 % centre for indirect project costs for general infrastructure

* for indirect project expenditure in accordance with the positive list

Those responsible for coordinated collaborative projects such as Collaborative Research Centres, Research Training Groups, and Clusters of Excellence will be informed separately of any additional regulations that apply.

Individual funding, external sub-project research group, international events:

- 50 % project management for indirect project expenditure in accordance with the positive list + eDiP
- 50 % centre for indirect project costs for general infrastructure

2. BMBF grants

The BMBF provides a project grant of 20% for project funding. This is divided as follows:

- 50 % project management for indirect project expenditure in accordance with the positive list + eDiP
- 50 % centre for indirect project costs for general infrastructure

3. EU grants

The EU provides an overhead of 25% for project funding under Horizon 2020. This is divided as follows:

- 50 % project management for indirect project expenditure in accordance with the positive list + eDiP
- 50 % centre for indirect project costs for general infrastructure

The regulations applicable to residual cost lump sums for ESF and EFRE projects will be communicated separately to those responsible.

4. Allocations from other funding providers

Some funding bodies (e.g. foundations) also allocate programme grants or make it possible to apply for these. If this is the case, these must also be applied for from the funding body. If programme grants or similar funds have been obtained to cover indirect project expenditure, these are allocated as follows:

- 50 % project management for indirect project expenditure in accordance with the positive list + eDiP
- 50 % centre for indirect project costs for general infrastructure

5. Contract research and scientific services

In the case of third-party funding income from contract research and scientific services, an overhead (share of overheads) of 20% must be calculated in the offer, 100% of which remains centrally to cover indirect costs of the general infrastructure. These projects differ from the projects listed under points 1 - 4 in that the University of Bayreuth provides a service as part of its commercial activities. In this case, the University does not fulfil a state/sovereign task and these services are once again more strictly regulated by the lawmakers: According to the Union Framework for State Aid for Research, Development and Innovation (Commission Communication of 27 June 2014), the inadmissibility of cross-subsidizing commercial services from state budget funds results in the need to calculate the aforementioned overheads.

Contact persons:

Division II/1.1.4 - Third-party funding management

- Item 1 - DFG: Wolfgang Haberzeth, Denise Meier
- Item 2 - BMBF: Karl-Heinz Merscher, Ina Schneider
- Item 3 - EU: Harald Meier
- Item 4 - Other funding providers: Petra Heißler, N. N. (DAAD)
- Item 5 - Contract research and scientific services: Division II/1.1.5 – Commercial activities and taxes