



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
ACQUISITION AND GRANTS OFFICE

September 19, 2018

Mr. J. Ru Morrison, Ph.D.
Executive Director NERACOOS
Northeastern Regional Association of Coastal Ocean Observing Systems (NERACOOS)
195 New Hampshire Ave, Suite 240
Portsmouth NH 03801

Reference: Indirect Cost Negotiation Agreement

Dear Dr. Morrison:

Based on the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's review, we are approving an indirect cost rate for the year ended September 30, 2017. Subject to terms and conditions included in agreements underlying grants and contracts, and in cooperative agreements, the entity must use a rate no higher than 11.8% for billing purposes during the fiscal year ending September 30, 2018. Enclosed are two copies of the Indirect Cost Negotiation Agreement for signature by an authorized official of your organization.

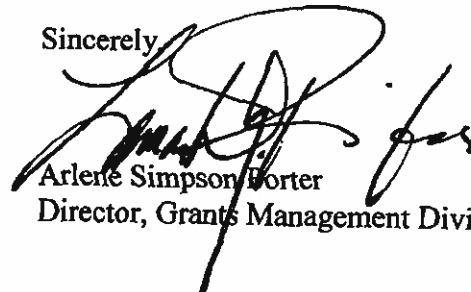
Please return one signed copy of the agreement to our office and retain the other for your files. Since the plan does not become effective until the agreement is signed by a duly authorized representative of the organization, please give this matter your immediate attention.

A signed copy of the negotiated agreement should be mailed to the following address:

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Grants Management Division
1325 East West Highway, 9th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910
Attn: Lamar Revis, Grants Officer

The agreement may also be emailed to lamar.revis@noaa.gov. A copy of this letter will be retained in your organization's official award file. If you have any questions, please email Mr. Revis. He can also be reached at 301.628.1308.

Sincerely



Arlene Simpson Porter
Director, Grants Management Division

INDIRECT COST RATE AGREEMENT

DATE: May 8, 2018

ORGANIZATION:

Northeastern Regional Association of Coastal Ocean Observing Systems
195 New Hampshire Avenue, Suite 240
Portsmouth, New Hampshire 03801

The rates approved in this agreement are for use on grants, contracts and other agreements with the Federal Government, subject to the conditions in Section III.

SECTION I: INDIRECT COST RATE

RATE TYPES: FIXED FINAL PROVISIONAL PREDETERMINED

RATE - FIXED RATE WITH CARRY FORWARD PROVISION.

RATE TYPE	EFFECTIVE PERIOD		REVIEW PERIOD		RATE	BASE	APPLICABLE TO
	FROM	TO	FROM	TO			
Indirect	10/1/17	9/30/2018	10/1/16	9/30/2017	11.08%	Modified Total Direct Costs*	All programs
Fringe Benefit	10/1/17	9/30/2018	10/1/16	9/30/2017	35.97%	Total Salaries**	All programs

*BASE: ICR base is Modified Total Direct Cost (MTDC) consisting of all FY 2017 actual direct cost including direct salaries, wages, all fringe benefits, and all other direct cost inclusive of all sub-grants/subcontracts up to the first \$25,000 of each sub-grant or subcontract.

**Total Salaries comprises of salaries to all qualifying employees and excludes any seasonal employees and other non-qualifying employees and release time costs.

SECTION II: SPECIAL REMARKS

TREATMENT OF FRINGE BENEFITS: Fringe benefits are based on actual cost and are charged directly or indirectly in the same manner as salary and wage costs.

TREATMENT OF PAID ABSENCES: Release time costs (vacation leave earned, sick leave used and holiday pay) are considered part of salary costs. Consequently, separate time for release time costs are not made. Release time is charged as direct or indirect cost in the same manner that salary costs are recorded. Vacation leave earned but not used during each fiscal year is record as a cost in the period earned.

SECTION III: GENERAL

A. LIMITATIONS: The rates in this Agreement are subject to any statutory or administrative limitations and applies to a given grant, contract, or other agreement only to the extent that funds are available. Acceptance of the rates are subject to the following conditions: (1) Only costs incurred by the organization were included in its indirect cost pool as finally accepted and that such costs are legal obligations of the organization and are allowable under the governing cost principles.

SECTION III: GENERAL (Continued)

(2) The same costs that have been treated as indirect costs are not claimed as direct costs (3) Similar types of costs have been accorded consistent accounting treatment and (4) The information provided by the organization which was used to establish the rate is not later found to be materially incomplete or inaccurate by the Federal Government. In such situations, the rates would be subject to renegotiation at the discretion of the Federal Government.


B. ACCOUNTING CHANGES: This Agreement is based on the accounting system purported by the awardee to be in effect during the Agreement period. Changes to the method of accounting for costs which affect the amount of reimbursement resulting from the use of this Agreement require prior approval of the authorized representative of the cognizant agency. Such changes include, but are not limited to, changes in the charging of a particular type of cost from indirect to direct. Failure to obtain approval may result in cost disallowances.

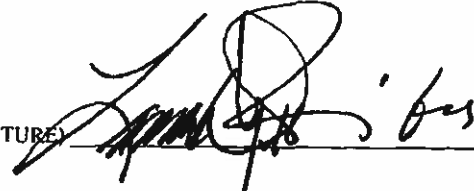
C. FIXED RATES: If a fixed rate is in this Agreement, it is based on actual costs for the review period. When the actual costs for the period to which the rate is applied are determined, an adjustment will be made to a rate of a future year(s) to compensate for the difference between the costs used to establish the fixed rate and actual costs.

D. USE BY OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES: The rates in this Agreement were approved in accordance with the authority in Office of Management and Budget Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (codified at 2 C.F.R. Part 200), and should be applied to grants, contracts, and other agreements covered by this OMB Guidance, subject to any limitations in A above. The awardee may provide copies of the Agreement to other Federal Agencies to give them early notification of the Agreement.

E. OTHER: If any Federal contract, grant, or other agreement is reimbursing indirect costs by a means other than the approved rates in this Agreement, the organization should (1) credit such costs to the affected programs, and (2) apply the approved rates to the appropriate base to identify the proper amount of indirect costs allocable to these programs.

FOR THE ORGANIZATION:
Northeastern Regional Association of Coastal Ocean Observing Systems

(SIGNATURE) 
(NAME) John R. Morrison
Executive Director (TITLE)
10/9/2018 (DATE)

FOR THE GOVERNMENT:
(SIGNATURE) 
(NAME) Arlene Simpson Porter
(TITLE) Director, Grants Management Division
9/19/18 (DATE)