





GOVERNING PRINCIPLES AND REQUIREMENTS:
DISCRETIONARY RMP FUNDING AND REBUDGETING AUTHORITY

I. APPROVAL AND FUNDING AUTHORITY

An RMP, at its discretion, may fund any eligible operational or program staff activity (including new activities) or rebudget funds within the total direct costs awarded subject to the principles and requirements set forth below.

II. PRINCIPLES

The following principles shall be generally applicable in all situations:

A. Consonance With Federal Requirements

No activity shall be undertaken that is contrary to Title IX of the PHS Act and other applicable legislation, regulations, written Departmental, HRA, and RMPS policies, and/or specific conditions of the grant.

B. Applicability of Local RMP Procedures

Any activity undertaken pursuant to the authority conferred by this policy shall be subject to the regular review, approval and funding requirements of the particular RMP, the grantee (where different), and the Regional Advisory Group, as described in NID of August 30, 1972.

C. Current Regional Advisory Group Approval

Any operational activity initiated by an RMP within its discretionary authority must have current RAG approval. That is, it must be approved by the RAG in the budget period during which it is initiated or the immediately preceding one. If not, the activity must be re-approved by the RAG before it can be undertaken. Likewise, any program staff activity must have current RAG approval in accordance with the policies or normal administrative procedures of the RMP.

D. Activities Jointly Funded by Two or More RMPs

Any activity which involves, anticipates, or requires funding by more than one RMP during the total anticipated RMPS support period requires prior RMPS approval for such funding (but not for the technical design or details of the activity).

E. Obligations of Funds Derived From Grant Related Income

No grant related income may be expended without prior RMPS approval

F. Resolution of Questions Regarding Discretionary Funding Authority

When there are any substantive questions or doubts as to the scope and applicability of the discretionary funding and re-budgeting authority, the grantee or the Coordinator on its behalf shall communicate with RMPS for advice and guidance.

III. REQUIREMENTS

Because of the changing conditions that have prevailed, the following authorities to act are identical for all RMPs regardless of previous status.

RMPs must obtain prior approval from the Director, RMPS for any proposed program staff or operational activity involving,

1. Alterations and renovations in excess of \$25,000 total Federal direct costs per activity, or any new construction regardless of amount.
2. Research or other activities involving the use of human subjects. (Programmatic approval by RMPS is required in addition to approval by NIH of an institutional plan for safeguarding the rights and welfare of human subjects.)
3. HMO related feasibility studies.
4. End-stage treatment of kidney disease (e.g. dialysis, transplantation and supportive facilities and services).
5. Other specialized activities as identified by RMPS.

IV. NOTIFICATIONS

RMPS should be notified immediately whenever an activity is initiated which has not been funded previously. The following documents should be submitted:

1. The budget for the new activity on RMPS 34-1, Page 16.
2. Revised budgets for any activity from which funds have been withdrawn, again on RMPS 34-1, Page 16.
3. A brief description of the activity on the applicable form, RMPS 34-1, Pages 6, 9, 11, 12, or 15, as appropriate.

In all other cases, normal procedures for notifying RMPS of rebudgets should be followed. Rebudgeting procedures are described in the instructions for RMPS 34-1, Page 16.