



Office of Research Services and Sponsored Programs

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The University of Akron Policy on the Use of Start-up Funds

Start-up funds, administered by the Office of Research Services and Sponsored Programs (ORSSP) and the respective college, are provided to prospective faculty through an official offer letter. The purpose of start-up funding is to establish the new faculty member's research program and enhance his or her ability to obtain external funding.

The following parameters apply to start-up funds:

Funded: Upon appointment

Amount: As established by current market conditions for the field of specialization and specifically stipulated in the letter of offer.

For start up packages over \$100,000, the amount will be distributed to new faculty, over a three-year period, as follows:

Year 1: 50%

Year 2: 30%

Year 3: 20%

Duration: As stipulated in the letter of offer or expiration 36 months after the allocation date for single payments, 48 months after the first payment for multiple year payments, unless an extension for reasonable cause is approved by the ORSSP. Upon expiration, all unspent funds are returned to ORSSP for future reallocation.

Purposes:

Laboratory – Laboratory equipment, renovations, and supplies.

Personnel – Faculty summer salary, post doctoral associates, laboratory personnel, including graduate student wages, and the University's portion of payroll related taxes and retirement contributions.

Travel – Necessary professional travel for the above *Personnel*.

Other – On- and off-campus facility usage fees and professional organization memberships for the above *Personnel*. Start-up funds cannot be used for U.S. VISA or other immigration fees.

Original Policy: 4/15/09; Updated: 1/15/2010