

## ELIBITILITY AND REQUIREMENTS FOR IAHEES PROJECTS' POLICIES

**Fundamental principles underlying the IAHEES research system are listed below. The overarching themes are scientific and financial accountability for research, excellent quality of work, and formation of strong teams to address high priority issues.**

1. **Research must be of high scientific quality.**
  - A rigorous scientific review of the proposed research will be conducted.
  - The review may be conducted inside or outside the Station, upon decision by the IAHEES Directors.
2. **Research expenditures through the IAHEES must be identified with Station research projects.**
  - Requirements for financial accountability of research fund mandate their assignment through approved numbered research projects.
  - All faculty are required to either be a PI or co-PI on a station project.
  - Faculty or P&S staff (level P-17 or above) or other scientists with no IAHEES funded appointment must have a station project if the IAHEES accounting system processes  $\geq$ \$20,000 per year of funds related to their research.
3. **Research funds in administrative projects must be minimized.**
  - The federal reporting system prorates expenditures from administrative projects over all active research projects (not just within the department).
  - Excessive research expenditures through administrative accounts falsely inflates the apparent percentage of funds devoted to administrative costs of all research projects.
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4. **Effort devoted by faculty, departmental, and station staff to unnecessary paperwork should be reduced.**
  - If research proposals have undergone rigorous review elsewhere (e.g., USDA-NRIC, NIH or Regional Research Projects: NC, NE, S or W), project numbers will be assigned without requiring another scientific review process by the station.
  - New non-USDA grants may be added to relevant existing projects.
  - New extramural non-USDA grants totaling  $<$ \$20,000 per year may be added to an administrative account or to an existing project, or a new project may be written.
  - Regional research project participation or awards of major competitive federal grants can fulfill the requirement of AES faculty to have an active station project; an additional, independent project need not be written.
5. **Accurate representation of research in databases (e.g., CRIS) is necessary and desirable.**
  - New non-USDA grants may be included in existing projects only if relevant to the objectives.
  - New non-USDA grants that are unrelated to existing projects warrant the establishment of a new station project.
  - Faculty always have the option to write station project proposals even in instances in which new projects are not required.
  - Any faculty member, with or without a station appointment, or P&S staff member P-17 and above is eligible to be a Principal Investigator (PI) on a station project.
6. **Faculty must understand the ramifications of their decisions related to station projects.**
  - Faculty are responsible for reading and following current formats in preparing project documentation.
  - Faculty and DEOs should be in close communication on station project issues.
  - Faculty should understand that no funds are automatically allocated to new projects; block budget allocation to each project is done by the DEO at the department level.
  - Faculty should realize that accurate reporting of information into the CRIS system allows efficient retrieval of this information world-wide.
  - Faculty are welcome to address questions to station staff.

