

Accounting for Research and Scholarly Activity

Section: 5

Policy number: 5.24

Responsible Office: Associate Dean for Research

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POLICY STATEMENT

To accurately account for time and effort for faculty members who devote time to research activities.

REASON FOR POLICY

As the research enterprise at the University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences has grown over the past decade (thanks to the efforts of our faculty), we now are in a position to emulate the practices at other research-intensive institutions. Accordingly, it is important that we accurately account for the time and effort that our faculty members devote to their research activities. This is summarized annually on page two of faculty contracts, when we allocate percent efforts in education, scholarly activity, and service, as well as administration, when appropriate. Scholarly activity (including research) has always been an important part of our mission but is coming under increasing external scrutiny, so it is important that we be able to justify effort allocation to scholarship.

Effective July 1, 2019, we will expect that academic faculty in the scientist scholar, educator scholar, or clinician scholar tracks be able to justify and explain their effort allocation to research and scholarly activity. We understand that not all valuable scholarship is necessarily fundable. Therefore, faculty will be able to allocate up to 20% of their effort to scholarship without associating this scholarship with specific grants or contracts so long as they remain academically productive. However, allocation of effort to research and scholarly activity above this threshold should be justified (in most cases) by association with a funded grant or contract that describes the type and amount of the faculty member's effort. Exceptions to this rule may include recently hired junior faculty who are being afforded protected time to build their academic careers, faculty whose grant funding has recently lapsed and who are working actively toward new funding, and other circumstances as appropriate. All exceptions will require annual review and approval by the chair of the faculty member's primary department and by the associate dean for research before new contract percent efforts are approved. For exceptions beyond a single year, such review will consider not only the faculty member's individual circumstances, but also recent scholarly productivity and efforts toward achieving new funding.