

University of Maryland, Baltimore
Additional Guidance for Recipients of NIH K-Awards

Purpose:

This document is intended to provide guidance to individuals who are recipients of NIH Career Development Awards (K-awards). The terms of K-awards vary from program to program, from award to award, and from individual to individual. The purpose of this document is to describe the general award issues.

award issues.

What is an NIH K-award?

An NIH K-Award is a Career Development Award. It differs from other NIH funding arrangements in that it is meant to provide support and “protected time” for individuals to develop as research scientists at various points in his/her research career. Instead of funding a particular research objective, the award provides support for the individual(s) to focus on a research scope. These awards generally require the commitment of a high percentage of total professional effort (50%-75%) to career development within the scope of research described in the proposal. More information can be found at:

<http://grants2.nih.gov/training/careerdevelopmentawards.htm>

Effort Outside of the K-Award Commitment

K-awards generally do not limit what the individual does with the effort that is not required by the K-award. A K-award recipient may receive external funding for this effort or may undertake nonsponsored activities (clinical, instruction, administration, etc.) These duties should not interfere with the individual's ability to perform the effort required by the K-award.

Salary Limitations

As an NIH award, these awards are subject to the NIH salary cap. However, these awards often have award terms that limit the reimbursement.

Some, not all, K-awards (K01, K07, K08, K12, K22, K23, K25) allow the recipient to also be supported by related competing research grants as part of their effort commitment on their K-award. In order for a competing research grant to be considered part of the K-award commitment, the individual must be recognized as a Principal Investigator or subproject Director and the award must be consistent with the research scope of the K-award. In most cases, the salary support will continue to come from the K-award and not the competing research grant. We will still need to document the total effort devoted to the K-award activities and the effort on the individual competing research grants. At UMB, we will accomplish this through the cost sharing column on the effort form. See the comprehensive example at the end of this document.

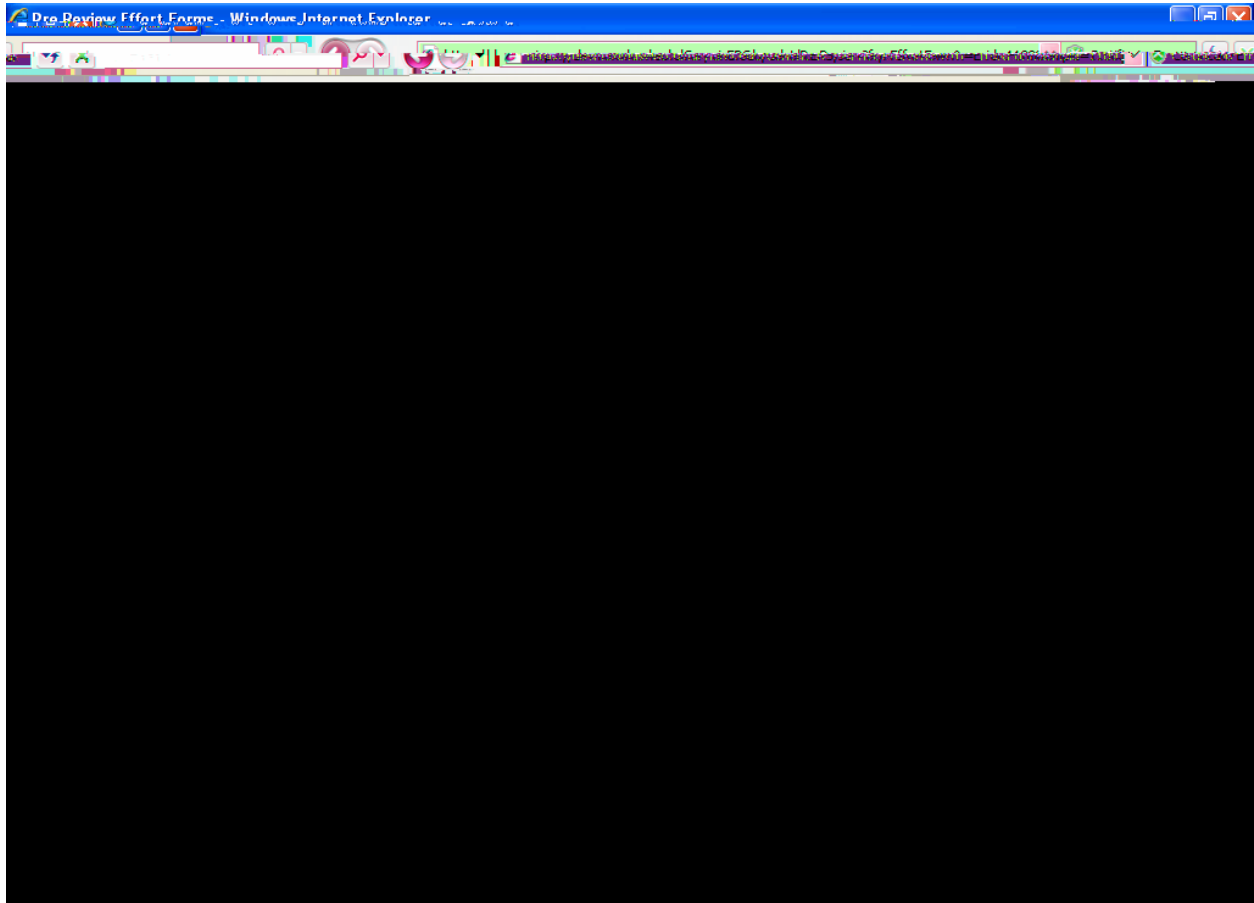
effort is spent on administrative and clinical activities and is funded from the department's state budget.

Because Dr. Smith has a full-time appointment with the School of Medicine and can devote 75% of her University effort to the K-award activities, she is within the K-award requirements of the NIH.

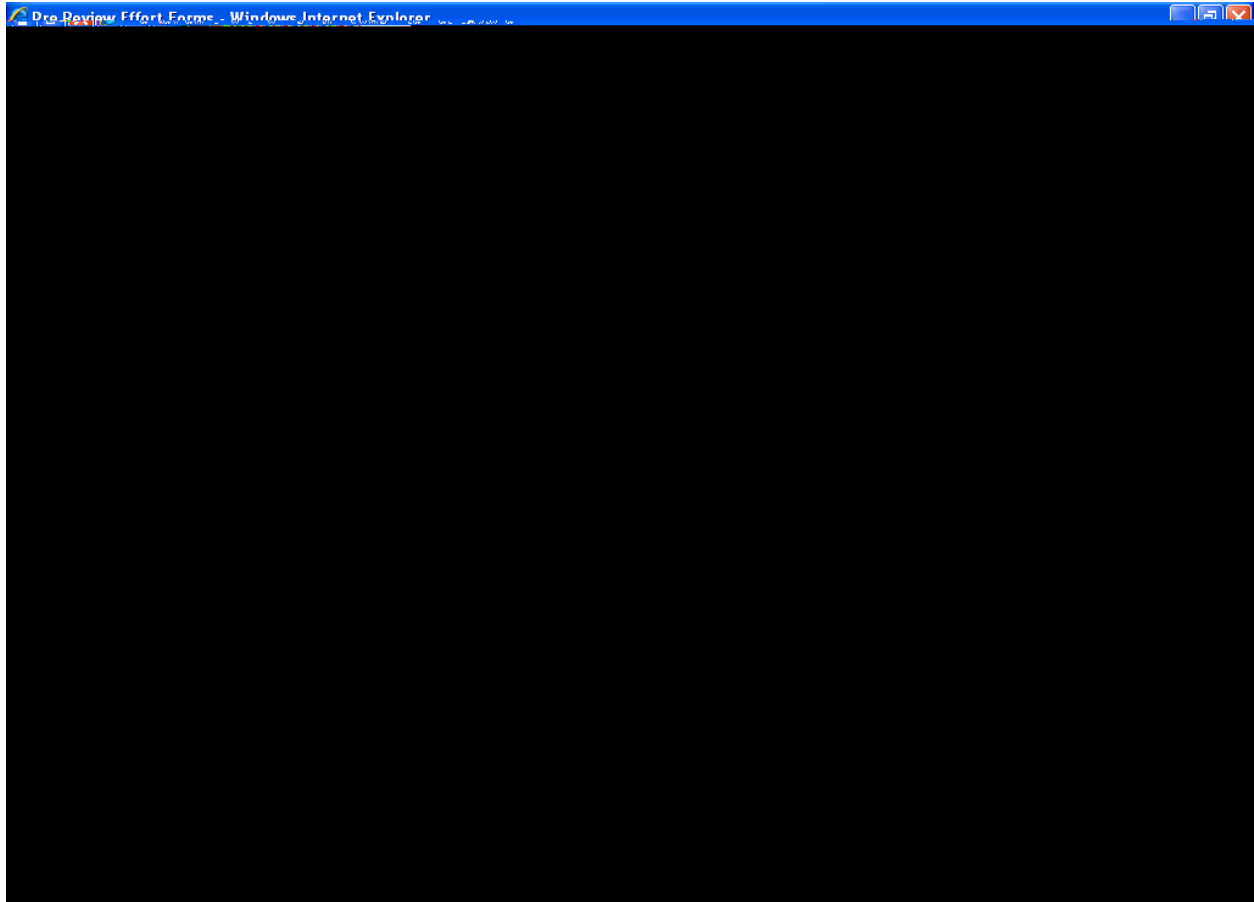
On an annual basis, Dr. Smith's Employee Funding Profile should be established as:

K-Award	75,000	50%
K-Award Cost Sharing	37,500	25%
American Cancer Society	7,500	5%
State	<u>30,000</u>	20%
	150,000	

When Dr. Smith's quarterly (6 pay period) effort form is created it will look like this:



The PreReviewer will need to add Dr. Smith's R01 from which she is not receiving salary support to the form through the "Add Account" button. Then, in the cost sharing column on the effort form, the PreReviewer will need to transfer 20% effort from the K-Award to the R01. This will have no effect in eUMB, but will serve to document the effort to the correct awards and to link the K-Award with its related competitive research grant. After PreReview the form will look like this:



And the form that Dr. Smith will need to certify will look like this:

