

USDA uses various indirect rates. Consult with the link below or the RFP to ensure the correct rate is used. Note that when the USDA refers to 30% of federal funds, they are referring to indirect on everything including indirect.

For indirect rates by USDA program, see: <https://nifa.usda.gov/resource/indirect-cost-chart>

Sample Calculation:

- If the RFP requires the use of 30% of total costs (even indirects on the indirects), the following calculation should be used to determine the correct indirect rate for total direct cost only (excluding indirects on indirects): $100 - 30\% = 70$, $30/70 = 42.857\%$ for total cost. Verification is necessary to ensure that the rate does not exceed Modified Total Direct Cost (MTDC) at our normal rate. For that determination, please see the USDA Rate Check & Waived IDC Spreadsheet for calculation.

Some Programs also calculate indirect rates on MTDC. Please contact the Office of Sponsored Projects if clarification is needed.