



Maine Medical Center
Research Institute

A MaineHealth Member

Explanation of Institutional Commitment

Institutional commitment/support is not cost sharing or matching. Cost sharing and matching funds are different because they name specific dollar amounts in the application budget (i.e. “MMC will commit \$50,000 towards the cost of this equipment” or “Dr. XXXX will devote 10% effort but no funds are requested from the sponsor.” These are specific amounts or specific effort that can be equated to a dollar amount and which commits us to following up and tracking.

Sometimes it is necessary to show “institutional commitment” in a grant proposal because it is required (such as the COBRE or CTR applications), or because you wish to show there are additional resources available to you for your project or certain collaborators with particular expertise are available. Acceptable language to show institutional commitment WITHOUT DEFINING IT AS COST SHARING is below:

“MMC will provide offices, labs, and administrative space as necessary”

“Research navigation services will be available to the PI to help with regulatory issues.....”

“Biostatistical support is available through CORE as needed....”

“Dr. X is available for consultation on data analysis as needed (see letter)....”

“Dr. Y, who operates our ____ core facility, is available to advise and help set up experiments....”

The idea is to describe the department/institutional/personnel resources available to help with the project without putting specific dollar amounts or time commitments on them. Back up letters are helpful here, especially when people are devoting time “as needed.”