


Date: April 7, 2026

To: College Deans

From: John G. Harris, Ph.D.   
Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Subject: Faculty Grant Release and Benefit Retention Policy

Effective July 1, 2026, the Provost will implement a comprehensive policy governing the distribution of unused General Revenue Allocation (GRA) funded faculty salary and benefit dollars (grant release) when academic-year effort is charged to external grants. This new policy is intended to provide greater transparency and consistency in the handling of academic-year grant release while ensuring that colleges maintain instructional capacity.

**Grant-Funded Salary (Grant Release)**

When a GRA-funded faculty member charges a portion of their academic-year salary to an external grant, the corresponding unused GRA-funded salary dollars will be transferred to the faculty member's research account, generally at the conclusion of each semester. These funds may be used to support research-related activities in accordance with university regulations. Department chair approval is required before effort is applied to the grant.

**GRA-Funded Benefits (Miscellaneous Instruction Support)**

When a GRA-funded faculty member charges a portion of their academic-year salary to an external grant, the corresponding unused GRA-funded benefits dollars will be retained by the college for the exclusive purpose of funding miscellaneous instructional needs, which include positions such as graduate teaching assistants, graduate instructors, adjuncts, and graders.

**Research Workload Limits**

Faculty may charge academic-year salary to grants up to their approved research percentage as established in the department's workload policy. If a faculty member charges more than their designated research workload percentage to a grant during the academic year, the excess salary (and benefits) will be used to support miscellaneous instruction needs.

**Exceptions**

Any exception to this policy must receive prior approval from their respective College Dean.

