



Guidelines on Uses of Partnership Funds

Background: The Organization for Autism Research (OAR) is assisting community based providers with submitting competitive applications to the Applied Research Competition by offering funding to support the grant development and writing process. The \$5,000 Partnership Funds can be applied to help facilitate collaborative efforts between these agencies and partnering researchers. The purpose of this document is to provide applicants some guidelines for what does and does not qualify as a budget item for grant development and writing.

If awarded, partnership fund recipients agree to commit to the proposed grant development timeline for full proposal submission to the Applied Research Competition in October. Research teams will be required to submit a budget report at that time.

What OAR Will Fund: The majority of OAR's partnership funds must be applied directly to the development of the full proposal. These costs may include but are not limited to:

- Time and negotiated salary for the Research Partner, or other research team members, prorated by time allocated to the project
- Salary for substitute teachers or staff so research team can meet
- Local travel related to in-person meetings, up to 20 percent of the proposed budget
- Reasonable costs and fees associated with teleconferencing or other electronic communications.

The rule of thumb to apply in considering other items not listed is, "Does this item or activity directly support the development of the research project?"

What OAR Will Not Fund:

- Time and salary for the primary Principal Investigator located at the community based provider
- Flat allowance for "Administrative" or "Indirect" costs applied by universities and centers as organizational overhead expenses not specific to the study
- Administrative and fringe benefits exceeding 20 percent

Note: Funding guidelines for Applied Research Grants are applicable for Partnership Funds. See applied funding guidelines [here](#).

For questions on the Partnership Funding Guidelines, please contact Kimberly Ha, programs and research associate, at 703-243-9762.