Payment for Services of the Quantitative Methods Core (QMC)

The QMC provides a variety of services to both new and experienced investigators at the University of Massachusetts in general and the U Mass Medical School in particular. For these investigators, the payment for those services follows these general guidelines.

A. If help is needed with the development of an R-series grant or equivalent, typically both (a) intellectual input into design and analysis by a Quantitative Health Sciences (QHS) faculty member and (b) data management and statistical computing support under the direction of a QHS faculty member are required. For single project grants, the faculty member who does (a) should be considered an investigator on the grant, with % effort, and the services entailed in (b) would be budgeted at an hourly rate, determined and approved at the core’s annual budget review. Providing these criteria are met, the actual work on the development of the grant would be done at no cost to the investigator. The budget for QHS/QMC work will be developed by QHS financial administration staff.

B. If help is needed for the implementation and conduct of an R-series grant or equivalent, the billing would be done based on the budget developed in Section A above. If a budget is not available or if QMC support was not anticipated, a budget will be developed and, in conjunction with the investigator, discussed with the QHS senior administrative faculty and CTSA, as needed.

C. Initial consultations (and up to four hours of work) for all investigators and on-going consultations for non-funded junior investigators are partially funded by the CTSA award and provided at no cost to the investigators. Work beyond four hours will be billed at the posted rates.

D. If help is needed with a program project type of grant (e.g., P01), in which a methods core needs to be built into the grant, then typically the methods core (or equivalent) is treated as a separate budget unit within the grant, with the PI of the unit being QHS faculty. In this case, % effort for the PI of the budget unit is expected, potentially funding for QMC services is built into the unit budget, and the full department share of indirect costs for the methods core would come to the QHS Department, as is customary for other project PI’s within program project grant types.

E. Individual agreements for other types of grants (e.g., K-series applications) will be worked out on a case by case basis.

F. If substantial analysis support is needed for an existing data set, a budget will be developed and discussed with the investigator. If financial resources are lacking, discussions between the
investigator and QHS senior administrative faculty (and, potentially, CTSA administration) need to be held to determine the source of support. Levels of hourly billing rates are indicated on the QMC web site (www.umassmed.edu/QHS/QMC.aspx).