Budget Preparation Resources

- OSP main website: http://research.unl.edu/sponsoredprograms/
- OSP budget tools: http://research.unl.edu/sponsoredprograms/forms-templates/
- F&A rates: http://research.unl.edu/sponsoredprograms/facilities-and-administrative-cost-rates/
- Fringe benefit rates: http://research.unl.edu/sponsoredprograms/fringe-benefit-rates/
- Export Control guidance (travel): http://research.unl.edu/orr/exportcontrol_detail.shtml
- Fabricated Equipment: http://accounting.unl.edu/fin-acct-reporting/fabricated-equipment
- Core/Shared Facilities: http://research.unl.edu/facultyresources/coreFacilities.php
- Federal Per Diems (for estimation purposes only, UNL travel policy is for actuals): http://www.gsa.gov/portal/content/104877?utm_source=OGP&utm_medium=print-radio&utm_term=perdiem&utm_campaign=shortcuts

- **F&A verbiage:** The University of Nebraska-Lincoln’s federally-negotiated F&A rate is ___% of Modified Total Direct Costs (MTDC) for ________________________________ (e.g., organized research; agricultural research; etc.)

- **Modified Total Direct Cost (MTDC) budget exclusions:** equipment, capital expenditures (construction), patient care costs (mostly for hospitals), GRA tuition remission, rental costs of off-site facilities, scholarships and fellowships, and the portion of each subaward in excess of $25,000

- **How to use Excel’s Goal Seek feature:** When in an Excel file, select the “Data” tab from the ribbon, select the “What-If Analysis” drop-down list, then select “Goal Seek…”, a Goal Seek dialogue box will pop up. A copy of the dialog box is below.

  ![Goal Seek Dialogue Box](image)

  - In the box enter info as follows:
    - **Set cell:** click on the cell you want to set a goal for, or type in the cell letter/number combination
    - **To value:** type in your goal dollar amount you want to see in the cell set above
    - **By changing cell:** click on the cell you want to adjust to make the goal in the “Set cell”
    - Click OK, and let Excel calculate for you

  - **Notes:** There are some limitations on which cells can be used for Goal Seek, but it can be extremely useful to help you hit a target. The calculation does not update when you make changes. If you adjust items in the budget that affect your target, you’ll need to run your Goal Seek again.

  - This YouTube video may be helpful: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fcKCUDyF73Y