Multiple Accounts for a Single Award

The credit split function in Kuali is designed to acknowledge and reward the efforts and dedication of the parties involved. This is done through two different mechanisms: Allocation and Recognition. Allocation is an internal method of determining how incentive funds should be returned to participating investigators, and their respective units, based on each investigator’s relative contribution to the grant project over its lifetime. Recognition is the University’s internal method of crediting contributing investigators and personnel (and their respective units), based on each investigator’s relative academic contribution to the grant project over its lifetime.

At times, there may be a need to create separate accounts for a single award. These situations are not standard as it is expected that credit splits will cover the allocation and recognition needs. Cases in which multiple accounts on a single award will be established are as follows:

- When a different indirect cost is required on a portion of the award funds. Examples include participant support costs or Research Experiences for Undergraduate (REU) supplements. In these cases, funds cannot be rebudgeted and no indirect costs can be taken on that portion of the award, whereas the full indirect cost rate can be taken on the balance.
- When a portion of a grant is restricted for a specific purpose and that portion cannot be rebudgeted without prior written permission, i.e., diversity supplement.
- When there is a large project that is comprised of one or more distinct, self-contained projects that are administered by different Colleges or Schools.
- When a single award is made that encompasses multiple students in different units. Examples of this include the National Science Foundation’s Graduate Research Fellowship Program and the National Institutes of Health’s TL1 award program (administered through the Medical College of Wisconsin).
- When an award contains a budget item for a mini-grant competition to which various investigators apply and receive funds to conduct a subproject.

Note that multiple accounts are limited to the above scenarios as there are additional challenges which include spending down funds, intra-project allocation, financial reporting and close out. The Office of Research and Sponsored Programs (ORSP) reserves the right to make the final determination on the creation of multiple accounts for a single award.