



Successful Community-Engaged Research: Humanizing Institutional Processes for Offering Proper Partner Compensation

Presented in partnership with the Community Engagement Alliance Consultative Resource (CEACR)

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CCPH Presenters:

Paige Castro-Reyes
CCPH Deputy Director

Emily Finley, MPH
CCPH Program Coordinator

Objectives:

- Review common post-award compensation processes for community partners
- Understand the barriers and facilitators to equitable community partner compensation processes
- Explore models of community partner payment processes towards equity

Why is this topic important?

The COVID-19 pandemic response has created new funding opportunities for community-engaged research and community-academic partnerships. When contracting with major institutions, community-based organizations often experience complex administrative processes, delays in funding, and fiscal barriers.

This webinar provides models and recommendations for new approaches to partner compensation rooted in **transparency, reciprocity, power-sharing, and trustworthiness**.

Key Takeaways

Equitable partner compensation requires:

- Shared decision-making
- Early and timely communication among all partners
- Shared understanding of each partners' fiscal capacity and processes
- Continuous engagement throughout pre- and post-award periods

Models for Fiscal Equity

Community Partner Liaison

How it works: a non-profit subcontractor serves as a fiscal liaison to funnel payments from the institution to community-based partners

Benefits: flexible, timely payments with low administrative burden on community partners

Limitations: requires time and resources upfront to build the fiscal liaison into the grant

Cost Reimbursable

How it works: Community partner submits invoices to institution for reimbursement of funds spent

Benefits: Lower financial risk for the institution

Limitations: Community partner must use their own funds upfront; lengthy timeline to reimbursement

Cash Advance

How it works: Community partners receive funding upfront for grant activities

Benefits: Greater flexibility and financial security for community partners

Limitations: Funds must be verified after money is spent

About CEACR

CEAL's new consultative service, the Community Engagement Alliance Consultative Resource (CEACR), is designed to help bring best practices in community engagement to CEAL sites, community-based organizations, and other NIH-funded teams. CEACR provides customized expertise to help ensure inclusive participation in research. Visit the [website](#) to request a consultation or join an expert panel.



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To learn more about models and approaches to fiscal equity, including immediate and long-term action steps, [view the full webinar here](#).