

Cost Principles for Grants Course (Self-Paced)

Master Subpart E cost rules, allowability, allocability, reasonableness, and practice decisions with real-world scenarios. Perfect for professionals who manage, oversee, or support federal assistance programs.

Group classes in Live Online and onsite training is available for this course. For more information, email onsite@graduateschool.edu or visit: <https://sdfm.graduateschool.edu/courses/cost-principles-for-grants-course-self-paced>



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Course Outline

Module 1: Allowability, Allocability, and Reasonableness

- Apply the core tests for compliant costs under Subpart E.
- Differentiate direct vs. indirect costs and consistency rules.
- Document cost decisions and justifications.

Module 2: Selected Items of Cost

- Review high-risk cost categories and their specific rules.
- Practice assessing gray-area items using policy references.
- Develop defensible rationales for approvals/denials.

Module 3: Indirect (F&A) Costs and Rate Considerations

- Understand indirect cost proposals, rates, and de minimis options.
- Coordinate with cognizant agencies and apply caps/limitations.
- Tie rate decisions to budgeting and monitoring.

Module 4: Documentation, Internal Controls, and Testing

- Establish documentation standards that satisfy auditors.
- Test internal controls for cost compliance and accuracy.
- Prepare for desk reviews and Single Audit testing.

Module 5: Practical Scenarios and Case Exercises

- Analyze sample transactions for compliance with Subpart E.
- Resolve common edge cases and conflicting guidance.
- Draft corrective actions for improper cost findings.