

May 22, 2025

Academia and Industry Partnership Promotion Division
RIKEN

Introduction of knowledge-based value expenditures and changes to indirect expenses in joint research, etc.

We would like to inform you that RIKEN has reviewed the calculation methods for expenses related to joint research, etc.* in industry-academia collaboration. As a result, we will introduce a new category called “knowledge-based value expenditures.” In addition, the rate for indirect expenses will be changed to at least 30% of the direct expenses (the total of core expenditures and knowledge-based value expenditures).

In the direct expenses related to conducting joint research, etc., the traditional costs calculated as usual will be classified as “core expenditures.” Additionally, we will newly introduce “knowledge-based value expenditures,” which are expenses based on the added value that RIKEN’s scientific and technical knowledge brings to the joint research, etc. and the extent of its contribution. Details are provided in the attached document.

We kindly ask for the understanding and cooperation of all companies and partners involved.

*Joint research, etc.: collaborative research, commissioned research (including commissioned testing), and technical consultation

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Intellectual Property Strategy Promotion Section
Academia and Industry Partnership Promotion Division

1. Revised content

The research expenses for joint research, etc. are as follows.

Direct expenses	Core expenditures	Direct expenses needed for the execution of the joint research, etc.	Estimate of necessary expenses
	Knowledge-based value expenditures	Expenses based on the added value that RIKEN's scientific and technical knowledge gives to the joint research etc., and the degree of its contribution to the external institution (such as companies)	At least 10% of core expenditures *Knowledge-based value expenditures do not include royalties from intellectual property rights owned by RIKEN (including those generated through joint research, etc.).
Indirect expenses		Expenses to establish and maintain RIKEN's research environment, and to promote industry-academia collaboration.	At least 30% of direct expenses

2. Handling Regarding Academic Institutions

For academic institutions, expenses can be handled as described below.

- Direct expenses are set as core expenditures only.
- Indirect expenses shall be at least 10% of direct expenses.

*Academic institutions: educational institutions such as universities, national or local government organizations, public-service corporations, or corporations established under special laws

3. Transitional measures

(1) For contracts subject to transitional measures, the previous handling may continue to apply as outlined below. However, in light of the purpose of the revision, we kindly ask that you switch to the revised framework wherever possible.

- Direct expenses are set as core expenditures only.
- Indirect expenses shall be at least 20% of direct expenses.

(2) Contracts eligible for transitional measures

Contracts that are in effect as of April 1, 2025, and those with continuity from such contracts

Examples:

- Contracts already concluded on or prior to March 31, 2025
- Contracts with continuity from contracts concluded on or prior to March 31, 2025 (including those concluded on or after April 1, 2025)

4. Revision history

Revision date	Revised content
2025.5.22	First edition created
2025.6.13	1. Revised content: Added explanation regarding knowledge-based value expenditures