

Grant Administrative Cost Guidelines

(DRAFT)

One MLIA grant evaluation criteria is how much of the MLIA dollar is spent directly accomplishing the proposed project goals/objectives vs. the amount of MLIA funds spent on organizational overhead. MLIA grant submissions may include reasonable administrative costs; the question arises as to what is “reasonable”. Any definition of “reasonable administrative costs” is somewhat subjective, so the criteria is not intended to exclude any rational overhead costs; certainly none that use these costs as “matching” funds in support of the MLIA project goals.

Therefore, the MLIA Grants Committee and the GIO will consider any administrative costs up to 5% of the total MLIA funds requested “reasonable” upon their face value. If the MLIA administrative costs funds requested exceed 5%, the grant requestor must detail and individually justify each overhead cost. When evaluating the “above 5%” submissions, the Grants Committee and the GIO will consider the:

- Ratio of the total MLIA funded overhead to the total MLIA grant funds requested; the higher the ratio, the lower the overall grant score.
- Justification for each administrative cost category, and their application to the goals and objectives of the MLIA Land Plan.
- The mix of current grant submissions and the relative value of this submission to the short and long term goals of the MLIA Council.

The MLIA Grants Committee and/or the GIO have the following options:

- Reject the grant;
- Ask the grant requestor to modify the administrative costs;
- Rate the grant lower in the MLIA grant funding priority list; and/or
- Accept the administrative costs as submitted.