Modular versus Detailed Budgets

The NIH uses 2 different formats for budget submission depending on the total direct costs requested and the activity code used.

The SF424 (R&R) Application Guide includes two optional budget components—(1) R&R Budget Component requesting detailed budget information; and, (2) the “simplified” PHS398 Modular Budget Component. Note: NIH applications will include either the R&R Budget Component or the PHS398 Modular Budget Component, but not both.

To determine whether to use a detailed versus modular budget for your NIH application, see the flowchart below.

Do your direct costs equal less than $250,000 per year?

YES

Are you applying for an R01, R03, R15, R21, or R34 grant?

YES

Use a modular budget (PHS398 Modular Budget Form)

NO

Use a detailed budget (SF424 (R&R) Budget Form)

NO