SCC Administrators Meeting Under-recovery Pilot Research@MIT App

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What is Under-recovery?

- In addition to the direct costs of research, each project also incurs facilities & administrative (F&A) costs (sometimes referred to as *Indirect or Overhead* costs), such as utilities, space and central administration labor.

- **Under-recovery** of F&A costs occurs when a sponsor does not fully reimburse MIT at its negotiated F&A rate. In these cases, other funding sources must be used to cover F&A costs.

  - *MIT does not waive or reduce the F&A costs of any sponsored research project.*

- See "Under-recovery of F&A Costs" for additional information.

Under-recovery pilot goals

Increase Funding

Increase central funding, which is now allocated out to the DLCIs to support local decision making.

Provide Data

Provide consistent, reportable under-recovery information.

Reduce Burdens

Reduce the burden on faculty and administrators – make it easier to request, manage, and track.

Communication

Provide guidance on the pilot under-recovery process and the importance of indirect recovery to the research enterprise.

Under-recovery funding

- This pilot is only for under-recovery on **sponsored research**.
  - Sponsored non-research and gifts are not included in this system for the pilot.
- The under-recovery on existing sponsored research awards and pending proposals will be rolled into the new system.
- DLCIs will manage and monitor under-recovery in their units:
  - Dean's Offices and VPR receive a central allocation, which is suballocated to DLCIs under-recovery cost object
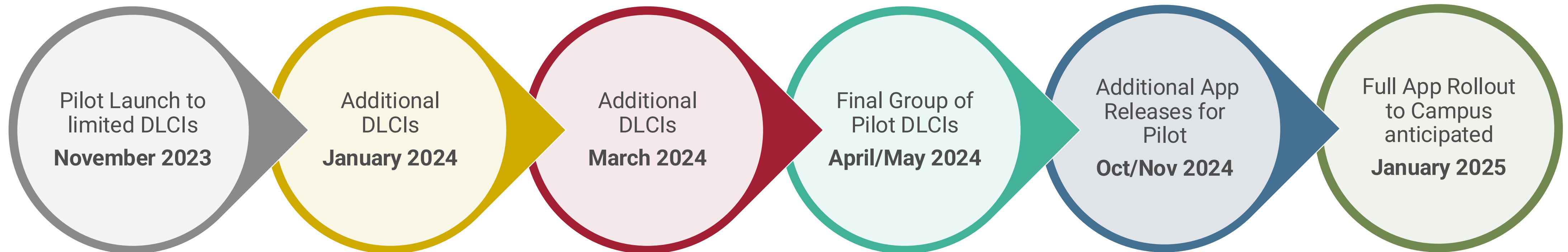 - Can be augmented by local resources

Transfers to under-recovery cost objects

Transactions to move funds for under-recovery will no longer use the journal voucher process and will instead use *budget transfers*.

	Funding sources for under-recovery	
	Annual central allocation*	**Supplemental funding**
Source	Central budget	PI, DLCI, or School/College
G/L	422300	490104
Processed by	VPR and School/College	DLCI or School/College financial staff

These funds cannot be transferred out of DLCI UR cost objects

Timeline Under-recovery App and Pilot Users

Pilot Launch to limited DLCIs
November 2023

Additional DLCIs
January 2024

Additional DLCIs
March 2024

Final Group of Pilot DLCIs
April/May 2024

Additional App Releases for Pilot
Oct/Nov 2024

Full App Rollout to Campus anticipated
January 2025

November 2023
- Center for Environmental Health Sciences
- Biological Engineering
- Koch Institute
- Chemical Engineering

January 2024
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Picower Institute
- McGovern Institute
- Earth, Atmospheric and Planetary Sciences

March 2024
- Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory (CSAIL)
- Economics & J-PAL
- Political Science
- Media Lab
- Architecture
- Center for Real Estate
- Dept of Urban Studies and Planning (DUSP)
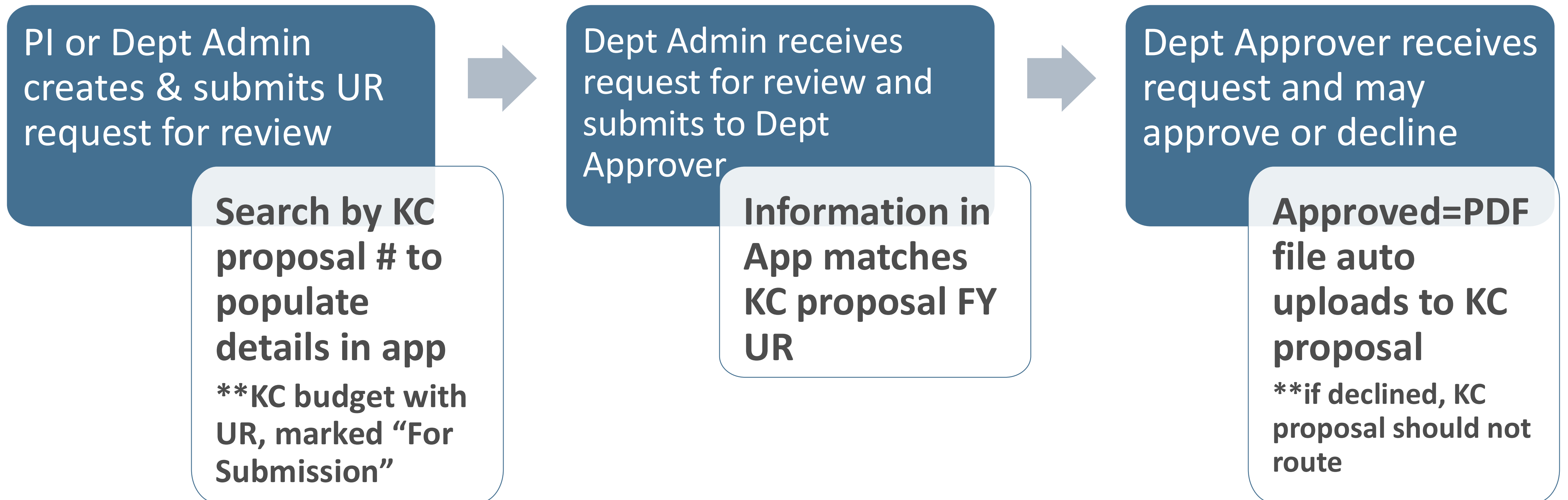- Center for Intl Studies

April/May 2024
- Schwarzman College of Computing (SCC)
- Electrical Engineering and Computer Science (EECS)
- Laboratory for Information & Decisions Systems (LIDS)
- Research Laboratory of Electronics (RLE)
- Mechanical Engineering
- Civil and Environmental Engineering (CEE)
- Aeronautics and Astronautics
- Institute for Data, Systems and Society (IDSS)
- MIT Jameel Clinic
- Sociotechnical Systems Research Center (SSRC)
- Brain and Cognitive Sciences
- Kavli Institute
- Mathematics
- Physics
- Simons Center

- Pilot DLCIs were determined based on UR historical data, providing valuable feedback leading to improved process and app enhancements
- Additional DLCIs interested in participating in the pilot can join at any time

Requesting under-recovery for Proposals

3 step process – App actions are the **blue** text box, **KC** proposal are the **white** text box

- **Dept Admin**: May create requests, review and submit requests to Dept Approver
- **Dept Approver**: May review and approve the under-recovery request. Dept Approver may be either department head or administrator as proxy for department head
- **PI**: Principal Investigator of the research proposal.

PI or Dept Admin creates & submits UR request for review

Search by KC proposal # to populate details in app

**KC budget with UR, marked "For Submission"

Dept Admin receives request for review and submits to Dept Approver

Information in App matches KC proposal FY UR

Dept Approver receives request and may approve or decline

Approved=PDF file auto uploads to KC proposal

**if declined, KC proposal should not route

Under-recovery app in Research@MIT

DEMO

Dept Approver View in App

- When **Dept Admin** "submits" request to the Dept Approver, they initially see this view in the app

Under-recovery approvals in KC

- After the under-recovery is approved in app, the approval will automatically move to KC as an **Internal** PDF attachment. You do not need to upload other documents.

KC View – Attachments Tab

Approved under-recovery PDF

Future Releases and Resources

- Multi-DLCI Routing
  - When 2+ DLCIs involved in proposal sharing UR coverage
- Escalation Routing
  - DLCI raising request to Dean's Office
  - Dean's Office raising request to VPR
- Web-based version of the app
- [Under-recovery Pilot webpage](#)
- Contact VPR RA Support Team at ra-help@mit.edu with any questions or feedback on the new process and app.