

**NHERI Experimental Facility User Fee Policy:  
Powell Family Structures and Materials Laboratory, University of Florida**

**Version History**

Created: 14 January 2016 by Forrest J. Masters  
Updated: N/A

**Acronym List**

BLWT Boundary Layer Wind Tunnel  
DFS Dynamic Flow Simulator  
EF NHERI Experimental Facility  
HAPLA High Airflow Pressure Loading Actuator  
MAWLS Multi-Axis Wind Load Simulator  
SPLA Spatiotemporal Pressure Loading Actuator

**User Fees and Recharge Rates**

The UF NHERI Experimental Facility (henceforth, EF) does not have user fees or recharge rates. Users will have free access to personnel and equipment as shown in Table 1:

**Table 1.** Number of days budgeted for equipment use and personnel per EF resource for a single project

<b>Costing</b>	<b>BLWT</b>	<b>HAPLA</b>	<b>MAWLS or DFS</b>	<b>SPLA</b>
Equipment Operation	20	15	4	15
Site Operations Manager	16	8	9	8
Engineer	22	18	6	17
Instrumentation & Controls Engineer	9	5	8	5
Technician	26	21	10	21
Hourly Student Assistants	52	42	16	42

This time will support the following EF services (free to the PI):

- assisting with the development of the PI's experimental research plan post-award
- experimental setup, including staging of specimens
- operation of EF resources, including data archiving
- cleanup, including disposal of test articles (large specimens are not included)
- project close-out

Additional free services include proposal development support: Refinement of scope, experimental plan and required resources, cost estimation and EF use related budgeting.

Users are encouraged to use more than one resource, if needed. The EF will prorate time and coordinate with the NHERI Network Coordination Office to balance its workload.

### Supplemental Support - Personnel

During proposal development, the EF will estimate the staff and equipment time requirements based on the project scope. This will include contingency requirements for risk management. If the estimated time allocation exceeds the values in Table 1, the PI must include supplemental support for the EF in the proposal.

Table 2 lists the current fringed rates for project personnel. Indirect costs will be applied at 50% to the modified total direct cost for research activities or 28.5% for other sponsored activities (i.e. assisting with the project without providing in-depth data analysis, writing articles, etc.). Updated rates will be provided to the PI during proposal development to account for changes in fringe benefit rates, IDC, or salary.

**Table 2.** Fringed weekly rates for EF staff

Personnel	Fringe Benefit Rate*	Fringed Rate
Site Operations Manager	33.3%	\$2,716
Engineer	33.3%	\$1,281
Instrumentation & Controls Engineer	5.4%	\$2,093
Technician	33.3%	\$1,050
Hourly Student Assistants	2.6%	\$506

\*source = <http://hr.ufl.edu/benefits/health-insurance/fringe-benefits-pool>

### Supplemental Support - Equipment Operation and Ancillary Costs

PIs must budget for the following items in their proposal. EF staff will assist with these budget projections as appropriate.

- If the MAWLS/DFS system if testing exceeds 4 days
  - additional fuel (market rate)
  - prorated maintenance (\$896 per day)
- Sensors, instrumentation or hardware not in the UF inventory
- Design and fabrication of wind tunnel models or full-scale test assemblies (at EF or elsewhere)
- Modification of reaction frame/structures to accommodate new hardware
- Long-term storage or outdoor aging of test specimens
- Cyberphysical testing (real-time hybrid or model-in-the-loop simulation)

**Payment Method**

Payment for additional costs may be set up through a purchase order or a subaward. The UF Division of Sponsored Programs will make a determination on the contract type during the proposal development.

**Contact Information**

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