I. Purpose
This policy defines participant support costs and provides guidance for their use in sponsored programs.

II. Policy Statement
Some extramural sponsors of research projects include a category in their budget forms called participant support costs. Briefly, it refers to transportation, per diem, stipends, and other related costs for participants or trainees (but not employees) in connection with conferences, meetings, symposia, training activities, and workshops.

Program participants are individuals receiving service or training at a workshop, conference, seminar, symposium, or other short-term instructional or information-sharing activity funded by an external grant or award or externally funded project or program participants who benefit from the training. Participants perform no work or services for the project or program other than for their own benefit. They are not involved in providing any deliverable to the university or a third party and will not be terminated or replaced for failure to perform. Georgia Southern employees may not be participants on sponsored projects.

Participant payments are small, noncompensatory stipends and possibly reimbursement of travel costs or other out-of-pocket costs incurred while attending a workshop, conference, seminar, symposium, or other short-term training or information-sharing activity. Participant expenses may be paid directly, or the individual may be reimbursed.

III. Exclusions - none