Dear USDA 2014 Capacity Building Grant PIs:

Please note that Indirect Cost (IDC) for the Capacity Building Grant may be charged differently from our normal negotiated rate. The grant requires you to use the lesser of the University rate of 30% Modified Total Direct Cost (MTDC) or of 30% of Total Federal Funds (TFF) requested. (TFF is the same as Total Project Costs (TPC)). Another method of calculating the maximum allowable IDC is .42857 percent of the total direct costs.

30% TFF OPTION
To determine the IDC based on the TPC you must use the following formula:

Total Project Costs (TPC) = Total Direct Cost (TDC) + Indirect Costs (IDC)

TPC = TDC + IDC

IDC = TDC x .42857

Example: If your TDC = $40,984
Then your indirect cost is $40,984 x .42857 = $17,565 for indirect costs
Therefore, TPC requested is $40,984 + $17,565 = $58,549

If you want to determine the amount of Total Direct Cost (TDC) you have to work with, use the following formula:

TDC = TPC / 1.42857

Example: You have a maximum of $150,000 for a 3 year budget:
TDC (TFF) = 150,000 / 1.42857 = $105,000
The $105,000 is the amount you have available for total direct costs, the balance ($45,000) is indirect costs for the 3 year budget period.

$150,000 TPC x 30% = $45,000 IDC
$105,000 TDC + $45000 IDC = $150,000 TPC

University rate of 30% MTDC* OPTION
Using the University rate of 30% MTDC your budget would be calculated as follows:

Example 1: No equipment or subawards.
You have a maximum of $150,000 for a 3 year budget
TDC = TPC/1.30
$150,000/1.30 = $115,385 funds available for direct cost and the balance ($34,625) is indirect costs for the 3 year budget period.

$115,385 x .30 = $34,615 (no equipment or subawards)
$115,385 + $34615 = $150,000

Note that in this option, you have less money for direct cost and more in IDC. Therefore, the 22% TFF would be the best option.

*MTDC = total direct costs excluding capital expenditures (individual items of equipment, buildings, alterations and renovations), and that portion of the each subaward in excess of $25,000.