



Should You Revisit Your Funds Flow Model?

Like all healthcare providers, Academic Medical Centers (AMCs) are facing economic and industry challenges placing pressure on their funding and resource allocations. Yet, AMCs remain committed to their tripartite mission of providing exceptional clinical care, educating the next generation of clinicians, and evolving the future of medicine through cutting-edge research. Now more than ever, it is imperative that the funds flow model that allocates resources between and among the clinical enterprise, the university, and the faculty practice is equitable, rules-based, and aligned with the goals of the institution at large.

Review this checklist of criteria to determine whether your institution should consider revisiting its funds flow model.



Numerous individual administrative services and other agreements

Maintaining, negotiating, and funding numerous individual services agreements for medical and program directorships is arduous. Institutions should ensure a consistent and methodological approach for program leadership to avoid one-off agreements.



Multiple residency and fellowship training programs

The American College of Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) has specific guidelines for the time-commitment of program directors and assistant program directors towards residency and fellowship program management. These time commitments scale with the number of trainees in the program, and require a significant amount of faculty effort, which should be reflected into a funds flow model.



Significant dedicated faculty resources towards medical education

Development of materials to teach and administer undergraduate medical education is time spent away from professional clinical services and should be incorporated into a funds flow model as in the institution's mission.



Multispecialty centers of excellence or institutes

Funding of cancer centers or transplant institutes (as examples) requires alignment of people and resources across multiple departments/divisions. This collaboration is strategically important to institutions and funding can be incorporated into a funds flow model.



Call Coverage Complexities

An institutional approach to call coverage and subsequent funding is necessary to ensure a sense of fairness among departments/divisions.