

**Manual for Principal Investigators + Lab Financial
Administrators - Core Facilities Management System**

Table of Contents

1. [Overview](#)
 2. [My Homepage](#)
 3. [How do I Manage My Lab Settings?](#)
 - a. [How do I Set Projected Cost Amounts that Require My Approval?](#)
 - b. [How do I Create Budgets and Monitor Spending?](#)
 4. [Can I Review Service Requests that are Made by Members of My Lab?](#)
 - a. [How do I Approve Service Requests?](#)
 - b. [How do I Update Payment Information for Requests?](#)
 5. [How do I make requests to Core Facilities in iLab?](#)
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Manual for Principal Investigators + Lab Financial Administrators - Core Facilities Management System

Overview

As a PI or Financial Administrator, you have the opportunity to manage different parts of your lab's work with core facilities using iLab. You can setup an auto-approval threshold, allowing researchers in your lab to schedule equipment use or order services from cores under this price threshold without further approval. You can also use iLab to create budgets and monitor spending for specific cores. iLab also enables you to review, and approve or update core service requests placed by members of your lab. This document aims to help you get started using these essential iLab features.

If you experience any problems using iLab, do not hesitate to click the *'leave iLab feedback'* link in the upper right hand corner once you are logged in. Alternatively, send an email to support@ilabsolutions.com with your question and we will respond as soon as we can.

Manual for Principal Investigators + Lab Financial Administrators - Core Facilities Management System

My Homepage

When you first log into iLab make sure you update your time zone by choosing your correct time zone and then clicking on *Update my time zone*. After you update your time zone you will either land on the core's page you logged into or you may land on your homepage *Figure 1*. On your homepage you can view quick links to facilities you often use, view requests that require your attention and view a list of your reservations. You have menu options to manage your account, manage your support tickets and find lists of cores that you can access through iLab when you are on any page in iLab.

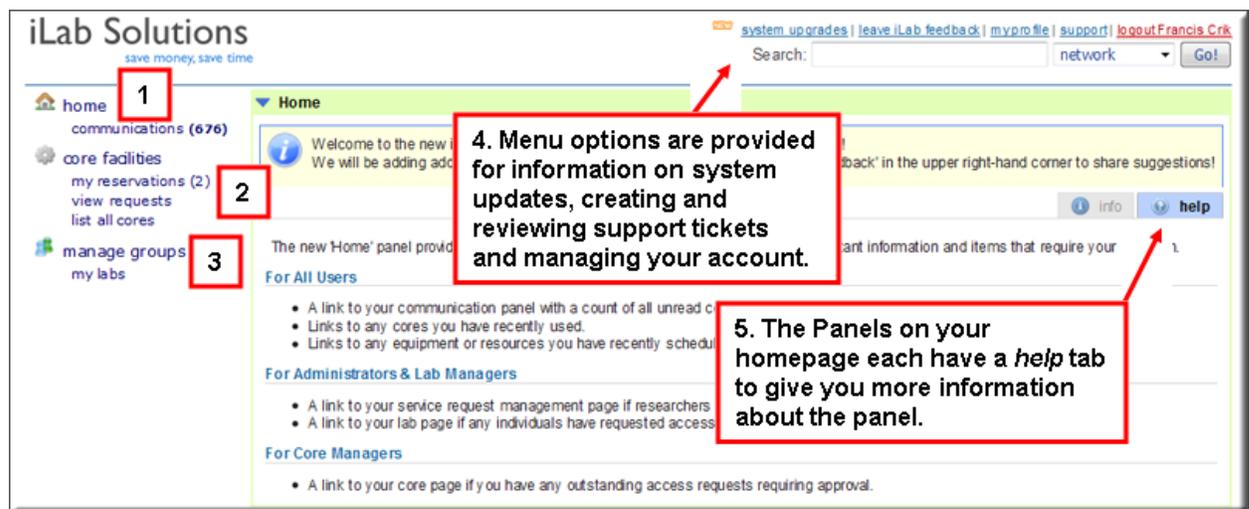


Figure 1. Your Homepage.

The *home* menu option on the left side of the page (*Figure 1.1*) will take you to your homepage and homepage panels. Under *homepage* is the *Communications* menu option where you can view emails sent through the iLab system. If your lab also utilizes the iLab Lab Management system, you will see menu options on the left side of the page for requisitioning.

Under *core facilities* (*Figure 1.2*) you may see *my reservations* where you can view past and future reservations you have with cores. You can see requests of services or projects that you have submitted to cores from the *view requests* link and you can see a list of cores that you can access from *list all cores*.

Under *manage groups* (*Figure 1.3*) you can view *my labs* to see details about your lab and lab members.

[\[Return to Table of Contents\]](#)

Manual for Principal Investigators + Lab Financial Administrators - Core Facilities Management System

The upper-right hand corner provides links for you to contact iLab support with leave iLab feedback, manage your account in my profile and manage your created support tickets from *support* (Figure 1.4). If you contact us through *leave iLab feedback*, you will be sending a message to the iLab support team so you will receive the most comprehensive support. This will also enable you to track your support tickets. You can view the support tickets you have sent by clicking on *support*. You can view videos with basic instructions on how to make a request on *Screen Casts* on the *support* page.

In *my profile* you can update your name, log-in information, password, and manage how you want to receive system-generated messages in *Manage Communications Preferences*.

Your homepage will have panels with different kinds of information. Each panel will have a help tab (Figure 1.5) with more information about the information seen in the panel.

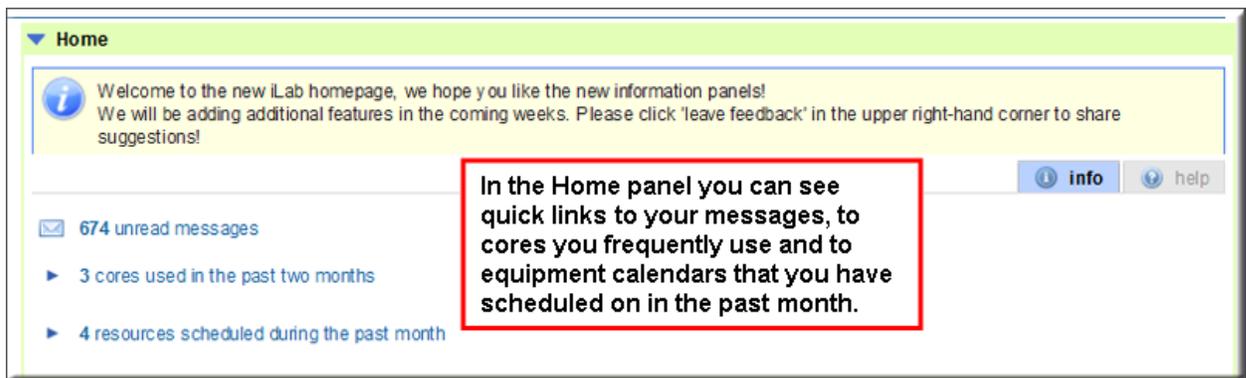


Figure 2. On the homepage you will see the Home panel that will have quick links to cores you use.

Under the *Home* panel you may see a *Service Request* panel. This panel will have any requests that require your attention in the *alerts* tab (Figure 3.1). Requests that require attention could be ones that require your approval, ones that are missing payment information or ones that you have not submitted to the core. Lab heads will see requests from all of their lab members and for themselves that require approval in the *Service Request* panel.

Manual for Principal Investigators + Lab Financial Administrators - Core Facilities Management System

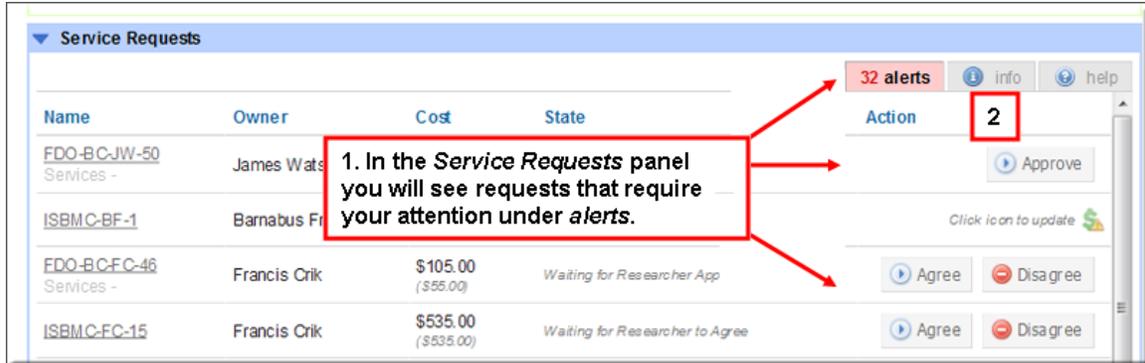


Figure 3. Under the Service Request Panel you will see requests that require your attention under alerts.

Under the info tab you will see up to twenty of your most recent requests (Figure 3.2).

You may also see a *Scheduled Events* panel that will show any of your reservations that are still pending core approval in the *alerts* tab, and all of your future reservations, up to fifteen, in the *info* tab.

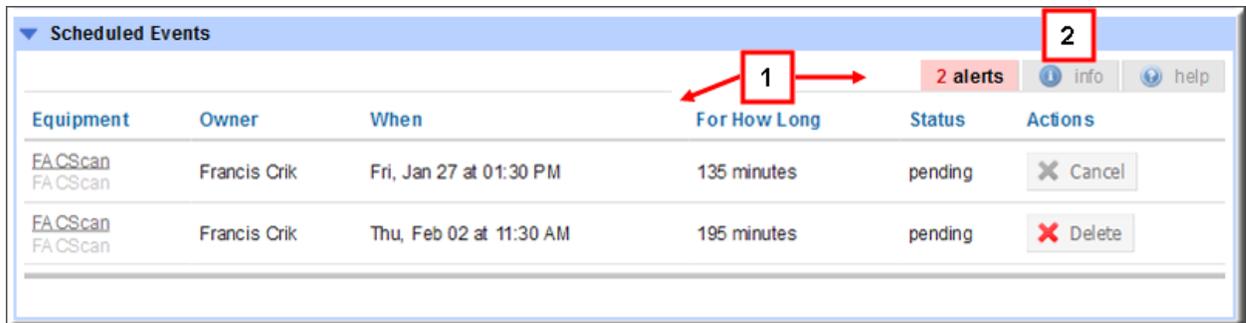


Figure 4. See reservations that are pending approval and your future reservations in the *Scheduled Events* panel.

Manual for Principal Investigators + Lab Financial Administrators - Core Facilities Management System

How do I Manage My Lab Settings?

Once you have logged in to iLab, use the left-hand menu to navigate to different parts of the system. To manage different settings for your lab, hover over or click on the *my labs* menu option. If you are a manager or administrator of multiple labs, these will be listed. Click on the lab name to open a management view (*Figure 5*).



Figure 5. Click on *my labs* to view and manage your lab settings.

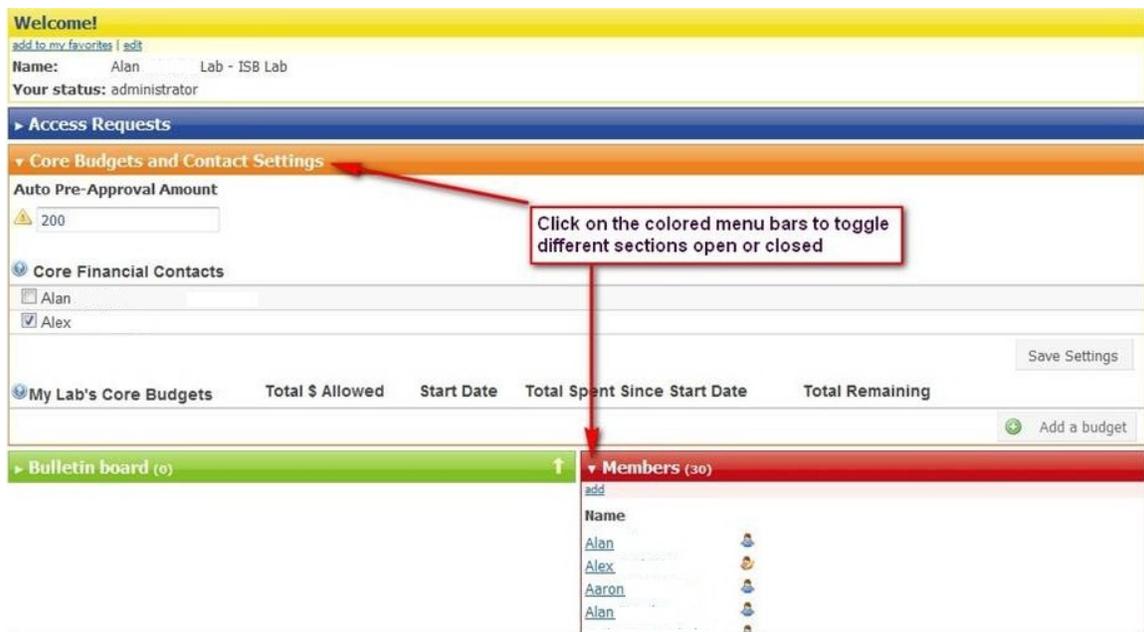


Figure 6. Click on the menu bars to view the settings.

Manual for Principal Investigators + Lab Financial Administrators - Core Facilities Management System

How do I Set the Quote Amounts that Require My Approval?

As a PI, you can determine the dollar amount up to which you would like your researchers to be able to self-approve service requests from cores. Simply set the desired dollar value and click *Save Settings* (Figure 7).

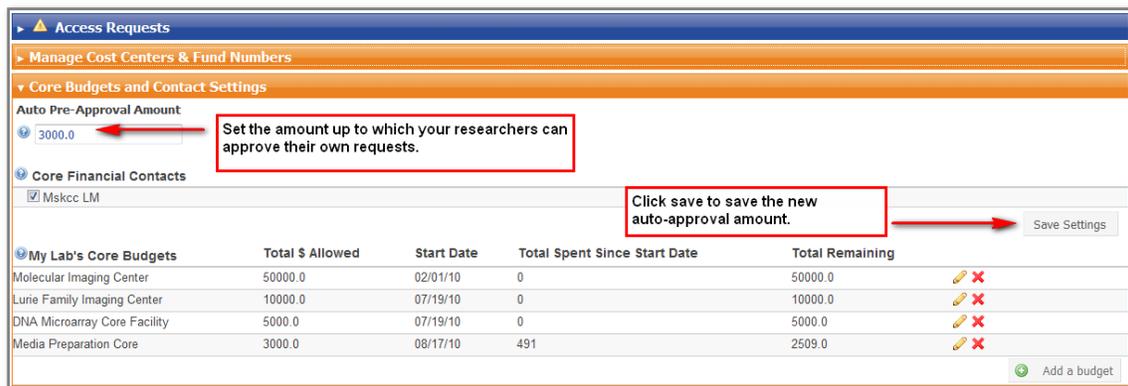


Figure 7. Set the dollar amount that would like approve for service requests made by members of your lab with cores.

How do I Create Budgets and Monitor Spending?

As a PI or lab manager, you can create a budget for each core from which your lab requests services or equipment use. By creating a budget, you can track how much researchers in your lab have spent against each core, and receive an email reminder when you approach the budget. Click *Add a budget* and complete the form to add a budget for a core.

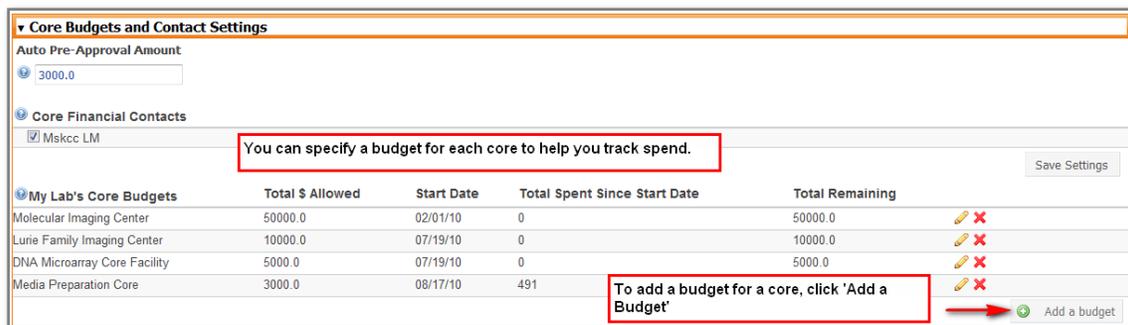


Figure 8. You can manage how much members of your lab can spend with each core.

Manual for Principal Investigators + Lab Financial Administrators - Core Facilities Management System

Can I Review Service Requests made by Members of My Lab?

As a PI or Financial Administrator, you can review all service requests owned by researchers within your lab. Your approval of scope of work and financial details may be required for a core to begin processing a service request.

To access this interface, click on the *view requests* link under *core facilities*, in the left-hand menu once logged into iLab. Details of this work flow are outlined in *Figure 9*.

The screenshot shows the 'My Labs' section of the iLab Solutions interface. A table lists service requests for a lab named 'Alan'. The table has columns for 'date', 'for', 'service id', 'cost', and 'status'. Two requests are shown, both with a status of 'Waiting for PI Approval'. The first request has a cost of \$1,200.00 and the second has a cost of \$280.50. The interface includes a left-hand menu with 'view requests' under 'core facilities', a search bar at the top right, and a 'Filter labs' dropdown. Red callout boxes provide instructions: 'Click 'view requests' in the menu to review requests for your lab(s)', 'Select a tab to view requests with a specific status or to view all', 'Click the blue arrow on a request line to review details', 'Two values display for the cost of a request: the top value is the amount quoted by the core; the value shown in brackets below is the current actual cost, which may be updated by the core as the project progresses. The core will only bill for the actual cost of a project.', and 'Click the 'Approve' button after reviewing a request'.

date	for	service id	cost	status
01/26	Mark (Alan) (ISB Vivarium)	Vivarium-2011-Aderem-MG-90 test request #2	\$1,200.00 (\$995.00)	Waiting for PI Approval
01/26	Mark (Alan) (ISB Vivarium)	Vivarium-2011-Aderem-MG-89 test request #1	\$280.50 (\$280.50)	Waiting for PI Approval

Figure 9. View requests made by members of you lab by clicking on *view requests*.

Depending on the number of requests under a particular tab, a search and filter panel may display at the top of the requests list. Use this feature to focus in on a more limited list of requests: search by request type or request status using the pulldown menu; filter results to within a restricted date range. Click on the *Search* button on the right side of the panel to update the search results (*Figure 10*).

Manual for Principal Investigators + Lab Financial Administrators - Core Facilities Management System

The screenshot shows the 'My Labs' section of the iLab Solutions interface. At the top, there is a search bar and a 'Filter labs' button. Below this is a table with columns: Lab, # Awaiting Approval, # Requiring Payment Info, \$ Total Processing, and In Default Group?. The table shows one lab: Alan - ISB Lab with 1 Awaiting Approval and 0 Requiring Payment Info, totaling \$1,980.50.

Below the table, there are tabs for 'Awaiting Approval', 'Require Payment Info', 'Processing and Recently Completed', and 'All requests'. The 'All Service Requests' tab is selected, showing a list of requests with columns: date, for, service id, cost, and status. Three requests are listed, all with a status of 'Waiting for PI Approval' or 'Waiting for Core to Begin'. A red box highlights the search and filter settings for the service requests, with a callout that says: 'Use search and filter settings to narrow the list of requests and find specific requests'.

Figure 10. You can search for particular requests using the search too bar.

How do I Approve Service Requests?

Some requests may have a projected cost that is above your approval amount. Those requests will be marked *Waiting for PI Approval*. Instructions on how to approve a requests *Waiting for PI Approval* are seen in *Figure 11*.

The screenshot shows the 'Service Requests Awaiting Approval' section of the iLab Solutions interface. A modal dialog box is open for approving a request. The dialog box has fields for 'approve up to: \$', 'PO Number (required)', and 'summary'. The 'approve up to: \$' field is set to 500.00, the 'PO Number' is 12345, and the 'summary' is 'test request #3'. There is a 'submit' button at the bottom of the dialog box. A red box highlights the 'Approve' button, with a callout that says: '1. After reviewing the details of a request, click the 'Approve' button. This will open a dialogue box. Confirm the approval details and submit to core.' Another red box highlights the 'submit' button, with a callout that says: '2. The quote price for a request is the default approval value. You may wish to increase this approval amount to allow additional service charges to be added to the project without requiring re-approval or delays in workflow. 3. Provide a valid funding number for the request. 4. Click the 'submit' button to complete the approval process and allow the core to begin work.'

Figure 11. Approve requests with projected costs above your approval amount.

Manual for Principal Investigators + Lab Financial Administrators - Core Facilities Management System

How do I Update Payment Information for Requests?

Service requests can be reviewed by clicking open the *Require Payment Info* tab. The payment icon on the right-hand side of these requests lines shows a yellow warning symbol over the green dollar sign. To update the payment information for a specific request, click the payment icon on the request line. An *Update Payment Information* window will pop open to review and update payment details for the request. Follow the steps in *Figure 12*.

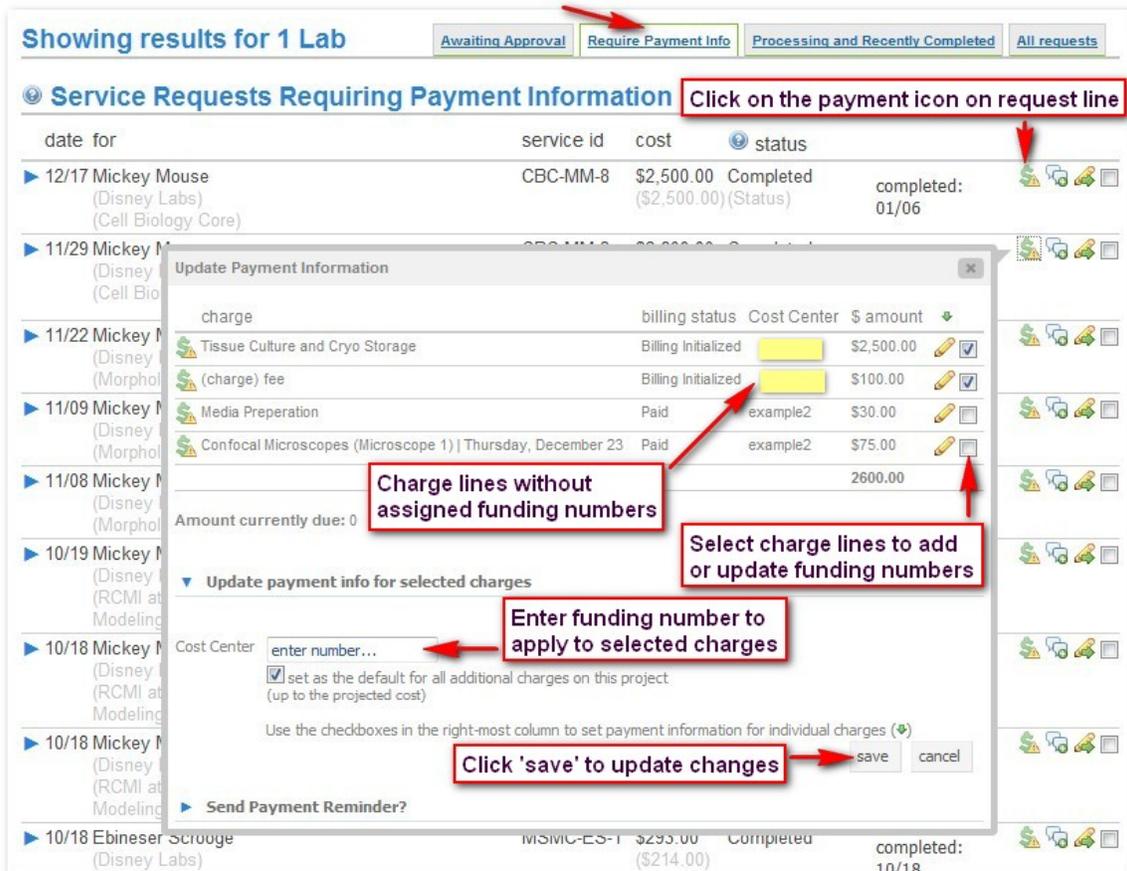


Figure 12. You can update payment information by clicking on the dollar sign icon on the right of every request.

Manual for Principal Investigators + Lab Financial Administrators - Core Facilities Management System

For further guidance on placing service requests and scheduling equipment use with a core facility's using iLab, please refer to this [customer manual](#).