
POLICY: PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR ELIGIBILITY

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1.0 PURPOSE

This Policy applies to all proposals submitted to external sponsors seeking monetary or non-monetary support of a sponsored project, which, if awarded to Temple University will be governed by a contract, grant, cooperative agreement or other binding agreement. This Policy does not apply to consultant agreements or the procurement of goods or services from vendors.

Establish criteria permitting individuals to fulfill the role of Principal Investigator (PI), program director or co-principal investigator on a sponsored project; and

Ensure that sponsored projects are conducted by those who have the requisite training, skill, commitment and resources as well as the appropriate relationship to Temple University to fulfill all the requirements of the award terms and conditions

2.0 POLICY

- 2.1 By accepting the role of PI or acting in a PI capacity at Temple University, an individual agrees to be subject to all applicable Federal and state laws, regulations (including those governing Federal debarment), as well as applicable University rules and policies.
- 2.2 To be eligible to submit a proposal to an external funding agency or serve as PI on a protocol submitted through Temple University's Electronic Research Administration (ERA) system, an annual disclosure of any COI within the ERA System, the proposed investigator must have been granted PI Status by the Office of the Vice President for Research (OVPR).

PI Status is automatically granted to those faculty who:

1. Are employees salaried at 50% or more of full time; and
2. Have appropriate qualifications to be appointed to an academic title which includes a doctoral degree and academic or professional credentials; and
3. Have an appointment in an academic school or department; and
4. Hold one of the faculty titles listed in Section 2.3 of this policy.

- 2.3 The following title groups are eligible to initiate proposals for research or training contracts or grants:

- Professor, Associate Professor, Assistant Professor, Instructor.
- Professor of Instruction, Associate Professor of Instruction, Assistant Professor of Instruction.

- Research Professor, Research Associate Professor, Research Assistant Professor, Research Instructor.
- Clinical Professor, Clinical Associate Professor, Clinical Assistant Professor, Clinical Instructor.
- Professor Emeritus.

3.0 Exemption to the Policy

Programs and awards which are specifically designed for students and/or postdoctoral fellows (e.g., fellowships and dissertation research support grants) are exempt from this policy. These programs require that the application be submitted in the student's and/or fellow's name with a faculty member identified as sponsor responsible for the supervision and oversight of the project.

4.0 Exceptions to this Policy

4.1 In special circumstances, it may be in the best interest of Temple University for individuals who do not have automatic PI status to fulfill the role of Principal Investigator (PI) on a sponsored project. In such cases, the individual must complete the **Request for Principal Investigator Status** form and submit it to their Dean or Designee. Upon approval by the College or School, the **Vice President for Research** may authorize an exception to this policy. Exceptions may be granted either **for a single, specific project** or as a **blanket waiver for up to three years**, allowing the individual to serve as PI on multiple proposals during that period. Examples of circumstances where PI status may be granted include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 4.1.1 When the proposed program will be appropriately directed by a member of Temple's administrative staff.
- 4.1.2 When an appointment to the status of faculty is contingent upon receiving a grant award.
- 4.1.3 For a Visiting Scientist/Scholar when the situation warrants it (i.e. length of stay at Temple makes it feasible; it is in the interest of Temple University; and with the approval of the Vice President for Research).
- 4.1.4 When a faculty member is transitioning to Temple University but has not yet been provided an official appointment letter or start date.

4.2 All requests must be submitted via the Request for Principal Investigator Status Form and approved before any proposal may be submitted to an outside entity.

4.3 All requests for PI status are reviewed on a case-by-case basis and require signoff from the requester's cognizant supervisor as well as the approval of the Vice President for Research.

5.0 REFERENCES

5.1 PI Waiver Form