Principal Investigator Eligibility

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Policy/Procedure

PURPOSE:
To establish the criteria permitting individuals to fulfill the role of principal investigator or co-principal investigator on a sponsored project.

DEFINITION:
A principal investigator or co-principal investigator is an individual designated by the College and approved by the sponsor to direct a project funded by an external sponsor. S/he is responsible and accountable to the College and sponsor for the proper programmatic, scientific, or technical conduct of the project and its financial management.

POLICY:
1. All proposals submitted to sponsors for external support must carry as principal or co-investigator at least one person in a professorial track holding the academic rank of professor, associate professor, assistant professor.
2. The principal investigator must be an employee of the College or hold an adjunct or emeritus appointment.
3. Individuals who are trainees, whether or not they are also employees (such as postdoctoral fellows/associates, students, interns or residents), may apply for external sponsorship only with the approval of a faculty sponsor or mentor as indicated either on the application or the Grant Clearance and Notification form.
4. All applications for external sponsorship must indicate the approval of the appropriate department chair and dean, indicating the availability of resources necessary to carry out the project.
5. Individuals not meeting the above criteria may, by demonstrating sufficient cause, petition the Provost and Dean for approval to submit an application to an external sponsor. Such approval will usually require the agreement of the Provost.

Related Information

History/Revision Information