



PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR ELIGIBILITY

Area:	Sponsored Programs	Number	RSSP-102
Subject:	Principal Investigator Eligibility	Issued:	04/01/2011
Applies to:	University	Revised:	n/a
Sources:	Office of Research Services & Sponsored Programs, GSU Research & Service Foundation, Inc., and Business & Finance	Updated:	June 2017
Responsible Party:	Provost and Vice-President for Academic Affairs	Page(s):	1 of 1

I. Purpose

The policy aims to ensure that all Georgia Southern University principal investigators meet defined eligibility requirements.

II. Policy Statement

Georgia Southern assumes significant financial and legal obligations when a proposal is submitted to an external sponsor or an award to support a project is accepted. A formal award is made in the university's name, and the project is funded based, in part, on the professional expertise of the university personnel submitting the proposal. Under the university's general oversight and authority, the principal investigator (also the project administrator, project director, program administrator, and program director) of a sponsored project bears primary responsibility for (a) completion and technical compliance of the proposed scope of work, (b) fiscal stewardship of the sponsor's funds, and (c) fulfillment of the project's administrative requirements. The university must ensure that individuals serving as principal investigators have appropriate technical competence and administrative capabilities and a reasonably long-term commitment to the university.

Members of the Corps of Instruction, as defined by [Section 3.2.1.1](#) of the Policy Manual of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, may serve as Principal Investigators/Project Directors on sponsored programs. Other university employees may serve as a PI with the approval of their authorizing department chair and college dean or equivalent (e.g., director or vice-president) and the Vice-President for Research and Economic Development. **Individuals who are not Georgia Southern employees are not eligible to serve as a PI.**

III. Exclusions – none

IV. Procedures

Authorizing officials confirm the eligibility of a PI in signing the Internal Approval Form.