



PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR ELIGIBILITY

Area:	Research Services and Sponsored Programs	Number:	RSSP-102
Applies to:	University	Issued:	April 1, 2011
Sources:	Research; Research Services & Sponsored Programs; GS Research & Service Foundation; Research Accounting	Revised:	June 1, 2017
		Reviewed:	November 25, 2019
Policy Owner:	Vice-Provost for Research	Page(s):	1

I. Purpose

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

II. Policy Statement

Georgia Southern University 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 to Georgia Southern University or the GS Research and Service Foundation; 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 in addition to long-term commitment to the university.

Members of the Corps of Instruction, as defined by [Section 3.2](#) of the Policy Manual of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, may serve as Principal Investigators/Project Directors (PI) on sponsored programs. Other university employees may serve as a PI with the approval of their authorizing department chair and college dean or equivalent, with a supervisor or qualified faculty member serving as PI or co-PI on the project. **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.