

OHSU Principal Investigator Eligibility Requirements - Grants, Contracts and Awards

OHSU Research Development and Administration

Introduction

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that individuals who are named as Principal Investigator on a sponsored project grant, contract or award received by OHSU have sufficient authority, appropriate background and accountability to carry out all aspects of the grant or award including assumption of fiscal responsibility. PI eligibility for grants, contracts and awards is different than that for IRB, IACUC and IBC submissions, (see table below and related policy): [OHSU Principal Investigator Eligibility Requirements – Human, Animal and Biosafety Submissions](#).

Policy

To be eligible to act as a Principal Investigator (PI) on grants, contracts and awards received by OHSU, an individual must hold at least one of the following positions at OHSU:

1. Faculty member paid by OHSU, VA, or Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) with an academic appointment (clinical professor, assistant professor, associate professor, professor, assistant scientist, associate scientist, senior scientist, or instructor)
2. Postdoctoral research fellow or senior research associate
3. Postgraduate medical or dental trainees
4. Other OHSU licensed medical professionals when sponsored project activities are within the scope of the individual's licensure
5. Students (only for funds specifically directed to predoctoral students)

Exceptions

The following individuals may act as PI on OHSU grants, contracts and awards eligible with a letter from the OHSU academic department chair, institute director, or unit head assuming responsibility for administrative issues, including financial matters:

1. Other OHSU employees who are not otherwise eligible per above
2. OHSU faculty with affiliated appointments (e.g., emeritus faculty, adjunct faculty) who are not employed by OHSU

Students

Students may act as PI's on grant applications for funds specifically directed to predoctoral students.

Note: Students may not act as PI's of IACUC, IRB, or IBC protocols. (See related policy: [OHSU Principal Investigator Eligibility Requirements – Human, Animal and Biosafety Studies](#).)

Timing of PI Eligibility

PI eligibility must be met at the time of the grant application, unless specifically permitted by the published guidelines of the funding mechanism, or the application is accompanied by a letter from the OHSU academic department chair or institute director, with a copy to the Dean, specifying that the applicant will be PI eligible at the time of the award. Postdoctoral fellows, postgraduate trainees or faculty at other institutions recruited to OHSU are not eligible to submit awards that require a faculty appointment at OHSU unless they can obtain a letter from their Department chair stating a faculty appointment at OHSU and adequate space and resources to conduct the sponsored project will be in place at the time of the award to OHSU.

Multiple project grants, contracts, and awards

For program project grants, center grants, and other multiproject awards, only the award level PI must meet the eligibility requirements specified in this policy. Individuals who do not meet these PI eligibility requirements may serve as project directors on subprojects on multiproject awards. Projects may have Co-Investigators who do not qualify for status as a Principal Investigator.

Compensation from OHSU grants, contracts and awards

Individuals who are not employees of OHSU may not budget for or receive financial compensation as PI as part of an OHSU grant award. To receive compensation, those individuals must become OHSU employees.

Investigator Responsibilities

All investigators must be authorized on a project-by-project basis to conduct sponsored projects at OHSU by acquiring the requisite signatures on the [Proposed Project Questionnaire \(PPQ\)](#). All PIs are obligated to adhere to the responsibilities of a PI as outlined in [OHSU's Roles and Responsibilities in the Proper Conduct of Research and Administration of Sponsored Projects](#).

Summary of Principal Investigator Requirements Relationship between Grant/Awards and IRB, IACUC and IBC Submissions

Position at OHSU	Eligible as PI on Grant/Contract/Award?	Eligible as PI on IRB, IACUC or IBC submission?
Paid OHSU, VA, or HHMI faculty member	Yes	Yes
Affiliated faculty	Yes, with letter from Dept/Institute/Unit Director	Yes, with letter from Dept/Institute/Unit Director and permission of IRB,IACUC or IBC Chair
Postdoctoral research fellow	No R01s	No
Senior research associate	Yes	No
Postgraduate medical or dental trainees (Resident/Fellow Housestaff)	Yes	No
OHSU licensed medical professionals (sponsored project activities within scope of licensure)	Yes	Yes, with letter from Dept/Institute/Unit Director and permission of IRB,IACUC or IBC Chair
OHSU employees (sponsored project activities within scope of employment)	Yes, with letter from Dept/Institute/Unit Director	Yes, with letter from Dept/Institute/Unit Director and permission of IRB,IACUC or IBC Chair
Students	Yes for grants/awards specifically directed to predoctoral students	No