

Scope

This policy applies to assignments of Principal Investigators for proposals submitted in the name of the University of South Alabama and those named either externally funded projects. The policy applies

- x A non-USA employee (e.g., student, postdoctoral appointee, adjunct or visiting faculty, or temporary employee) is ineligible to serve as PI. However, a sponsor's program guidelines may encourage or permit non-USA employees and temporary employees to apply as PI for a specified program. In this case the sponsor's application form will indicate the non-USA or temporary employee as the PI and list a PI-eligible USA employee as an investigator. For internal USA purposes, the eligible USA PI would be shown as PI in Cayuse and would be responsible for supervising project activities of the non-USA or temporary employee investigator.
- x In cases where there are collaborations on a sponsored project and the designation of the PI is an issue, the Chair (s)/Dean(s) will have primary responsibility for the selection/designation of the PI. For SPA purposes, the concurrence of the Department Chair and College Dean concerning who will serve as PI is documented by electronically approving the role associated with proposals routing through USA's Cayuse system
- x USA staff or administrative employee (an employee without a faculty appointment) may serve as a PI on a sponsored project provided the employee meets the same requirements and obtains the same concurrences as those required of a faculty member. Depending upon the employee's status within the specific USA unit, concurrence to serve as PI must come from the employee's direct supervisor (Department Chair or equivalent) and the Unit/Division Director (Dean or equivalent). Additionally, the approval of the Vice President for Research and Economic Development is required and should be obtained well in advance of any deadline for proposal submission.
- x For clinical trials, the PI is generally an MD. If the PI is not an MD, the individual may serve as PI with approval of the Dean of the College of Medicine or Allied Health or Director of Mitchell Cancer Institute, as appropriate
- x Faculty members who wish to continue research after retiring from USA may continue to serve as PI for the life of the funded project if approved by the chair and dean. The designation of PI will not be associated with employment and will terminate at the conclusion of the award term.

PI (Principal Investigator) – The USA individual who is responsible for the overall