

ORSP FAQ Sheet: Who Can Serve as a PI?

Any full-time faculty or staff member can serve as a Principal Investigator on an externally funded project. There is no limitation on the number of projects that a full-time faculty or staff member can submit in a given year.

Part-time faculty/Adjuncts or part-time staff members are allowed to serve as a Principal Investigator as long as they have a letter of support from a Dean or full-time faculty member. The letter should state that the Dean or full-time faculty member is willing to step in and complete the duties of the Principal Investigator should the part-time employee/adjunct not be available to finish for any reason. This includes taking responsibility for any outstanding elements of the award not yet finished.

The presumption of responsibility includes (but not limited to): completion of projects tasks and milestones, execution and wrap up of project, and interim and final reporting.

This letter is needed at the time of submission and is a requirement before applications can be formally submitted to sponsors.