

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR ELIGIBILITY

Sponsored Projects Guidance

The following may serve as a University of Colorado Boulder (CU Boulder) Principal Investigator (PI) or Co-Principal Investigator (Co-PI) on sponsored projects with confirmation of an active appointment, identifying a commitment to CU Boulder, and in accordance with the chart below. This ensures that CU Boulder has proper controls around those serving in these roles and recognizes that all research endeavors take dedicated commitment. Limited exceptions to the active appointment requirement are identified at the bottom of the chart.

Eligible with CU Boulder Active Appointment	Eligible with Approval <i>and</i> CU Boulder Active Appointment
	Approvers: Chair, Dean, or Institute Director
Tenure Track Faculty Job Code Titles*: - Assistant Professor - Associate Professor - Professor Non-Tenure Track Faculty Job Code Titles: - Assistant Teaching Professor - Associate Teaching Professor - Teaching Professor Research Faculty Job Code Titles: - Assistant Research Professor - Associate Research Professor - Research Professor - Research Associate - Senior Research Associate Clinical Faculty - Clinical Assistant Professor - Clinical Associate Professor - Clinical Professor Non-Faculty Job Code Titles: - Associate Director - Executive Director	Other Faculty Job Code Titles: - Adjunct and Adjoint (all ranks) Attendant Rank - Artist or Scholar in Residence (all ranks) - Emeritus (all ranks) - Lecturer - Visiting/Special Visiting Professor (all ranks) - Working PERA/ORP Retiree - Faculty (all working titles**) Research Faculty Job Code Titles: - Postdoctoral Associate/Fellow (no approval needed for fellowship applications) - Professional Research Assistant (PRA) - Senior Professional Research Assistant Non-Faculty Job Code Titles: - University Staff not listed elsewhere - Graduate Students (no approval needed for fellowship applications) - Research Affiliate
	Eligible with Approval <i>and</i> Exempt from CU Boulder Active Appointment Requirement
	Approvers: Chair, Dean, or Institute Director
	Graduate Students without an RA or TA appointment (no approval needed for fellowship applications) Undergraduate Students

PI, Co-PI and Approver Acceptance of Responsibility

PIs and Co-PIs of a sponsored project agree to accept responsibility for the scientific and fiscal conduct of the project and to provide all required award deliverables. If project requirements are not properly fulfilled and/or deliverables are not met by the PI and Co-PIs, that responsibility will rest with the approver.

Notes:

Eligibility status is evaluated at proposal and may be evaluated at award, if needed. Additional restrictions on PI eligibility may apply according to sponsor policies as well as for projects involving classified or controlled unclassified information (CUI).

*Employees may have working titles that differ from their HR job code title. The job code title is used to determine PI eligibility and any required approvals to serve as PI.

**Effective 4/25/23, CU system added new job codes and titles for working retirees, including “Working PERA Retiree” and “Working ORP Retiree.” PIs and Co-PIs with this job code may have a different working title (eg, any of the tenure track or research faculty titles). Regardless of working title, any PI or Co-PI with the “Working PERA/ORP Retiree” job code will need approval to serve as PI or Co-PI because of the temporary nature of the position (see [APS 5054](#) – Hiring Retirees to Work in Staff or Faculty Positions).

Related Policies:

- APS 5060 – Faculty Appointments: Administrative Policy on Approved Faculty Titles (including descriptions): <https://www.cu.edu/ope/aps/5060>.
- APS 5054 – Hiring Retirees to Work in Staff or Faculty Positions: <https://www.cu.edu/ope/aps/5054>