Principal Investigator Qualification Chart by Rank
University Research Board

Rank	Qualifies as Principal Investigator PI/co-PI	Requires Approval for Each Proposal
MEMBERS OF THE FACULTY		
President and Academic Officers	X	
Professor	X	
Associate Professor	X	
Assistant Professor	X	
University Lecturer (full-time only)	X	
Professor of the Practice	X	
Lecturer with rank of Professor (full-time only)	X	
Senior Lecturer (full-time only)	X	
Lecturer (full-time only)	X	
Instructor (full-time only)	X	
Senior Scholar	X	
All other faculty / visiting faculty ranks		X
PROFESSIONAL RESEARCH STAFF		
Professional Research Staff – CAMPUS		
Senior Research Scholar _____ (by discipline, i.e. Chemist, Engineer, Physicist, etc.)	X	
Research Scholar/Research ____(by discipline, i.e. Chemist, Engineer, Physicist, etc.)	X	
Senior Academic Research Manager	X	
Academic Research Manager	X (co-PI only)	
Associate Research Scholars[1]	X[1]	
Professional Research Staff – PPPL		
Principal Research Physicist, Senior Managing	X	
Principal Research Physicist, Managing	X	
Principal Research Physicist	X	
Research Physicist	X	
All other research staff ranks–Campus or PPPL		X
Visiting Professional Research Staff		X
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING STAFF–PPPL		
Senior Managing Engineer	X	
Managing Engineer	X	
Principal Engineer	X	
Senior Engineer	X	
PROFESSIONAL TECHNICAL STAFF		
Senior Professional Specialist	X	
All other tech. staff ranks – Campus or PPPL		X

PROFESSIONAL LIBRARY STAFF[2]		
University Librarian	X	
Deputy University Librarian	X	
Associate University Librarian	X	
Associate University Librarian without continuing appointment	X	
Senior Librarian	X	
Librarian III	X	
Librarian with continuing appointment	X	
Librarian without continuing appointment	X (co-PI only)	
Associate Librarian	X (co-PI only)	
All other Librarian Staff Ranks		X

1. If graduate students are involved in the project, a faculty member or other individual authorized to supervise graduate students must fulfill the appropriate advising responsibilities. The submitting department is obligated to assure compliance with this policy.

2. All eligible Librarians must first receive approval from the University Librarian to serve as a PI or co-PI on a funding proposal.

Revised February 2024