

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	
Instructor (full-time only)	X	
Lecturer with rank of Professor (full-time only)	X	
Lecturer (full-time only)	X	
Lecturer with Continuing Appointment (full-time only)	X	
Senior Lecturer (full-time only)	X	
Senior Scholar	X	
All other faculty / visiting faculty ranks		X
PROFESSIONAL RESEARCH STAFF		
Professional Research Staff – CAMPUS		
Senior Research _____ (by discipline, i.e. Chemist, Engineer, Physicist, etc.)	X	
Research Scholar/Research _____ (by discipline, i.e. Chemist, Engineer, Physicist, etc.)	X	
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 ⁴		X ⁴
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 ²	X ²	
All other tech. staff ranks – Campus or PPPL		X
PROFESSIONAL LIBRARY STAFF³		
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 II	X (co-PI only)	
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 If the appointing department specifically requests PI status at the time the appointment/promotion request is presented to the Committee on Appointments and Advancements for the Professional Researchers and Professional Specialists (C/7), and it is approved by the C/7, these individuals may serve as PI or co-PI without special URB approval. In all other situations, special URB approval must be requested and obtained.

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

4 It is the longstanding practice of the University that if PI or co-PI status is granted and the requested funding is then awarded, the awardee must be promoted to a PI-eligible rank.

Revised July 2013