

Principal Investigator/Project Director Eligibility Guidelines

The following guidelines describe the eligibility criteria for who may serve as Principal Investigator (PI) or Project Director (PD) on grants and contracts at CSUSM. These guidelines have been established by the Office of Graduate Studies and Research and provide further detail on Principal Investigator/Project Director eligibility as set forth in the Academic Affairs [*Sponsored Projects Administration Policy*](#) (Section 2.3.1.1).

Principal Investigators/Project Directors Eligibility*

The following individuals may serve as Principal Investigator for Grants and Contracts:

- Tenured or tenure-track faculty member currently employed by CSUSM, faculty who are in the Faculty Early Retirement Program (FERP), tenure-track faculty with signed appointment letter (submitting proposals prior to start date), department chairs;
- College Dean or equivalent, Associate Vice President, Vice President, President;
- Full-time staff of CSUSM, with support of their manager/MPP;
- A faculty member or administrator with emeritus status, with prior approvals from the College Dean/Unit MPP and Dean of Graduate Studies and Research;
- Stateside Lecturer faculty, such as those with a three-year contract, with prior approvals from the College Dean and Dean of Graduate Studies and Research.

**Exceptions may be granted for those overseeing long-standing campus programs or research.*

Other individuals may serve as a Co-Principal Investigator/Co-Investigator/Co-Project Director on a Grant or Contract administered by CSUSM. These circumstances are described in the ***Provisional Co-Principal Investigator/Co-Investigator/Co-Project Director Approval Procedure***.