Definition of Principal Investigator/Project Director

Summary/Purpose: Who can be a principal investigator on a grant or contract at UM

The Principal Investigator (or Project Director) of an external grant or contract is the individual responsible for the conduct of research, training, service, or other activity described in the proposal for the externally sponsored program.

The PI/PD of an external grant or contract must be a permanent employee (faculty member or staff member) of the University at the time of sponsored program award acceptance and project execution. Ordinarily, the PI/PD of an external grant or contract must also be a permanent employee of the University at the time of proposal submission, although exceptions to this may be made for new faculty and staff hires.