



Adapted from: Schill, Kelly, Miron, Anca, Verbockel, Sierra. 2016. Standard Operating Procedure 1. UW-Oshkosh

**Purpose**

This policy defines who may (or may not) serve as Principal Investigator on a Human Subjects Research Protocol. This includes exempt, expedited, and full board protocols.

**Policy**

To qualify as a Principal Investigator (PI) at UW-Stevens Point, individuals must meet the following requirements:

- Be employed at University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point or affiliated with the institution
- Faculty Members
  - Tenured
  - Tenure-Track
  - Adjunct
  - Emeritus
- Academic Staff
- Visiting faculty, academic staff or scientists with approval from department Chair/Director

To qualify as a Co-Principal Investigator, individuals must meet one of the requirements below when working with a Principal Investigator who meets the above status requirements:

- University Staff
- Collaborating faculty, academic staff or scientists with support letter from collaborating institution
- Post-doctoral students

The following individuals are not eligible to serve as Principle Investigator or Co-Principal Investigator, but are eligible to serve as research personnel on human subjects research projects:

- Undergraduate students
- Graduate students
- Volunteers

**Conflict of Interest**

Notwithstanding the above criteria, a reviewing IRB may determine that an individual does not qualify to serve as PI on a study involving human participants. The IRB may withhold approval of projects containing such conflict as defined by UW System and applicable funding agencies. Examples of this may include when the IRB determines that subject protections may be compromised due to existing circumstances, such as the individual's lack of training, expertise, past performance or physical location in proximity to research participants. Additionally, situations in which the Principal Investigator may have a vested interest in an already-approved project that would potentially conflict with the proposed project may also result in withholding approval.