Principal Investigator (PI) Approval Types Defined

All faculty (tenured, tenure-track, research and clinical) are automatically eligible to be Principal Investigators. Others requesting to submit proposals as the principal investigator for the first time must obtain special approval. There are two separate PI approvals needed 1) Grant Proposal/Project Lead and 2) IRB - Human Subjects. Grant Proposal/Project Lead requests are reviewed and approved by the Senior Director of Sponsored Program Services. IRB - Human Subject requests are reviewed and approved by the Associate Vice President for Research, Regulatory Affairs. Requests for approval should be communicated early in the process. This will allow time to review the situation for the appropriate approval. Blanket approval should only be requested for staff in regular positions where serving as PI is part of the position duties and responsibilities. PI approval in most cases will only be granted to individuals in paid appointments.

It is important to note that this also only applies to the Lead PI role. The role of Co-Investigator does not require this approval.

**Blanket – Grant**: Individuals with this approval level may serve as Principal Investigator (PI) on any sponsored project proposal or award. These individuals do not have approval to serve as PI on a human subjects study.

**Blanket – Grant/IRB**: Individuals with this approval level may serve as PI on any sponsored project proposal or award and they may serve as PI on any human subjects studies.

**Blanket – IRB**: Individuals with this approval level may serve as PI on any human subjects study. These individuals do not have approval to serve as PI on a sponsored project proposal or award.

**Blanket with Restriction – Grant**: Individuals with this approval level may serve as Principal Investigator (PI) on sponsored project proposal or award, but with a restriction (e.g. only Extension and Public Service or only proposals related to a specific topic). These individuals do not have approval to serve as PI on a human subjects study.

**Blanket with Restriction – Grant/IRB**: Individuals with this approval level may serve as PI on any sponsored project proposal or award and they may serve as PI on human subjects studies, but with a restriction (e.g. only Extension and Public Service or only proposals related to a specific topic).

**Blanket with Restriction – IRB**: Individuals with this approval level may serve as PI on a human subjects study, but with a restriction. These individuals do not have approval to serve as PI on a sponsored project proposal or award.

**Project Specific – Grant**: Individuals with this approval level may serve as Principal Investigator (PI) on a specifically identified sponsored project proposal or award. These individuals do not have approval to serve as PI on a human subjects study.

**Project Specific – Grant/IRB**: Individuals with this approval level may serve as PI on a specifically identified sponsored project proposal or award and they may serve as PI on a specifically identified human subjects studies.
**Project Specific – IRB:** Individuals with this approval level may serve as PI on a *specifically identified* human subjects study. These individuals do not have approval to serve as PI on a sponsored project proposal or award.

**Specific Grant and Blanket IRB:** Individuals with this approval level may serve as Principal Investigator (PI) on a *specifically identified* sponsored project proposal or award. Individuals with this approval level may serve as PI on any human subjects study.

**Specific IRB and Blanket Grant:** Individuals with this approval level may serve as PI on a *specifically identified* human subjects study. Individuals with this approval level may serve as Principal Investigator (PI) on any sponsored project proposal or award.