

## **CAS Policy on Principal Investigator (PI) Status (Eligibility to serve as PI on institutional sponsored research proposals)**

The Boston University Policy on Principal Investigator (PI) Status is posted at [http://www.bu.edu/research/files/2010/06/PI-Policy\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.bu.edu/research/files/2010/06/PI-Policy_FINAL.pdf) . It identifies categories of members of the BU community that have full privileges to serve as a PI automatically, those that have no PI privileges, and in section (c), a variety of circumstances in which individuals may have PI privileges if the appropriate Provost, Dean, Chair of the home academic unit, and (in the case of postdoctoral associates) direct supervisor/mentor approve. These include:

- (i) Faculty who serve less than 50% time in positions with “automatic PI-rights” as defined in (a) provided that he/she is not a permanent employee (> 50% time) of and/or benefits from full PI rights at another academic institution, company, or organization
- (ii) Those holding (unmodified or modified) titles of Lecturer or Instructor
- (iii) A long-term employee in a non-faculty research position
- (iv) In exceptional cases, an individual in a non-permanent, non-faculty research position (\*\* in Table I, e.g. post-docs) (with an appointment of two years or more)
- (v) Adjunct faculty (with an appointment of two years or longer)
- (vi) Retired or emeritus faculty

The Dean of CAS will generally approve PI status for the following categories if the chair/director of the home academic unit approves PI status and certifies that the necessary commitments of space, facilities, and other resources can be made:

- (i) Faculty who serve less than 50% time in positions with “automatic PI-rights” as defined in (a) provided that he/she is not a permanent employee (> 50% time) of and/or benefits from full PI rights at another academic institution, company, or organization
- (ii) Full-time lecturers who hold the rank of Senior Lecturer or Senior Lecturer /Master level
- (iii) Individuals appointed as Research Scientist/Engineer/Researcher (or Senior rank in these categories) throughout the proposed grant period
- (iv) Senior Postdoctoral Associates, provided the work is closely associated with the research program of a faculty mentor. Postdoctoral Associates will generally not be eligible to serve as PI except for proposals to programs that specifically target that applicant pool.
- (v) Adjunct faculty who hold appointments that cover the entire period of the proposed grant
- (vi) Emeritus faculty

PI status is not automatically granted for these categories of individuals. It is essential to begin the process of requesting approval for PI status at the department and then College level before investing significant effort in proposal development and well in advance of any program deadlines, using the form available at <http://www.bu.edu/research/files/2010/06/PI-Status-Form-FINAL.pdf> .