

## PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR ELIGIBILITY

### **Purpose:**

The purpose of this policy is to define who is eligible to act as a Principal Investigator (PI) on an animal research protocol at the University of Virginia.

### **Policy:**

Only UVA academic faculty may act as a Principal Investigator on an animal research protocol submitted to the Animal Care and Use Committee. These include:

- Professors
- Associate Professors
- Assistant Professors
- Instructors and Lecturers
- Any of the above titles in conjunction with the word "Research"  
(e.g. Research Assistant Professor, Associate Professor of Research)

The ACUC office may request documentation of academic rank; this might be a letter of appointment from the UVA Rector and Board of Visitors (for tenure-track faculty) or a letter of appointment from the Provost or the Dean.

The following members of the professional research staff are **not** considered faculty and are not eligible to act as a PI on an animal use protocol:

- Research Assistant
- Research Associate
- Research Scientist
- Senior Scientist
- Principal Scientist

Students and Trainees (e.g. Residents, Fellows, Post-docs, etc.) are also not permitted to be a PI on an animal research protocol. A faculty advisor may sponsor them and serve as the PI on their research project.

In special circumstances, the Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies may approve other individuals to serve as PI on IACUC protocols. Letters of request should be submitted by the relevant department chair and endorsed by the Dean.