

REVISED

Agenda Item No.

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Jon Mogford, Vice Chancellor for Research
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Approval of Revisions to System Policy *15.01, Research Agreements*

Proposed Board Action:

Approve revisions to System Policy *15.01, Research Agreements*.

Background Information:

Below is a summary of the proposed revisions for the Board's consideration.

-Section 1.1. The second sentence of this section, which excludes from the required procedures projects not administered through Sponsored Research Services (SRS), is deleted and moved to section 1.2.

The following subsections are added:

-1.1.1. This subsection requires member employees to route research proposals, contracts, and grants through the member through which they are administratively located, unless the CEO approves routing through a different member.

-1.1.2. This subsection provides that for principal investigators with joint appointments, the employee's administrative location will serve as the indicator of the individual's primary administrator and employer for proposal, grant, and contract administration, unless 1.1.3, 1.1.4, or 1.1.5 apply.

-1.1.3. This subsection provides that research proposals, grants, and contracts originating with a lead primary investigator who is a Texas A&M faculty member and administratively located to Texas A&M AgriLife Research (AgriLife) shall be routed through, approved, and administered by AgriLife. The grant or contract will be submitted and administered by Texas A&M if AgriLife is ineligible to administer the grant or contract. Indirect cost return for these grants and contracts will follow the guidelines of AgriLife, if eligible to administer the grant or contract, or the guidelines of Texas A&M, if not.

-1.1.4. This subsection provides that research proposals, grants, and contracts originating with a lead primary investigator who is a Texas A&M faculty member and administratively located to the College of Engineering shall be routed through, approved, and administered by Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station (TEES). The grant or contract will be submitted and administered by Texas A&M if TEES is ineligible to administer the grant or contract. Indirect cost return for these grants and contracts will follow the guidelines of TEES, if eligible to administer the grant or contract, or the guidelines of Texas A&M, if not.

-1.1.5. This subsection provides that research proposals, grants, and contracts originating with a lead primary investigator who is a Texas A&M faculty member and administratively located to

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the College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences shall be routed through, approved, and administered by either AgriLife or Texas A&M, as determined in writing by the Dean of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences. Indirect cost return for these grants and contracts will follow the respective guidelines of the member who administers the grant or contract, AgriLife or Texas A&M.

-Section 1.2. The sentence deleted from Section 1.1, which excludes from the required procedures projects not administered through SRS, is moved to this section.

In the continuing efforts of the System Policy Office to clarify and simplify policies, two non-substantive stylistic revisions are proposed to the existing template. The **Policy Statement** and **Reason for Policy** sections are being combined into a new **Policy Summary** section. In addition, the **Procedures and Responsibilities** section is retitled **Policy**.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

None.

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THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

Office of Research

January 17, 2018

Members, Board of Regents
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Approval of Revisions to System Policy *15.01, Research Agreements*

I recommend adoption of the following minute order:

“The revisions to System Policy *15.01, Research Agreements*, as shown in the attached exhibit, are approved, effective immediately.”

Respectfully submitted,

Jon Mogford
Vice Chancellor for Research

Approval Recommended:

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

John Sharp
Chancellor

Ray Bonilla
General Counsel

Billy Hamilton
Executive Vice Chancellor and
Chief Financial Officer

15.01 Research Agreements



~~Approved February 27, 1995 (MO 44-95)~~
~~Revised September 1, 1995 (MO 286-95)~~
~~Revised September 26, 1997 (MO 181-97)~~
~~Revised March 24, 2000 (MO 66-2000)~~
~~Revised January 22, 2009 (MO 027-2009)~~
~~Revised January 30, 2014 (MO 050-2014)~~
~~Revised February 8, 2018 (MO -2018)~~
Next Scheduled Review: ~~January 30, 2019~~ February 8, 2023
[Click to view Revision History.](#)

Policy Statement

This policy provides the vice chancellor for research (VCR) and the chief executive officers (CEOs) of The Texas A&M University System (system) and its respective members with a structure for conducting research and defines the VCR's, CEOs' and respective members' research-related duties and administrative responsibilities.

~~Reason for Policy~~

~~This policy defines the VCR's, CEOs' and respective members' research-related duties and administrative responsibilities.~~

Policy Procedures and Responsibilities

1. RESEARCH POLICY

- 1.1 The VCR shall submit for chancellor approval the process for administering sponsored research projects funded by federal, state, commercial or non-profit funds in accordance with System Policy 15.04, *Sponsored Research Services*. ~~The procedures required by this section will exclude the administration of research projects or research-related activities not required to be administered by SRS under Section 4, System Policy 15.04 (collectively "Excepted Research Projects or Research-Related Activities").~~

1.1.1 Member employees will route research proposals, grants, and contracts through the member to which they are administratively located (adloc) unless the CEO of such member authorizes routing through a different member.

1.1.2 When a principal investigator (PI) has one or more joint appointments with other members, the administrative location (adloc) shall serve as the indicator of the

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primary administrator and employer of the PI for proposal, grant, and contract administration, unless Sections 1.1.3, 1.1.4 and 1.1.5 apply.

- 1.1.3 All research proposals, grants, and contracts originating with a lead PI who is a faculty member at Texas A&M University (Texas A&M) and adloc'd to the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences shall be routed through, approved, and administered by Texas A&M AgriLife Research (AgriLife Research). In cases where AgriLife Research is not eligible to administer the grant or contract, the grant or contract will be submitted and administered by Texas A&M. Indirect cost return for these grants and contracts will follow the respective guidelines of AgriLife Research unless AgriLife Research is not eligible to administer such grant or contract; in such case, indirect cost return will follow Texas A&M guidelines.
- 1.1.4 All research proposals, grants, and contracts originating with a lead PI who is a faculty member at Texas A&M and adloc'd to the College of Engineering shall be routed through, approved, and administered by Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station (TEES). In cases where TEES is not eligible to administer the grant or contract, the grant or contract will be submitted and administered by Texas A&M. Indirect cost return for these grants and contracts will follow the respective guidelines of TEES unless TEES is not eligible to administer such grant or contract; in such case, indirect cost return will follow Texas A&M guidelines.
- 1.1.5 All research proposals, grants, and contracts originating with a lead PI who is a faculty member at Texas A&M and adloc'd to the College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences shall be routed through, approved, and administered by either AgriLife Research or Texas A&M as determined by the Dean of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, at the Dean's discretion as confirmed in writing. Indirect cost return for these grants and contracts will follow the respective guidelines of AgriLife Research or Texas A&M, whichever member administers such grants and contracts.
- 1.2 The procedures required by Section 1.1 will exclude the administration of research projects or research-related activities not required to be administered by SRS under Section 4, System Policy 15.04 (collectively "Excepted Research Projects or Research-Related Activities"). Each member CEO shall submit for chancellor approval guidelines for administering Excepted Research Projects or Research-Related Activities.
- 1.3 Each CEO shall assure that all research conducted is consistent with the mission of the member and the system.
- 1.4 Each CEO shall assure that all research conducted at the member complies with all applicable system, local, state and federal policies, regulations and guidelines.
- 1.5 Annually, the chancellor shall receive a report from the VCR detailing ongoing sponsored research projects and a report from each CEO detailing ongoing Excepted Research Projects or Research-Related Activities.
- 1.6 The VCR shall establish procedures to assure that sponsored projects are administered in compliance with the sponsor's applicable policies and regulations. Noncompliance

with the sponsor's applicable policies and regulations shall be reported to and be resolved by the appropriate CEO or designee, in consultation with the VCR.

2. INITIATION OF AGREEMENTS

It shall be the policy of the system to cooperate whenever possible, within the limits of its means and responsibilities, with individuals, government agencies, corporations or other outside parties in the solution of problems of mutual interest. The initiative for effecting such cooperative arrangements, including the establishment of grants-in-aid for the support of research work, may be assumed either by a member or by an outside party.

3. CONTROL OF RESEARCH PRODUCTS

Except as otherwise described in System Policy *17.01, Intellectual Property Management and Commercialization*, the results of investigations by, or under the direction of, the research or teaching staffs of the system during the course of their regularly assigned duties shall become the property of the system and shall be so used and controlled as to produce the greatest benefit to the public and to the system.

4. ADVERTISING POLICY

If the results expected from a cooperative undertaking are such that the outside party desires to use the name of the system or a member in its advertising, provisions for such use shall be included in a written agreement. Advertising referring to these results shall be so worded as not to imply the endorsement by any member or the system of a specific product or producer, and shall reflect credit upon the system, its personnel and its activities.

5. RELATIONSHIPS WITH DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATIONS

Relationships with development foundations and similar support organizations are described in System Policy *60.01, Relationships with Affiliated Organizations*.

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

[System Regulation 15.01.01, ~~Administration of Sponsored Agreements – Research and Other~~](#)

[System Regulation 15.01.04, Time and Effort Reporting](#)

[System Policy 15.04, Sponsored Research Services](#)

[System Regulation 15.99.01, Use of Human Subjects in Research](#)

[System Regulation 15.99.03, Ethics in Research, Scholarship and Creative Work](#)

[System Policy 17.01, Intellectual Property Management and Commercialization](#)

[System Regulation 21.05.01, Gifts, Donations, Grants and Endowments](#)

Member Rule Requirements

A rule is not required to supplement this policy.

Contact Office

Office of Vice Chancellor for Research
(979) 458-6000

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15.01 Research Agreements

Revised [February 8, 2018](#) (MO -2018)
Next Scheduled Review: February 8, 2023
Click to view [Revision History](#).



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Policy

1. RESEARCH POLICY

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[System Regulation 15.01.04, Time and Effort Reporting](#)

[System Policy 15.04, Sponsored Research Services](#)

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