**Research Staff Positions**

**Revised February 10, 2022**

Research Technical Staff:

The research technical staff is the entry for research staff members involved in and funded by sponsored projects that may deliver services to clients or involve program responsibilities other than traditional research. The work and duties may vary from that appropriate for a relatively new professional to broader or more significant responsibilities expected of more experienced research staff personnel. Research technical staff work under supervision and carry out project responsibilities, such as technical assistance or consultation, which require professional preparation and application of accepted principles and practices of the field. They may be involved in preparing reports, documents, or manuals for review by project leaders. They may develop and deliver training, or coordinate activities involving a number of project members. They may provide input into the preparation of proposals or supervise project personnel, but typically they have limited responsibility and authority in these areas. Research technical staff are not eligible to be principal investigators; however, requests for principal investigator status may be submitted to the Office of the Vice President for Research.

* Either (1) a bachelor’s degree in a relevant field or (2) significant related experience equivalent to a bachelor’s degree is the minimum qualification for appointment as research technical staff.

Research Manager:

A research manager generally has responsibility to manage a specific set of tasks associated with one or more research project and supervises the staff who perform those tasks. The position is funded by the research projects. The research manager works under the supervision of a principal investigator and is not eligible to be a principal investigator.

* Bachelor’s degree in a relevant field is the minimum qualification for appointment as a research manager. However, if an exception request is approved by the Dean, the exception request must document significant related experience equivalent to a bachelor’s degree before an offer is extended.

Research Scientist or Research Engineer:

A research scientist or research engineer is the entry level for research staff members involved in and funded by sponsored projects. Research scientists and engineers generally conduct research under supervision using standard and non-standard procedures appropriate to the field. They may provide input into the preparation of proposals or supervise staff or student personnel, but typically they have limited responsibility and authority in these areas. Research scientists and engineers are not eligible to be principal investigators; however, requests for principal investigator status may be submitted to the Office of the Vice President for Research.

* Bachelor’s degree in a relevant field is the minimum qualification for appointment as a research scientist or engineer. However, if an exception request is approved by the Dean, the exception request must document significant related experience equivalent to a bachelor’s degree before an offer is extended.

Senior Research Scientist or Senior Research Engineer:

Senior research scientists and senior research engineers fulfill a senior role in the university’s sponsored research program. They carry out independent research under limited supervision. By virtue of their expertise and experience, senior research scientists and engineers make significant contributions to the conceptualization and conduct of the research. They may be involved in the preparation of proposals, reports, and publications, presentation of research results, and development of patents. Senior research scientists and engineers may serve as principal investigators.

* Either (1) a master’s degree in a relevant field or (2) a bachelor’s degree in a relevant field and professional experience equivalent to a master’s degree is the minimum requirement for appointment as a senior research scientist or engineer. However, if an exception is approved by the Provost, the exception request must document the justifying experience before an offer is extended.