

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTIONS OF RESEARCH POSITIONS

In general, research positions are designed for staff who work on research projects funded through grants or contracts from government agencies or foundations that require traditional academic/research skills such as project design, analytic techniques, presenting results, and project management.

Research Assistant/Analyst—

Persons in this category need not have prior experience in research. Persons in this category work under the close supervision of experienced researcher(s). Candidates should have at least a B.A. in a relevant field.

Research Associate—

Persons in this category should have at least one year of prior research experience. Persons in this category work under the supervision of experienced researcher(s). Persons in this position may serve as a project manager or a task leader. Persons in this position are not eligible to be named as principal investigator or co- principal investigator on research grant applications (not including dissertation research grants). Persons in this position should have at least a master's degree in a relevant field, or be a candidate for a Ph.D. or terminal degree for the discipline.

Senior Research Associate—

Persons in this position should have a Ph.D. or other a terminal degree for the discipline and have at least 3 years of research experience. Persons in this category are expected to be able to work at an advanced level within a research enterprise. Persons in this category are eligible to be named as principal investigator or co principal-investigator on research grant applications or on research projects if there is a more senior faculty or research staff who agrees to serve as a co-investigator (either formally on the grant application or within the Heller School). Persons in this category should have, or be capable of, authoring or co-authoring papers for publication, initiating grant applications, or presenting papers at professional conferences.

Social Scientist—

Persons in this position should have a Ph.D. or other a terminal degree for the discipline. Candidates for this position should have (generally) at least 3 years of research experience since award of their terminal degree, and have worked independently on research projects. Persons in this position are eligible to be named as a principal investigator or co-principal investigator on research grant applications or on research projects. Persons in this position should have evidence of substantial accomplishment in a research career. Such evidence includes at least 3 articles in peer-reviewed journals as a first or second author, and experience as a principal investigator or co-principal investigator or other senior role within a research project. Other relevant evidence includes, but is not limited to presentations at professional conferences, engagement in the review of research or publications, or other relevant evidence.

Senior Social Scientist—

Persons in this position should have a Ph.D. or other a terminal degree for the discipline. Persons in this category should have (generally) at least 6 years of substantial research accomplishments, including experience as a principal investigator or co-principal investigator on research projects or large scale policy analyses, and have a demonstrated ability to secure research funding as a principal investigator. Persons in this category are expected to have multiple publications (books, book chapters, peer-reviewed articles, reports, editorials, or book reviews, etc.), including lead authorship on at least 6 articles in peer-reviewed journals, or lead author on a peer-reviewed book. Persons in this category are expected to have a reputation as a leading researcher, policy analyst, or scholar in their field. Relevant evidence of such a reputation includes, but is not limited to: invited lectures, participation on research review panels, leadership in professional organizations, participation in editorial review activities for scientific or professional publications, expert testimony at governmental hearings, participation in advisory research or scholarly panels, etc.

Distinguished Social Scientist—

This is the highest research appointment available in the University and applicable to those with an extraordinary record of accomplishment as a scholar, policy analyst, or researcher of national, if not international, reputation. Evidence of this distinction includes an extensive collection of seminal articles and/or books, and other evidence exemplary of the individual's recognized, sustained, and field-leading position as an individual of major repute. Persons in this category are expected to have demonstrated extraordinary leadership in the development of research institutes, programs of nationally recognized and sustained research or policy analysis, and/or profound influence on the public policy approaches or analysis in the candidate's specific field.

Approved by the Committee on Appointments and Promotions
September 13, 2001