

NIH Multiple-PI Leadership Plan - Required Language

The purpose of this leadership plan is to facilitate a collaborative opportunity for the investigators and to establish a decision-making process. The participating principal investigators in this project agree to abide by the multiple PI policy language in the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Grants Policy Statement (see Chapter 9, Multiple-PI section at <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/nihgps/nihgps.pdf>). As stated in that policy, “All participating PIs share equally the authority and responsibility for leading and directing the project, intellectually and logistically. Each PI is responsible and accountable to the applicant organization, or as appropriate to a collaborating organization for the proper conduct of the project or program, including submission of all required reports.”

Participating PIs will be party to any decision requiring NIH prior approval and signatories to any prior approval request. Participating PIs will be party to any major budgetary changes (budgetary changes that may affect the ability of a Participating PI to complete the project). Every effort will be made by the participating PIs to resolve disputes. If any dispute cannot be resolved by the participating PIs, the final resolution will be made by the institution(s) sponsored programs office(s), in conjunction with the appropriate Chair and Dean.

Sample Task Distribution Language for Multiple PI Leadership Plans

Participating PIs will provide oversight of the entire Program and develop and implementation of all policies, procedures and processes. In these roles, participating PIs will be responsible for the implementation of the Scientific Agenda, the Leadership Plan and the specific aims and ensure that systems are in place to guarantee institutional compliance with U.S. laws, DHHS and NIH policies including biosafety, human and animal research, data and facilities. Specifically, one PI will oversee Aim 1 and be responsible for all animal research approvals. The other PI is responsible for Aims 2, 3, and 4 including implementation of all human subjects research and approvals. One PI will serve as contact and will assume fiscal and administrative management, including maintaining communication among PIs and key personnel through monthly meetings. The Contact PI will be responsible for communication with NIH and submission of annual reports and ensuring that approval for the reports has been obtained from all Participating PI's. Publication authorship will be based on the relative scientific contributions of the PIs and key personnel.

For more information on Multiple PI projects, see the NIH Grants Policy Statement at <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/nihgps/nihgps.pdf>