

**MARIST COLLEGE OFFICE OF ACADEMIC GRANTS**  
**CONFLICT OF INTEREST CERTIFICATION FOR PHS- AND NSF-SPONSORED PROJECTS**

The Public Health Service (PHS) and the National Science Foundation (NSF) require institutions applying for funding to assume responsibility for assuring that the financial interests of the institution's employees do not compromise the design objectivity, conduct, or reporting of sponsored projects involving research, education and service.

For *PHS* and *NSF* grant applications or contract proposals (new or continuing), information on "*Significant Financial Interests*" that would reasonably appear to be affected by the project is required to be provided by any investigator responsible for the design, conduct or reporting of *PHS-* or *NSF-* funded projects. Information must be provided before an application submission. Prior to an award, the institution must resolve any conflicts in financial interests (i.e., those that could directly and significantly affect the design, conduct, or reporting of the sponsored project). Any change in significant financial interest prior to or during the award period must be disclosed at the time of change.

"Investigator" means the principal investigator, co-principal investigators, and any other person at the institution who is responsible for the design, conduct, or reporting of a project funded by the *PHS* or *NSF*, or proposed for such funding. With respect to financial interests, "investigator" includes the investigator's spouse and dependent children.

The *PHS* and *NSF* define "*Significant Financial Interest*" as anything of monetary value, included but not limited to salary or other payments for service (e.g., consulting fees or honoraria); equity interests (e.g., stocks, stock options or other ownership interests); and intellectual property rights (e.g., patents, copyrights and royalties from such rights), where such payments exceed \$10,000 annually, the equity interest exceeds five percent ownership and a value of \$10,000 at fair market value, or royalty payments exceed \$10,000 annually.

Exemptions include: (1) salary, royalties, or other remuneration from the institution; (2) income from seminars, lectures, or teaching engagements sponsored by public or nonprofit entities; (3) income from service on advisory committees or review panels for public or nonprofit entities; or (4) financial interest in business enterprises or entities if the value of such interest do not exceed \$10, 000 and represent more than five percent ownership interest for any other enterprises or entity when aggregated for the investigator and the investigator's spouse and dependent children.

Assurances are made by checking the appropriate box below and are certified by the signature of the investigator(s) and by the signature of the official signing for the applicant organization on the face page of the application.

***Certification (to be submitted by each individual satisfying the above definition of "investigator"):***

***Please mark appropriate box.***

- "I hereby certify that I have no significant financial interest that could be affected by the project cited below."**
- "I have a significant financial interest that could be affected by the project cited below and I have attached the confidential [Financial Disclosure and Conflict Resolution Form](#) required by this certification."**

Principal Investigator: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature) (Date)

Project Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Descriptive)

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If a significant financial interest exists, please provide to the Academic Grants Office, with the application, a confidential [Financial Disclosure and Conflict Resolution Form](#) in a sealed envelope. The disclosure will be referred to the AVP and the dean of the appropriate division or school for review and resolution before an award is made. Resolution will include determination of whether or not an actual conflict of interest exists and, if so, what actions must be taken to manage, reduce, or eliminate such conflict.

Form(s) available at [www.marist.edu/grants](http://www.marist.edu/grants)