

POLICIES OF THE COLORADO UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
POLICY FOR THE SYSTEM AND ALL INSTITUTIONS

Policy Title: Research Alignment Policy	
Effective Date: January 1, 2026	Category: Research
Policy Owner: Chief Research Officer and Vice President for Research	Contact(s): Office of the Vice President for Research Web: www.research.colostate.edu Phone: 970-491-0340

PURPOSE OF THIS POLICY

This policy establishes the applicable policies that govern Research and Research related activities for the Colorado State University System (the “System”) and the System institutions, including Colorado State University Fort Collins, Colorado State University Pueblo, and Colorado State University Global (each an “Institution”, or together the “Institutions”). In support of the Chief Research Officer of the System and to align the research activities and applicable research policies for the Institutions, this policy promotes the System’s interest in research compliance and to advance the System’s research mission by enabling and facilitating exemplary research, scholarship, and creative artistry at Colorado State University Fort Collins (“CSU Fort Collins”), Colorado State University Pueblo (“CSU Pueblo”), and Colorado State University Global (“CSU Global”).

APPLICATION OF THIS POLICY

This policy applies to each Institution and to all students, faculty, staff, contractors, consultants, affiliates, and any others who are engaged in Research or Research related activities for the System or at any of the Institutions.

EXCEPTIONS FROM THIS POLICY

There are no exemptions to this policy.

DEFINITIONS USED IN THIS POLICY

Institutions: Institutions within the Colorado State University System, including CSU Fort Collins, CSU Pueblo, and CSU Global, are referred to collectively as the Institutions in this policy.

Research: A systematic investigation designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge.

CSU Pueblo Research Policies: Those university research policies listed in the CSU Pueblo Policy Library as relating to research, including but not limited to the following policies: (1) Effort Reporting for Sponsored Projects; (2) Financial Conflicts of Interest in Public Health Services Funded Programs; (3) Institutional Base Salary; and (4) Responding to Allegations of Research Misconduct.

CSU Global Research Policies: Those CSU Global research related Institutional policies, such as the policy on Conflicts of Interest.

CSU Fort Collins Research Policies: Those university research policies listed in the CSU Fort Collins Policy Library as relating to research, as well as all university policies owned or jointly owned by the Vice President for Research now and in the future, including but not limited to the following policies: (1) Animal Care and Use; (2) Biosafety; (3) Classified Research; (4) Combating Trafficking in Persons; (5) Cost Transfers on Sponsored Projects; (6) Dual Use Research of Concern and Pathogens with Enhanced Pandemic Potential; (7) Effort Reporting; (8) Export Control; (9) Human Subject Research Protection Program; (10) Institutional Base Salary; (11) Institutional Conflict of Interest; (12) NIH Required Individual Development Plans; (13) Organizational Conflict of Interest; (14) Prohibition on Participation in Malign Foreign Talent Recruitment Programs; (15) Reporting Other Support to Federal Agencies; (16) Research Data; (17) Research Misconduct; (18) Responsible and Ethical Conduct of Research Training; (19) Sponsored Projects Accounts Receivable; and (20) Financial Conflicts of Interest in Federally Funded Research.

POLICY STATEMENT

The Chief Research Officer of the System is responsible for advancing the System's research mission by enabling and facilitating exemplary research, scholarship, and creative artistry at CSU Fort Collins, CSU Pueblo, and CSU Global. The Chief Research Officer is a System position that is concurrent with the role as Vice President for Research at CSU, and the Chief Research Officer has the same authority over Research and Research related activities at CSU Pueblo and CSU Global. To provide singular alignment and direction to all three Institutions, the CSU Research

Policies shall apply to and govern the Research and Research related activities at CSU Fort Collins, CSU Pueblo, and CSU Global, and thus the CSU Research Policies apply to all students, faculty, staff, contractors, consultants, affiliates, and any others who are engaged in Research or Research related activities at CSU Fort Collins, CSU Pueblo, and CSU Global.

POLICY PROVISIONS

1. The Chief Research Officer of the System has responsibility for and oversight and authority over all Research and Research related activities at each Institution.
2. The CSU Fort Collins Research Policies govern and control all Research and Research related activities at each Institution. Accordingly, as of January 1, 2026, the CSU Fort Collins Research Policies replace and supersede the CSU Pueblo Research Policies and the CSU Global Research Policies, and the CSU Fort Collins Research Policies apply to Research and Research related activities at CSU Pueblo and CSU Global and they apply to all students, faculty, staff, contractors, consultants, affiliates, and any others who are engaged in Research or Research related activities at CSU Fort Collins, CSU Pueblo, and CSU Global.
3. At the discretion of the Chief Research Officer, certain CSU Pueblo Research Policies and CSU Global Research Policies or provisions of those policies may be incorporated or may apply to Research activity that is unique to CSU Pueblo or CSU Global, as needed on a case-by-case basis. Where CSU Fort Collins Research Policies reference the CSU Fort Collins Administrative Professional and Faculty Manual (the “Manual”), the provisions of the Manual generally are not applicable to CSU Pueblo or CSU Global and its Research and Research related activities or CSU Pueblo and CSU Global employees, unless the Chief Research Officer determines that the Manual should apply to effectuate the purpose and intent of this policy as set forth in the Policy Statement herein.
4. The Chief Research Officer will coordinate with the Provost and President at CSU Pueblo and CSU Global to review the CSU Pueblo and Global Research Policies, as well as any other Research related CSU Pueblo and Global policies or manuals, and will recommend to the Chancellor any revisions to those policies or any pertinent CSU Research Policies to incorporate any needed provisions or references from the CSU Pueblo and Global Research Policies and to best accomplish the System’s research goals and interests.
5. This System Research Alignment Policy will be regularly reviewed and updated by the Chief Research Officer, upon consultation with the Chancellor.

Legal Review

Colorado State University System
Office of General Counsel
Jason L. Johnson, General Counsel

By: _____/s/_____

Date: 12/18/2025

FINAL APPROVAL:

Colorado State University System
Tony Frank, Chancellor

By: _____/s/_____

Date: 12/18/2025