

Clarification of Guidelines Relevant to Staff Investigators

The P30 Cancer Center Support Grant Guidelines state that members of the center who are clearly important contributors to the programmatic or translational activities of the center may receive salary from the Staff Investigator budget for their specific roles in the center. To qualify an individual should play a definable and special role in helping the center achieve its objectives above and *beyond their own research* or ***must play an important role in the clinical translational research activities*** of the center. Staff Investigators must either be a PI or co-PI on at least one NCI approved peer-reviewed and funded research-project award, *or* be a clinical investigator actively engaged in translational research. For funded researchers, peer review of Staff Investigator candidates includes their research track record, their special importance to the center and whether their budget allocation is commensurate with their time and effort for activities not supported by other awards. For clinical translational researchers, criteria include their contributions to development and implementation of the center's clinical and translational activity, including authorship of clinical trials, accrual of patients on interventional trials or leadership roles in cooperative group studies, and whether their budget allocation is commensurate with their time and effort devoted to these research activities.

The Guidelines do not prohibit members with other official roles in the Center from receiving additional support as a Staff Investigator, however, responsibilities for each role should be clearly distinguished.. The duties associated with that of a Program Leader, for example, include fostering transdisciplinary, inter and intra programmatic interactions relevant to programmatic research goals . Effective Program Leaders provide stimulation, focus, and direction which enhance individual productivity of scientists and result in productive collaborations within and between programs. An additional role as Staff Investigator for a Program Leader should be distinct and clearly justified by separate functions.