



## Financial Conflict of Interest

### **Overview, Regulatory Support and References:**

The increasing involvement of academic researchers and educators with industry and private entrepreneurial ventures has raised the potential for conflict of interest. Such real or apparent conflicts, when not appropriately disclosed and addressed, can undermine public and professional confidence in the integrity of University sponsored programs. The existence of a real or apparent conflict of interest does not necessarily mean that the outside activity at issue must be avoided or discontinued. Often, conflicts of interest can be dealt with effectively through disclosure or other steps to resolve or manage the conflict. In accordance with Federal regulations, the University has a responsibility to manage, reduce, or eliminate any actual or potential conflicts of interest that may be present in a Study Team. These guidelines define the University's policy and procedures on the avoidance, disclosure, management and resolution of financial conflicts of interests regarding University sponsored programs. The purpose of this policy is to protect the credibility and integrity of the University's faculty and staff in order that public trust and confidence in the University's sponsored activities is ensured.