

**Proposed Indiana University of Pennsylvania College of Osteopathic Medicine
(Proposed IUPCOM – Candidate Status – Seeking Accreditation)**

COCA Pre-Accreditation Element 8.4: Student Participation in Research & Scholarly Activities
Pre-Accreditation Submission 8.4-1: Student Research & Scholarly Activity Policies

In recognition of Indiana University of Pennsylvania's ongoing research commitment and doctoral student success, [IUP has earned an R2 Doctoral University–High Spending and Doctorate Production classification](#) from the American Council on Education and the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching in its 2025 Research Activity designations.

IUP first received the R2 ranking in 2022. It remains one of only two public universities in Pennsylvania and one of only 97 public universities with this ranking nationwide. Only six universities in Pennsylvania hold the R2 status, and only 139 universities in the United States have the R2 status. More than 3,900 colleges and universities are included in the ranking system. One key initiative in alignment with the Proposed College of Osteopathic Medicine at IUP will be a continued interdepartmental and university-wide support for research, which remains at the backbone of this university's initiatives and success as an institution.

The Indiana University of Pennsylvania has a comprehensive set of policies and procedures related to student involvement in research and scholarly activities across all disciplines. These policies are designed to support and regulate student engagement in research projects, ensuring ethical conduct, compliance, and academic rigor. The proposed Indiana University of Pennsylvania College of Osteopathic Medicine (IUPCOM) is committed to fostering a culture of research and scholarly activity for all members of the university community, including undergraduate and graduate students.

Additional specific student research policies for IUPCOM may be developed and implemented over time; it is anticipated that these policies will align with the general IUP policies outlined below, with a focus on osteopathic principles and rural healthcare needs. During their years at medical school, they will be trained in a four-year rural focused research course. This course will culminate in a required research project, required for graduation, and heavily encouraged throughout career advising. Faculty have designated protected time for research, in which they are encouraged to work with and mentor students. In addition, there will be a dedicated line in the operational *pro forma* for student travel to present their research at osteopathic medical conferences. In addition, IUP has multiple university-wide initiatives and supports for students interested in engaging in additional research, which will be heavily encouraged.

Students can participate in research through various avenues, including:

- Student-Driven Research: Students are encouraged to develop their own research projects under the guidance of faculty mentors.
- Participation in Faculty Research: Students can engage in faculty-led research projects.

A. Key policies and guidelines relevant to student research at IUP

1. [IUP Research Policies and Procedures](#): A comprehensive list of research-related policies is available on the IUP Research and Innovation website, including those of particular importance to students.
2. [IUP Student Research Website](#): IUP provides a dedicated website with resources, opportunities, and guides specifically for student researchers.
3. [Research Integrity Policy](#): This policy outlines the university's commitment to ethical research conduct and details procedures for addressing research misconduct. All students, faculty, and staff involved in research are expected to adhere strictly to this policy.
4. [Policy for the Oversight of Research Involving Human Subjects](#): This policy outlines the role of the Institutional Review Board (IRB) in overseeing human subjects research conducted by all IUP affiliates, including students. The IRB ensures that research involving human subjects adheres to ethical standards and federal regulations.
5. [Policy for the Preparation and Training of Students Working with Human and/or Animal Subjects](#): This policy mandates that all students participating in human or animal subject research complete prescribed training on the ethical treatment of subjects before commencing their research activities.
6. [IUP Copyright Policy](#): Approved at the 11/05/2013 IUP Senate meeting.
7. [Federal Regulations](#): IUP and the Research Institute follow the federal cost principles when developing proposal budgets, rates, and price estimates. Additional information may be obtained [from the Code of Federal Regulations](#).
8. [Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee \(IACUC\) Guidelines](#): All research and teaching involving the use of vertebrate animals must be reviewed and approved by the IACUC prior to the procurement or use of the animals.
9. [NSF Implementation of Responsible Conduct of Research](#): Training information for students who will participate in NSF-funded projects.
10. [Financial Conflict of Interest \(FCOI\) in University Research](#): Provides a framework promoting research objectivity by establishing standards ensuring the design, conduct or reporting of research will not be biased by any conflicting financial interests of an investigator.
11. [Classification of Gifts, Grants, and Contracts](#): This policy clarifies office roles in the solicitation and administration of gifts and grants originating from private corporations and foundations.
12. [Policy for Responding to Allegations of Research Misconduct](#): Policy to respond to any allegations or apparent instances of fraud or misconduct in the carrying out of research by IUP faculty, managers, administrators, staff, and students.
13. [Eligibility to Serve as a Principal Investigator on Externally Funded Grant or Contract Projects](#): This policy describes the qualifications required for a person to serve as a PI on externally funded grant or contract projects.
14. [Procedure for Review and Approval of Agreements at IUP](#): Procedure for any IUP unit that wishes to enter into an agreement with an outside entity.

B. Additional resources for students

1. [Student Research – Research and Innovation](#): This webpage provides a collection of resources, opportunities, and guides specifically tailored for students involved in research.
2. [Research Information for Students - Research and Innovation](#): This webpage focuses on student research funding opportunities, including fellowships and grants.
3. [Online Research Ethics Training](#): IUP offers online training for faculty, staff, and students through the Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI).
4. [Technology Transfer and Intellectual Property](#): Technology transfer and commercialization services are offered for faculty, students, and staff of the university.
5. [Working With Industry](#): Guidelines for private industry-university partnerships.
6. [Classroom Research/Student Research Projects](#): Specific guidelines apply to student research projects conducted as part of coursework, including limitations on publication and dissemination, unless formal IRB approval is obtained.
7. [Thesis-Dissertation Information](#): Resources for students undertaking thesis or dissertation research, including deadlines, manuals, and forms.
8. [Applied Research Lab \(ARL\)](#): Provides statistical assistance to students, faculty, and staff.
9. [Scholars Forum](#): A platform for students to present original research and creative endeavors.
10. [NSF Implementation of Responsible Conduct of Research](#): Training for students participating in projects funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF).
11. [Internal IUP Funding for Graduate Student Research](#): Grants are available to students for research and travel to present papers or scholarly work at conferences, including virtual ones.
12. [Intellectual Property Guide](#): This guide clarifies student rights and obligations regarding intellectual property developed during research, particularly when sponsored by third parties.
13. [Principal Investigator \(PI\) Handbook](#): The PI Handbook provides a guide for the management of sponsored projects at IUP.
14. [University Senate Research Committee](#): Reviews grant proposals for Small Grant awards and Senate Fellowships, which can include student involvement.

Policy/Procedure Details	
Policy Owner	Associate Dean of Pre-Clinical Affairs Associate Dean of Clinical Affairs and GME Director of Research
Effective Date	08/29/2025
Last Reviewed	08/29/2025
Review Frequency Requirements	5 Years
Related Policies and Documents	1. IUPCOM Student Handbook 2. IUPCOM Strategic Plan for Research and Scholarly Activity 3. IUPCOM Research and Scholarly Activity Budget
Reviewed and Approved by Dean's Leadership Council	08/29/2025
Revision Number	2025.01