

# Academy-Industry Connections

0.5 bonus points available

## Rationale

This credit recognizes institutions that have formally adopted policies to guide sponsored research on campus and manage potential conflicts of interest. Although potentially helping to advance sustainability, industry-funded research and other commercial relationships can also have negative consequences for an institution and its stakeholders. Formal guidelines governing such relationships help protect the integrity and accessibility of academic research and scholarship, the reputation of the institution, and the public trust.

## Criteria

Institution has published policies or guidelines governing industry-sponsored research that preserve academic freedom, autonomy and integrity, and manage potential conflicts of interest. The policies or guidelines:

- Require that all significant consulting contracts (e.g., those worth \$5,000 or more a year) be reported to a standing committee charged with reviewing and managing individual and institutional conflicts of interest;
- Prohibit faculty, staff, students, postdoctoral fellows, medical residents, and other academic professionals from engaging in industry-led “ghostwriting” or “ghost authorship”;
- Prohibit participation in sponsored research that restricts investigator access to the complete study data or that limits investigators’ ability to verify the accuracy and validity of final reported results; AND/OR
- Ban confidential corporate research (i.e., research that cannot be published).

For more information, see [Recommended Principles to Guide Academy-Industry Relationships](#) (AAUP).

## Scoring

An institution earns 0.5 bonus points when it meets all four criteria listed. Partial points are available. An institution that meets at least two of the criteria earns 0.25 points.

## Reporting Fields

### Required

- ☐ Does the institution require that all significant consulting contracts (e.g., those worth \$5,000 or more a year) be reported to a standing committee charged with reviewing and managing individual and institutional conflicts of interest?  
If yes, provide:
  - The policy language that requires that all significant consulting contracts be reviewed for conflicts of interest
- ☐ Does the institution prohibit faculty, staff, students, postdoctoral fellows, medical residents, and other academic professionals from engaging in industry-led “ghostwriting” or “ghost authorship”?

If yes, provide:

- The policy language that prohibits industry-led “ghostwriting” or “ghost authorship”
- Does the institution prohibit participation in sponsored research that restricts investigator access to the complete study data or that limits investigators’ ability to verify the accuracy and validity of final reported results?

If yes, provide:

- The policy language that prohibits sponsored research that restricts investigator access or verification
- Does the institution ban confidential corporate research (i.e., research that cannot be published)?

If yes, provide:

- The policy language that bans confidential corporate research

#### Optional

- Website URL where information about the institution’s policies regarding industry-sponsored research is available
- Additional documentation to support the submission (upload)
- Data source(s) and notes about the submission
- Contact information for a responsible party (an employee who can respond to questions regarding the data once it is submitted and available to the public)