

**Northeast Region SARE
Conflict of Interest Policy**

Revised July 22, 2010

1) No person will participate in review of a proposal that is from their institution or organization, or from an institution or organization with which the person has a formal relationship (whether or not paid by that institution).

2) No person will participate in review of a proposal in which their major professor (or their student) or post-doctoral advisor is a participant. This restriction shall remain in effect no matter how many years have passed since the professor-student relationship finished.

3) No person will participate in review of a proposal in which collaborators on research projects or co-authors on peer reviewed publications (including pending publications and submissions) serve as project leaders. This restriction shall remain in effect until three years have passed since the research project ended or the final draft of the publication was submitted for review.

4) No person will participate in review of a proposal in which a close personal friend is serving as a project leader.

5) No member of the Administrative Council will be part of a project submitted for consideration during the time they serve on the committees. No member of the Technical Committee will submit proposals for review while serving on the committee, nor participate as reviewer in a grant program in which a proposal is pending that has that members name listed as a participant or collaborator.

6) Members of the Technical Committee and Administrative Council may help in the early stages of project development (for example, suggesting a topic area to someone or helping connect people that might be a good match for a project) but will not be involved in the details of developing a project.

7) If a member of the Technical Committee or Administrative Council does help in the early stages as allowed in 6, s/he will not participate in review of the project.

8) When any discussion is held about a proposed project with which a person has a conflict of interest (as defined in 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6), the person will leave the meeting room. In addition, a person with a conflict of interest regarding a particular project will not discuss the project with other members of the Technical Committee or Administrative Council until after the respective group has made a final decision regarding disposition of the project.