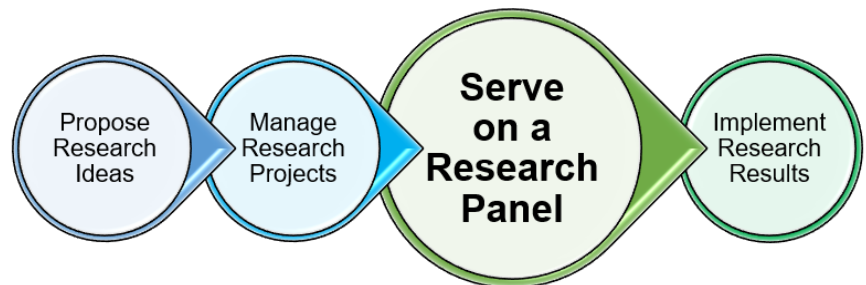




# AS A RESEARCH PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

## THE NEED

The Principal Investigator (PI) is the lead researcher at a university or consultant firm who is awarded the research contract. The PI conducts and manages day-to-day research tasks as defined in the project work plan.



Stages and roles in research.

## THE ROLE

- Provide regular progress reports to the Project Manager (PM).
- Manage budget, scope and schedule, and inform the PM immediately of any trends in project progress that suggest a future need for changes to project cost, scope, or schedule.
- Maintain regular contact with the PM and the Research Advisory Panel (RAP) members through meetings and other means such as e-mail or telephone.
- Submit project deliverables, respond to RAP review comments, and make changes as directed.
- Ensure invoices and project deliverables are supplied on a timely basis.
- Lead the research team and provide other project researchers with clear direction.
- Maintain research team focus on project tasks, objectives, and deliverables.
- Make recommendations on implementation of research findings for PM and RAP consideration.
- The PI, at their discretion, may also include co-PIs, subconsultants and other research team members in RAP meetings.

## ABOUT MDOT RESEARCH ADMINISTRATION

Research Administration or RAd supports transportation research across the entire MDOT department in a variety of different focus areas. RAd's research program includes individual research projects, national programs, pooled fund studies with other states, and multiple research "Centers of Excellence".

## OUR MISSION

Supporting and promoting innovative research and encouraging its implementation for safe, sustainable, and cost-effective transportation solutions that keep Michigan moving.

## LEARN MORE

For more information about RAd, see the [Research and Implementation Manual](#). To identify specific focus area manager (FAM) experts in the department, see the [Research Committee Structure](#).