Published on *University of Colorado* (https://www.cu.edu)

New CU policy establishes framework for responsible AI use [1]

November 5, 2026 by ES and UIS Communications [2]

As the use of AI tools increases, so does the need for consistent guidance around data privacy, security, intellectual property and the accuracy of AI-generated content.

Administrative Policy Statement (APS) 6012, Responsible Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI), took effect Aug. 24, establishing a consistent framework for AI use across the University of Colorado.

Encouraging innovation while managing risk

APS 6012 establishes a foundation for using these tools while maintaining CU's existing standards and responsibilities. Rather than limiting innovation, the policy supports responsible exploration of AI technologies.

Central to the policy is the principle that AI should support human decision-making, not replace it. Faculty, staff and students are accountable for how AI-generated information is used and must evaluate outputs for accuracy and potential bias.

“This policy aims to not only provide guardrails for generative AI usage, it also ensures that employees and students have the room to grow and experiment with this emerging technology,” said Brad Judy, CU System assistant vice president and chief information security officer.

What this policy means for CU employees

The policy applies university-wide and provides practical expectations for employees who use AI tools in their work.

APS 6012 establishes that:

- **University data must remain protected.** Confidential and highly confidential information may only be entered into approved AI tools.
- **Human oversight remains essential.** Employees are responsible for reviewing AI-generated information and ensuring its accuracy before relying on it for university activities.
- **Transparency matters.** Use of generative AI must be disclosed when it contributes to university decisions.
- **Existing policies still apply.** AI use must comply with CU requirements governing information security, records retention, intellectual property, procurement and other

applicable areas.

As AI tools continue to evolve, the policy will be reviewed and updated periodically.

Employees are encouraged to review APS 6012 – Responsible Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) [3] to understand how the policy applies to their work and academic activities.

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