RCRA Newsletter

Research Compliance News from your Trusted Partners

September 2025, Issue 111

Emory and SEIU Ratify First PhD Student Union Agreement

Emory University and the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Southern Region have officially ratified their first collective bargaining agreement (CBA) for Laney Graduate School PhD students. This milestone follows a successful Fall 2023 union election and over a year of collaborative negotiations.

The agreement, now in effect, outlines pay rates, benefits, working hours, and other employment terms for PhD students. It also introduces new university obligations regarding policies and procedures impacting student work conditions.

To support implementation, Emory has launched a resource site at **phdunioninfo.emory.edu** and formed a cross-departmental team to provide training and guidance. Questions can be directed to **phdunioninfo@emory.edu**

Emory remains committed to fostering excellence in graduate education and looks forward to continued collaboration with SEIU.

Federal Funding Regulatory Updates

NIH clarified other support disclosure requirements. And **starting October 1** of this year NIH requires annual training for key personnel prior to submitting a proposal. **Effective May 1 of this year** the NIH will not issue awards to domestic or foreign entities (new, renewal or non-competing continuation), that include a subaward to a foreign entity. This is not retroactive to existing awards
Since July of this year, NIH requires **immediate** public access to journal articles reporting on the results of NIH-funded research (the previous policy allows a 12-month post-publication embargo) and they must be submitted to PubMed Central for public availability without embargo upon the official date of publication.

As of May 1 of this year new Department of Energy (DOE) research security training requirements state that covered individuals must certify that they have completed research security training within one year of submitting an application for DOE funding. Research Security Training can be found in Brainier.

As of June 7 of this year, all PIs or co-PIs named on an NSF award made on or after May 20, 2024, must certify annually in **Research.gov** that they are not party to a MFTRP. Use of SciENcv is required by NSF.

As of August 8 of this year all foreign persons and entities working on awards or subawards from USDA must be reported, justified, and reviewed keeping America First Memo in mind.

Beginning December 1, 2025, Emory will implement a mandatory Research Security training requirement in alignment with federal mandates and concurrent with the Annual Certification Cycle that runs from **Dec 1, 2025, to Feb 29, 2026**.

September Emory IACUC Newsletter

Check out the **IACUC September 10th, 2025 newsletter** here for updates on the following topics:

- IACUC Policies
- Post Approval Attestation of Responsibilities
- Alerts to Researchers - AAALAC International Site Visit
- From the Office of Occupational Health and Safety
- From the Office of Research Controlled Drug Compliance (RCDC)
- Alternative Searches in Protocol
- Have you read the most recent version of your approved IACUC protocol?
- Resources for researchers
- IACUC Site Inspections – New schedule for the first period of 2025 6/1/2025-11/30/2025
- IACUC Office Contacts

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Research Compliance Policy Updates

Policy 7.29: Billing Coverage for Uninsured or Injured Research Subjects

Purpose: Ensures ethical coverage of medical costs for research participants who are uninsured or injured due to study participation

Summary:

- Provides guidelines for covering medical expenses
- Applies to uninsured or underinsured participants
- Requires clear communications during consent
- Supports ethical research practices

Policy 7.81: ESCRO

Policy 7.81 - ESCRO Policy is now live!

- Applies to all researchers at Emory conducting research with embryonic stem cells, induced pluripotential stem cells and human fetal tissue
- Use **this form** to confirm if you need to submit to the Emory Stem Cell Research Oversight (ESCRO) committee
- For human fetal tissue research, you need preapproval by RCRA: email us at researchcompliance@emory.edu

Policy 2.126 - Effort Reporting

Summary of Changes:

- Delays in effort certification now trigger a formal escalation process for non-compliance
- Clarified roles & responsibilities
- Expanded Definitions & Clarifications
- Updates to Effort Reporting Timeline

For a detailed breakdown view the full infographic.

View our full Research Compliance policy handbook on our Program Effectiveness Website

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Office of Research Controlled Drug Compliance (RCDC)

Program Effectiveness and Assurance now oversees the new Office of Research Controlled Drug Compliance (RCDC). RCDC assists with all matters related to Controlled Substances, List I and II Chemicals, and Dangerous Drugs, collectively referred to as Controlled Drugs. The goal of this program is to promote the safe, compliant, and responsible management of controlled substances and dangerous drugs in research by ensuring adherence to federal and state regulations, Emory policies, and best practices through oversight, education, and collaborative support.

RCDC News:

DEA Fall 2025 Prescription Take Back Event:

- **Date:** October 25, 2025
- **Purpose:** Safe disposal of personal medications.
- **Note:** This event cannot be used for disposal of Controlled Substances or Dangerous Drugs obtained under DEA/GBP research licenses. For proper disposal of research drugs, refer to the drug disposal tab on the RCDC webpage.

DSCSA Compliance & GLN Requirement

- Distributors (e.g., McKesson) now require a Global Location Number (GLN) for shipments.
- GLNs are assigned by building.
- RCDC will email researchers with their building's GLN.
- For urgent orders needing a GLN, contact rcdc@emory.edu.

Emory Policy 7.25 Updates

- Mandatory Controlled Drug Training for all relevant personnel
- Institutional Registration Requirements
- Annual Compliance Measures
  - QA/QI Reviews
  - Controlled Substance Inventories

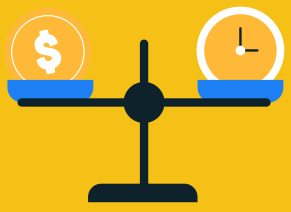
View full policy details here

Research COI News You Can Use

Insight is Live!

Thanks for your continued support!

- **eDisclose is archived** as of Aug 22, 2025. Access is no longer available.
  - Only active/approved PARs (as of Aug 22) migrated to Insight.
  - Submissions not approved by noon Aug 28 were transferred but must be re-entered in Insight.
- PARs renamed to External Activity Reports (EARs)—approval required before participation.
- Visit our Insight Implementation page for more info.



Annual COI Management Plan Review

- COI/COC Office reviews active management plans annually for all individuals involved in research design, conduct, or reporting.
- Individuals with active management plans will receive a link to the COI Annual Review Form via email. Please complete it promptly to update financial interests and stay compliant.
- Learn more on our Disclosure Requirements webpage

FY26 Annual Certification Starts December 1st

This mandatory process requires submitting a verification report to confirm whether you have any outside activity, relationship, or interest with an external organization related to your institutional responsibilities. For more details, please visit our Annual Certification webpage.

Walk-In Wednesday

Join COI/COC Office every 4th Wednesday, 11:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. for open Q&A & occasional learning sessions with COI/COC office members.
Join Zoom Session via this link