

Additional Information Regarding Compliance with the National Institutes of Health RCR Requirements

National Institutes of Health

Update on the Requirement for Instruction in the Responsible Conduct of Research at
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-10-019.html>

Effective Date: Updated policy applies to all new and renewal applications submitted on or after January 25, 2010, and for all continuation applications with deadlines on or after January 1, 2011.

Legal Source of Requirements: 1989 NIH Notice of Policy concerning instruction in responsible conduct of research in NIH Guide (Volume 18, Number 45, Dec. 22, 1989), as amended by 1994 NIH Notice of Policy in NIH Guide (Volume 23, Number 23, June 17, 1994).

Basic Requirements:

1. Institution research training grant applications must contain a plan for RCR Training.
 - a. Plan must cover all trainees, fellows, participants and scholars receiving support through any NIH training, career development award, research education grant and dissertation research grant
2. November 24, 2009 Notice updates minimum requirements for such plans.
3. New Plan Requirements:
 - a. Training should be appropriate to career stage of individuals receiving training
 - b. Research faculty should participate in training and instruction in ways that allow them to serve as effective role models.
 - c. Training should cover –
 - i. Conflict of interest
 - ii. Human subject research policies
 - iii. Animal research policies
 - iv. Safe lab practices
 - v. Mentor/mentee responsibilities and relationships
 - vi. Collaborative research, including collaboration with industry
 - vii. Peer review
 - viii. Data acquisition and laboratory tools; management, sharing and ownership
 - ix. Research misconduct and policies for handling research misconduct
 - x. Responsible authorship and publication
 - xi. The scientist as a responsible member of society; contemporary ethical issues in biomedical research; and the environmental and societal impacts of scientific research
 - d. Training should be both formal and informal, and it should involve face-to-face discussions; *on-line instruction alone is not enough.*

- e. Training should involve at least 8 contact hours between participating faculty and trainees.
 - f. “Reflection” on RCR should occur throughout a scientist’s career, e.g., undergraduate, post-baccalaureate, pre-doctoral, post-doctoral and faculty levels.
 - i. Instruction should take place at least once during each career stage and at a frequency of “no less than once every four years.”
 - g. Training attendance must be monitored and documentation of course completion must be available. Records must be maintained to document compliance.
4. Plan for instruction must be included in new and renewal applications.
 5. Description of RCR instruction and any enhancements/modifications thereto must be included in continuation application.