

Federal Responsible Conduct of Research Training Requirements by Agency

Federal responsible conduct of research (RCR) training requirements vary by agency. Where applicable, UWM is committed to full compliance. This document provides agency-specific responsible conduct of research training requirements as of July 31, 2023.

At present, three federal agencies, the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture require research personnel financially supported on a funded project to complete training in research ethics and integrity. Additional agencies may issue RCR training requirements in the future. The specific training requirements for each agency is described below.

National Science Foundation (NSF)

NSF requires all project personnel supported by NSF funding to receive training in the responsible and ethical conduct of research (RECR). This includes faculty Principal Investigators and Co-Investigators and other senior personnel, postdoctoral researchers, and graduate and undergraduate students. This requirement, mandated through the [America Competes Act, Section 7009](#) and the [CHIPS + Science Act, section 10337](#), is effective on all NSF proposals submitted after July 30, 2023. NSF's latest guidance is noted below and the complete policy can be accessed [here](#).

Section 7009 of the America Creating Opportunities to Meaningfully Promote Excellence in Technology, Education, and Science (COMPETES) Act (42 USC 1862o-1), as amended, requires that each institution that applies for financial assistance from the Foundation for science and engineering research or education describe in its grant proposal a plan to provide appropriate training and oversight in the responsible and ethical conduct of research to undergraduate students, graduate students, postdoctoral researchers, faculty, and other senior personnel supported by the proposed research project. Such training must include mentor training and mentorship.

UWM Requirements to Comply with the NSF RECR Policy

All UWM Principal Investigators, Co-Investigators, faculty, key personnel, postdoctoral researchers, graduate students, and undergraduate students supported by NSF funding must complete "Responsible Conduct of Research Training" through [CITI](#). Instituted administrative consequences are in place when institutional or federal training requirements are incomplete.

National Institutes of Health (NIH)

NIH requires all trainees, fellows, participants, and scholars receiving support through any NIH training, career development award, research education grant, and dissertation research grant to participate in a minimum of eight hours of training in the responsible conduct of research every four years. NIH's latest guidance (NOT-OD-22-055) is noted below and the complete policy can be accessed [here](#).

NIH RCR Training requirements apply to the following programs: D43, D71, F05, F30, F31, F32, F33, F34, F37, F38, K01, K02, K05, K07, K08, K12, K18, K22, K23, K24, K25, K26, K30, K99/R00, KL1, KL2, R25, R36, T15, T32, T34, T35, T36, T37, T90/R90, TL1, TU2, and U2R. In

addition, training requirements apply to any other NIH-funded programs supporting research training, career development, or research education that require instruction in responsible conduct of research as stated in the relevant funding opportunity announcements. NIH policy can be found [here](#).

UWM Requirements to Comply with the NIH RCR Policy

All students and post-docs supported by NIH training grants must complete the “Responsible Conduct of Research Training” through [CITI](#). In addition, NIH requires face-to-face discussion-based instruction to be included as a component of RCR training. At UWM, the guidelines for meeting these requirements include (1) completion of UWM’s RCR Training through [CITI](#), and (2) four hours of face-to-face discussion-based instruction. This cumulative training must be completed every four years. UWM’s plan to meet these requirements must be outlined and included in the grant application. Instituted administrative consequences are in place when institutional or federal training requirements are incomplete.

U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Institute of Food and Agriculture (USDA/NIFA):

All personnel supported by a USDA/NIFA award are required to complete research ethics training. This includes faculty, staff, students, postdoctoral researchers, and subrecipient participants. Prime recipients are obligated by USDA/NIFA to flow down this term to subrecipients. USDA/NIFA cites accordance with sections 2, 3, and 8 of [2 CFR Part 422](#). USDA/NIFA RCR guidelines can be found [here](#).

UWM Requirements to Comply with the USDA/NIFA RCR Policy

All UWM principal investigators, co-investigators, faculty, key persons, postdoctoral researchers, graduate students, and undergraduate students supported by USDA/NIFA funding must complete the “Responsible Conduct of Research Training” through [CITI](#). Instituted administrative consequences are in place when institutional or federal training requirements are incomplete.