RESPONSIBLE CONDUCT OF RESEARCH (RCR) FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Who is required to complete RCR Training?

All graduate students matriculating in the Fall 2014 and after in programs with a **research thesis or dissertation** are required to complete the RCR training (graduate students completing non-thesis options are exempt from this requirement). Additionally the following individuals must complete RCR training,

- ❖ **NSF funded** undergraduate students, graduate students, and postdoctoral researchers.
- ❖ **NIH funded** trainees, fellows, participants, and scholars receiving support through any NIH training, career development award (individual or institutional), research education grant, and dissertation research grants.
- ❖ **USDA NIFA** funded program directors, faculty, undergraduate students, graduate students, postdoctoral researchers, and any staff participating in the research project.

How do I complete the RCR training requirement?

RCR training can be completed in one of three ways.

- ❖ Completion of an approved research ethics course. Currently approved courses are:
  BES 500, BIO 500, CHE 570, CHM 500, ENG 510/511, MAF 502, NEU 504 and PHC 693.
- ❖ Discussion-Based Seminar Sessions sponsored by the Office of Research Integrity (ORI)
- ❖ Completion of the online RCR CITI training program (www.citiprogram.org)

For trainees, fellows, participants, and scholars receiving support through any NIH training, career development award (individual or institutional), research education grant, and/or dissertation research grant, NIH requires a minimum of 8 hours of contact time and does not allow for completion of the requirement via online training. Contact ORI for more information.

When do I have to complete the RCR training?

The training must be completed prior to submission of the Thesis/Dissertation Approval form to the Graduate School. For non-graduate students that must complete this requirement due to funding agency requirements, ORI verifies completion of the requirement multiple times per year for external funding agency purposes.

How often do I need to take the RCR training?

You only need to complete the RCR training once.

Is there any way I can be waived from the RCR program?

Only graduate students completing non-thesis options are exempt from this requirement.

How is the completion of the RCR training requirement documented?

- ❖ CITI Training - Please maintain a copy of your CITI completion report as proof of having successfully completed your required training course. We do not keep hard copies of your CITI completion in ORI.

- ❖ RCR Seminars – Attendees receive an official certificate that verifies their attendance to the event. Please maintain a copy of this certificate (electronic or hard copy) as proof of having successfully attended three seminars.

- ❖ Approved URI Courses (BES 500, BIO 500, CHE 570, CHM 500, ENG 510/511, MAF 502, NEU 504 and PHC 693) – Students who have participated in an approved course can provide ORI a print screen of their unofficial transcript indicating the course and the passing grade.

Does RCR fulfill the training requirement for Human Subjects Research required by the Institutional Review Board (IRB)?

No. The IRB requires a separate CITI training module specific to the conduct of human subjects research.

What online RCR CITI training should I complete?

CITI provides five different versions of the RCR training tailored to the certain following disciples: Biomedical, Social/Behavioral, Physical Science, Engineering, and Arts/Humanities. Complete the version that is closest to your area of study.

How do I log in to the CITI Training and view my certification?

These procedures are described on the URI CITI instructions website: http://web.uri.edu/researchecondev/Office-of-research-integrity/compliance-training/

How long will it take for me to complete the online CITI training course for RCR?

Completion of the CITI RCR module(s) will take most individuals approximately three hours to complete.

What if I have completed RCR training elsewhere?

URI recognizes RCR CITI certification from other institutions. However, all courses that replace RCR training (ex. BIO 500, etc.) and RCR seminars must be completed while the graduate student is attending URI.

What happens if I do not complete my RCR training by the time I'm ready to submit my proposal?

The Graduate School will not process your Master's Approval Form (MAF) or Dissertation Approval Form (DAF) until RCR training has been completed and ORI has signed off on the student's MAF or DAF.

I attended RCR seminars in 2013, can I get credit for my attendance?

No. This requirement only applies to graduate students matriculating in the Fall 2014 or after.

I'm unsure what program I am going to complete, one requires a thesis, and the other has a non-thesis option. How do I know if this requirement applies to me?

If you are uncertain which program you are interested in, we recommend you complete the RCR training. The training is beneficial to all attendees, regardless of status within the University.