

Responsible and Ethical Conduct of Research Training Plan

Summary/Purpose

Grinnell College believes that everyone participating in research should possess a fundamental knowledge of ethical issues and their obligations for conducting research in a responsible manner. Faculty members are encouraged to provide responsible and ethical conduct of research (RECR) guidance appropriate to their discipline to students participating in independent study, directed research, Plus-2 or Mentored Advanced Projects.

Several federal agencies have requirements related to training in RECR. This RECR training plan outlines Grinnell College's implementation of those requirements.

The National Science Foundation (NSF) requires that, at the time of proposal submission to NSF, a proposing institution's Authorized Organizational Representative (AOR) certify that the institution has a plan to provide appropriate training and oversight in the responsible and ethical conduct of research, including mentoring, to all researchers (faculty, staff, students, post docs) supported by NSF to conduct research.

Similarly, institutions that conduct U.S. Department of Agriculture/National Institute of Food and Agriculture funded extramural research must "foster an atmosphere conducive to research integrity; they bear primary responsibility for prevention and detection of research misconduct, and must maintain and effectively communicate *and train their staff regarding policies and procedures*" (emphasis added). In the event an application to NIFA results in an award or a USDA subaward is received, the Authorized Organizational Representative assures, through acceptance of the award, that the institution will comply with USDA requirements.

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) requires that all trainees, fellows, participants, and scholars receiving support through any NIH training, career development award (individual or institutional), research education grant, or dissertation research grant must receive instruction in RECR.

To comply with federal regulations, all faculty, staff (including postdoctoral or postbaccalaureate scholars), and students conducting or participating in federally sponsored research at Grinnell College must receive training in the responsible conduct of research in accordance with applicable federal requirements. This requirement applies both to research supported by grants issued directly to Grinnell College and to research supported by federal funds passed through another organization. Assistance with training in the responsible conduct of research is available to all faculty, staff and students.

Procedures

- a. Grinnell College will use the following responses to meet the RECR requirement:
 - i. RECR training available through the Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) or any successor computer-based program,
 - ii. Face-to-face training in the responsible and ethical conduct of research offered by the Research Compliance Manager, or

iii. Any other coursework or training developed institutionally that has been preapproved by the Dean of the College to fulfill this requirement.

b. Oversight for the RECR requirement is delegated to the Research Compliance Manager; all federally funded—NSF, USDA/NIFA and NIH-related RECR training records will be maintained institutionally and/or via administratively managed CITI training records.

Please contact the Research Compliance Manager for all questions related to the Responsible and Ethical Conduct of Research Training Plan.

Source/Law: 42 U.S.C. 1862o-1, as amended, (the America Competes Act, NSF); 2 CFR Part 422 sections 2, 3, and 8 (USDA); Notice Number: NOT-OD-10-019 (NIH)

Review Cycle: Every five years