Responsible Conduct of Research Program

Azusa Pacific University

Azusa Pacific University encourages the highest standards in the conduct of research.  In order to foster ethical research and to comply with federal guidelines, the university has implemented an institution-wide program to support the Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR).  This program is intended to inform and remind faculty, staff, and student researchers of best practices and to prevent conflicts and ethical breaches in the ten core RCR areas:

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| Animal Subjects Research | Human Subjects Research |
| Authorship | Mentoring |
| Collaborative Research | Peer Review |
| Conflicts of Interest | Plagiarism |
| Data Management | Research Misconduct |

Certification for research with human subjects is determined by the Institutional Review Board; certification for research with animal subjects is determined by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee.  All other RCR areas are administered either through online core modules of the RCR program hosted by the Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) at the University of Miami, or through workshops sponsored by the Office of Research and Grants.

All faculty, staff, and student researchers are strongly encouraged to complete the RCR series through a combination of completing the CITI online modules for RCR and attending at least two workshops, one on Research Misconduct, and the other on Conflicts of Interest in Research.  Additional workshops will be offered periodically and are also strongly encouraged.  A schedule of upcoming workshops and information on access to the CITI program is available through the Office of Research and Grants.

While strongly encouraged for all researchers, the RCR program is required for faculty who receive extramural funding for research.  At the discretion of the dean, completion of the RCR program may also be required of department chairs, faculty who teach research classes, and faculty with release time for research.  Completion of the RCR program may also be required by the Office of the Provost.

Students paid by National Science Foundation grants are required to complete five (5) hours of face-to-face training in addition to the online RCR modules through CITI[1], and all researchers on National Institutes of Health training grants are required to complete an additional eight (8) hours of face-to-face training.[2]  Verification of this training must be submitted to the Director of Grants Management. Training must be renewed every three years.

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[1] It is highly recommend that faculty with NSF funding also attend the training required of their students.

[2] This applies to the following NIH 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. This policy also applies 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 announcement.