National Institutes of Health

Recommended Plan for Responsible Conduct of Research by Career Stage

NIH trainees on the grant types listed here must log a minimum of 8 contact hours for each career stage listed below or every 4 years.

*Note: Online training alone is not sufficient; substantial face-to-face discussion or video conferencing, combination of didactic and small-group discussions (e.g. case studies), and participation of research training faculty members in instruction are highly encouraged. See NIH Requirement for Instruction in the Responsible Conduct of Research and FY2022 Updated Guidance for additional information.

**The matrix does not limit any individual, in any career stage, from fulfilling additional RCR goals; it is designed as a guide to assist the Principal Investigator in writing a formal RCR plan. Additionally, "a more tailored, discipline-specific approach may better fit the needs of advanced graduate students and those who have transitioned to postdoctoral status" per the updated guidance.

Items (1) – (3) are further detailed on the "UH On-Campus RCR Resources" page.

Ways to fulfill RCR requirement →	CITI RCR Online training (Refresher after 4 years) (1)	Completion of Didactic Course (2)	Attending seminar or panel, auditing didactic session in RCR areas (3)	Teaching single-topic course sessions, seminars, panels	Mentoring (as mentor OR mentee; requires documentation of content and hours)	Other (requires explanation and documentation of content and hours) Ex: recurrent project meetings introduced by RCR training or case studies, Independent reading of educational resources listed on RCR website
Career Stage ↓						
Undergraduate students	*	√	√		√ (as mentee)	√
Post-baccalaureate students	*	√	√		√ (as mentee)	√
Predoctoral (graduate) students	*	√ (if not already taken previously, or additional course)	√	√	√ (as mentee)	√
Postdoctoral fellows and Junior faculty (ex. NIH F32 postdocs and K-award faculty)	*	√ (if not already taken previously, or additional course)	√	√	√ (as mentee and mentor)	√
Continuing faculty engagement in RCR (RCR hours are required every 4 years). Should include a combination of learning, teaching, mentoring	*	√ (if not already taken previously, or additional course)	√	√	√ (as mentor)	√