

## **Requirement for Training in the Responsible & Ethical Conduct of Research**

Accommodations for individuals with disabilities in accessing these policies are available upon request by emailing [accessiblepolicy@wcupa.edu](mailto:accessiblepolicy@wcupa.edu).

### **Purpose and Scope**

West Chester University (WCU) agrees that (a) the responsible and ethical conduct of research (RECR) is critical for research excellence, integrity, and public trust in science and engineering and (b) education in RECR must be considered essential for all who participate in research at the university.

### **Policy Statement**

As of January 4, 2010, in addition to faculty, the National Science Foundation (NSF) requires institutions, at the time of proposal submission, to certify that they have programs in place to promote "responsible and ethical conduct of research to undergraduate students, graduate students, and postdoctoral researchers participating in the proposed research project."

This requirement is based on section 7009 of the America Creating Opportunities to Meaningfully Promote Excellence in Technology, Education, and Science (COMPETES) Act (<https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2009-08-20/html/E9-19930.htm>).

To remain in compliance with the NSF requirement and other federal and state regulations, WCU requires CITI Program training in RECR for all Principal and co-principal Investigators, undergraduate students, graduate students, and postdoctoral researchers regardless if the project is funded by external or internal grants. Under special circumstances, the Principal Investigator may create RECR training for a specific project that is consistent with sponsor

requirements and federal regulations with the prior approval of the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs.

For instructions on how to create a CITI account and select courses, please see the [Office of Research and Sponsored Programs website](#).

If you have any questions regarding which trainings to register for, please contact:

- [research@wcupa.edu](mailto:research@wcupa.edu)

**References:**

[Responsible and Ethical Conduct of Research \(RECR\) | NSF - National Science Foundation](#)

**Reviewed by:** Office of Sponsored Research and Sponsored Programs

**Policy Owner:** Associate Provost for Research and Creative Activity, Office of Research and Sponsored Programs

**Approved by:** 

Jeffery L. Osgood, Jr., Ph.D.

Executive Vice President and Provost (interim)

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