

Completion of Field-Specific Responsible Conduct of Research Training

Purdue is committed to fostering and upholding a culture of research integrity across all levels of our research community, from the novice researchers to the most experienced professionals. As part of this commitment, all researchers are required to complete Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) training as stipulated by our Standard on RCR ([S-20](#)). This requirement is also mandated by federal sponsors, such as the [National Science Foundation](#), [USDA/NIFA](#), [PHS/NIH](#), as a prerequisite for receiving research funding. Faculty, research associates, postdoctoral trainees, graduate and undergraduate students engaged in research at the university must complete two components of RCR training: a) [CITI RCR training](#) (online) and b) **Field/Discipline- Specific (FS) RCR training**. The second component, **FS RCR training**, is designed to delve into research integrity and best practices topics relevant to specific fields and research portfolios through interactive and comprehensive discussions.

Key Field-Specific RCR Training Requirements:

- **Duration:** Minimum of 2 hours, accumulated in one training event or several events
- **Frequency:**
 - Faculty and staff: Once per career level (unless otherwise required by sponsor)
 - Students: Once per degree level (e.g., undergraduate, graduate).

Options for Fulfilling FS RCR Training Requirements:

- **Engage in PI- and/or Peer- Led Discussions/Presentations/Workshops on Field-Specific best practices for research integrity and reproducibility.** Relevant topics may include best practices for data collection and analysis, figure making, authorship and inventorship, responsible use of AI systems, professional ethics, ethical issues in research with human and animal subjects, etc.
- **Attend College/Department Events:** Attend workshops or seminars on research ethics offered by your college or department, discussions of RCR case studies specific to your research field.
- **Complete Laboratory Expectations:** Research groups collaborate to create and publish their lab expectation documents. Templates are available for lab expectations for [Engineering](#) and [Life Sciences](#).
- **Participate in Seminars/Conferences/Workshops on RCR:** Attend events addressing ethical considerations within your research field. Participate in [RCR workshops offered by Purdue](#).
- **Enroll in/or teach Relevant Courses:** Faculty may report courses they teach that contain research ethics components. Student researchers may report any courses they complete that contain research ethics components. A list of courses with RCR ethics components at Purdue is available [here](#).

Reporting and Tracking FS RCR Training

Researchers who have already attended or completed FS RCR training events may self-report these events and their duration in the [dedicated online application](#) (click on the **My RCR Training** tab at the top of the page) or by emailing the Office of Research at RCRTraining@purdue.edu. Once a minimum of 2 hours of FS training has been completed, researchers' FS training status will be updated to "Completed/Up-to-Date".

Additional guidance and resources can be found at the [RCR website](#). Contact RCRTraining@purdue.edu for further assistance on completing the FS RCR training requirement.