



HOBART AND WILLIAM SMITH COLLEGES

Training and Certification Plan for the Responsible and Ethical Conduct of Research

Because responsible and ethical conduct of research (RECR) is critical for excellence and for public trust in science, RECR education is considered essential in the preparation of future scientists and engineers. Consequently, Hobart and William Smith Colleges requires that every undergraduate research student, graduate research student, post-doctoral researcher, faculty and/or other senior/key personnel who participate in NSF-sponsored research or applicable NIH grant programs complete training.

This requirement is consistent with the principles of both the National Science Foundation and the National Institutes of Health, as well as with Section 7009 of the America Creating Opportunities to Meaningfully Promote Excellence in Technology, Education, and Sciences (COMPETES) Act.

This policy is implemented as follows:

- By submitting the Colleges' Proposal Authorization Form, each Principal Investigator submitting a proposal for external funding acknowledges their responsibility to ensure that they and any research student or post-doc funded by their grant completes required RECR training.
- By signing the Colleges' Summer Research Program Acceptance Letter, each summer research student confirms that they will complete RECR training.
- In co-signing a student's Summer Research Program Acceptance Letter, each faculty sponsor of a research student accepts responsibility to ensure that the student completes RECR training.

Detailed support for completing CITI RECR training (including Student Support) is found [here](#).

The Online Ethics Center for S&E provides RECR resources by discipline, provides links to published codes of ethics, as well as includes pages dedicated to resources produced or used by specific professional groups.

In-Person RCR Training for Select NIH Programs

The NIH requirement for **in-person** RCR training only applies to institutional research training grants, individual fellowship awards, career development awards (individual and institutional), research education grants, dissertation research grants, and other grant programs with a training component that requires instruction in responsible conduct of research as noted in the funding opportunity announcement. Most Research (R) grants are not subject to this requirement (except for R25 and R36). See [NOT-OD-10-019](#) and [NOT-OD-22-055](#) for details and a complete list of applicable grant programs.

Research Security and "Other Support" Training

There is an additional training course on research security and "other support" required for all named grant personnel (e.g., PI, co-I, other senior/key personnel) for applications to NSF, DOE, and DOD. This training must be completed within the prior 12 months in advance of proposal submission. The [SECURE Center Consolidated Training Module](#) will be used to fulfill this training requirement. The certificate indicating completion of the training must be submitted to OSP. Please also review Section 1.2 "Conflict of Interest Policy" in the [Faculty Handbook, Part II](#) and NSF's [Other Support](#) resources (if applicable).