University of Wisconsin-Madison
Plan for USDA NIFA RCR Requirement

Background

The April 2013 research terms and conditions for the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) added a new responsible conduct of research (RCR) training requirement to specific awards. A Campus RCR Committee was charged with making recommendations to address the campus obligation to satisfy the USDA NIFA research terms and conditions. Below outlines the baseline RCR training approach recommended by the Committee and approved by the Research Policy Advisory Committee and Vice Chancellor for Research.

University of Wisconsin-Madison Training Requirements

Principal investigators, co-investigators and participants paid from USDA NIFA awards must take the “Responsible Conduct of Research” course in Learn@UW (https://learnuw.wisc.edu/). This includes, but is not limited to, undergraduates, graduate students, postdoctoral researchers, and sub-recipients. Prime recipients are obligated by USDA NIFA to flow down this term to sub-recipients. Training expires every three years.

Modules in the course include:

- Publication and Authorship
- Ownership Rights in Copyright
- Intellectual Property
- Conflict of Interest
- Research Misconduct
- RCR Policies, Procedures, and Resources

To determine if your award is subject to this training requirement, please consult the terms and conditions of your award or contact your grant administrator in your school or college.

Pls receiving USDA NIFA funding for research will be notified of this requirement in the USDA NIFA Notice of Award. The Graduate School Office of Research Policy will identify individuals who must complete training via payroll records and will notify individuals of the training requirements. The Graduate School will also track training completion. Once an individual is notified of the requirement, he or she will have 30 days to complete.

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the training module in Learn@UW (https://learnuw.wisc.edu/). Subsequent email notices will be sent as reminders to complete training. If the individual does not complete the training within the 30 day window, he or she will be removed from the USDA NIFA award and paid with non-sponsored departmental funds.

**Tools**

The Graduate School has created look-up tools to assist PIs and RCR Coordinators with tracking of completion requirements. Please login with your UW NetID and password.

**Principal Investigators:** [https://my.gradsch.wisc.edu/rcr/myInfo](https://my.gradsch.wisc.edu/rcr/myInfo)

**RCR Coordinators:** [https://my.gradsch.wisc.edu/rcr/lookups](https://my.gradsch.wisc.edu/rcr/lookups)

**Subawards**

The University of Wisconsin-Madison will accept USDA NIFA RCR training completed through another institution. Sub-recipients that do not have a USDA NIFA compliant RCR training mechanism in place may elect to take UW-Madison RCR training through Learn@UW.

**Questions**

If you have questions or concerns regarding this new policy, please contact Heather Mc Fadden, Director of RCR Training, at hnmcfadden@grad.wisc.edu or call 608-890-2468.

Martin Cadwallader, Vice Chancellor for Research and Dean of the Graduate School

**Date:** 1/14/14

Dan Uhlrich, Associate Vice Chancellor for Research Policy

**Date:** 1/14/2014