Responsible Conduct of Research
at CU Boulder

The **Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) Program** is a campus resource that provides training in the ethical conduct of scientific research to CU Boulder researchers—including **principal investigators**, **graduate** and **undergraduate students**, **faculty**, **postdocs** and **research assistants**.

The RCR Program consists of training in various forms, including an in-person graduate-level course (GRAD5000), online training through the Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI), and training tailored to individual departments and laboratories.

Who is Required to Receive RCR Training?

- **Any faculty, student, or postdoctoral fellow paid under a National Science Foundation (NSF) or USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) grant award** is required to complete training—either online through the Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI), or in person through CU Boulder's GRAD5000 course. NSF-funded researchers must also take CU Boulder's Research Security Training course through Percipio.
- **Trainees supported by specific awards from the National Institutes of Health (NIH)**—such as institutional training grants, educational grants and research career development awards—are required to take an in-person course, such as CU Boulder's GRAD5000 or CCARS courses.
- **All undergraduates performing paid research** on the CU Boulder campus should take the CITI Undergraduate RCR course. Alternatively, CU Boulder offers an in-person one-day RCR Undergraduate Workshop once a year.

RCR Undergraduate Form

Students or postdocs who complete RCR training somewhere other than CU Boulder must submit an RCR Completion Form (**tinyurl.com/rcr-completion**) to **rcr@colorado.edu**.

While the above researchers are required to take specific RCR trainings, **all campus personnel involved in research** are strongly encouraged to take advantage of RCR training to ensure research is managed ethically and responsibly, and complies with applicable laws and regulations.

Research & Innovation Office
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **BOULDER**

colorado.edu/researchinnovation/rcr

Training topics

- Peer Review
- Mentor-Trainee Instructions
- Safe Laboratory Practices
- Publication Practices & Authorship
- Conflicts of Interest
- Research Misconduct
- Human Subjects
- Animal Welfare
- Data Acquisition, Management, Sharing and Ownership

How should PIs verify and track that their research staff has been properly trained in RCR?

Principal Investigators (PIs) can ask their research staff to provide training completion certificates from CITI, which they should keep on file.

To verify whether research staff has taken CU Boulder's GRAD5000 course, please check this document: **tinyurl.com/grad5000**. To verify whether research staff has taken a CITI RCR course at CU Boulder, please check this document: **tinyurl.com/citi-rcr**.

What other types of RCR training are available?

- In addition to CITI's online courses and the in-person GRAD5000 course, the RCR program offers a two-day in-person **Crash Course Advanced RCR for Senior Graduate Students and Postdocs (CCARS)** option for anyone who has completed an RCR course at some point.
- The RCR Program Director can also create trainings for labs and entire departments that are tailored to the needs of the lab or department. To arrange for a specific training for your lab or department, please contact **rcr@colorado.edu**.