

## RESPONSIBLE CONDUCT OF RESEARCH GUIDELINES FOR VRP

The Valley Research Partnership expects faculty and trainees (medical students, graduate students, residents, and fellows) to practice responsible and ethical conduct of research. The P1 application must include a RCR training description for trainees (medical students, graduate students, residents, and fellows) that conforms to University of Arizona (<http://rgw.arizona.edu/research-compliance/rcr>) and NIH policy (<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/not-od-10-019.html>).

1. ***Format.*** Substantial face-to-face discussions between the trainee, other individuals in a similar training status and faculty mentor plus a combination of didactic and small-group discussions (e.g. case studies), are highly encouraged. While on-line courses can be a valuable supplement to instruction in responsible conduct of research, online instruction is not considered adequate as the sole means of instruction. A plan that employs only online coursework for instruction in responsible conduct of research will not be considered acceptable.
2. ***Subject Matter.*** While there are no specific curricular requirements for instruction in responsible conduct of research, the following topics have been incorporated into most acceptable plans for such instruction:
  - a. conflict of interest – personal, professional, and financial
  - b. policies regarding human subjects, live vertebrate animal subjects in research, and safe laboratory practices
  - c. faculty mentor/trainee responsibilities and relationships
  - d. collaborative research including collaborations with industry
  - e. peer review
  - f. data acquisition and laboratory tools; data management, sharing and ownership
  - g. research misconduct and policies for handling misconduct
  - h. responsible authorship and publication
  - i. the scientist as a responsible member of society, contemporary ethical issues in biomedical research, and the environmental and societal impacts of scientific research

While courses related to professional ethics, ethical issues in clinical research, or research involving vertebrate animals may form a part of instruction in responsible conduct of research, they generally are not sufficient to cover all aspects of responsible research conduct.

3. ***Faculty Participation.*** Faculty mentors and other appropriate faculty are highly encouraged to contribute both to formal and informal instruction in responsible conduct of research. Informal instruction occurs in the course of laboratory interactions and in other informal situations throughout the year. Faculty mentors may contribute to formal instruction in responsible conduct of research as discussion leaders, speakers, lecturers, and/or course directors.
4. ***Duration of Instruction.*** Instruction should involve substantive contact hours between the trainee, faculty mentor and other appropriate faculty. Acceptable programs generally involve at least eight contact hours. A semester-long series of seminars/programs may be more effective than a single seminar or one-day workshop because it is expected that topics will then be considered in sufficient depth, learning will be better consolidated, and the subject matter will be synthesized within a broader conceptual framework.