

Partners Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) Program

Frequently Asked Questions

<p>Who is required to complete RCR training?</p>	<p>RCR training is required of all trainees, postdoctoral fellows, students and career-development recipients supported by training grants (e.g., T32, F32, all K-awards) identified in the NIH notice dated November 24, 2009; and NSF training and research grant supported students and postdoctoral fellows as identified in the Federal Register notice dated August 20, 2009.</p>
<p>What are the Partners RCR Program requirements?</p>	<p>The Partners RCR Program consists of three parts:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) PHS Seminar – Offered three times a year alternating between the BWH and MGH campus; 2) On-line training through the CITI (Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative) RCR Modules; and 3) Participation in no less than four hospital-based lecture/discussion offerings identified as eligible for RCR credit.
<p>When do I have to complete RCR training?</p>	<p>RCR training should be completed within the first 12-months of NIH or NSF support or within 12 months of attending the PHS Seminar.</p>
<p>I have taken a course involving RCR topics at another institution. Can I apply this course toward the Partners RCR requirements?</p>	<p>Contact the Partners RCR Program (PHSRCR@PARTNERS.ORG) to determine whether your course will fulfill the Partners requirements.</p>
<p>My grant has already ended. Do I still need to take the RCR course?</p>	<p>Yes. Completion of RCR training was a term of your grant and should have been completed during the grant's performance period.</p>
<p>I have a schedule conflict for the next Partners RCR Seminar. Can I attend a session later in the year?</p>	<p>Yes. The Partners RCR Seminar is offered three times a year: Fall, Winter, and Spring.</p>
<p>I am a senior researcher who is PI of a K-24, what are my RCR requirements?</p>	<p>You may fulfill your RCR requirement by completing the full Partners RCR Program or lead an annual hospital-based lecture/discussion course on a RCR topic during the period of the K-24 award. If you are interested in this option, please contact the following:</p> <p>BWH: Allison Moriarty</p> <p>MGH: Kelé Piper</p> <p>McLean: Jennifer Mahoney</p>

<p>What are the RCR responsibilities of the PI of NIH institutional training grants (T-32)?</p>	<p>Principal Investigators of NIH institutional training grants are responsible for ensuring that T-32 supported trainees receive research ethics training. This includes notifying trainees of the RCR requirement, requiring completion of the Partners RCR requirements as a condition of the training grant appointment, reporting on RCR activity in the Progress Report, and developing and offering program or department-based activities that supplement the Partners RCR program.</p>
<p>I am supported by a grant to a non-Partners hospital but I am assigned to work at a Partners hospital. Am I required to complete the Partners RCR training?</p>	<p>You should contact the organization administering the grant to familiarize yourself with that institution's RCR requirements and whether the Partners program is an acceptable substitute.</p>
<p>I am supported by a grant to a Partners hospital but I am assigned to work at a non-Partners hospital. Am I required to complete the Partners RCR training?</p>	<p>Yes. You are required to fulfill the RCR requirements of the institution administering the grant.</p>
<p>How do I access the CITI RCR modules?</p>	<p>You can access the CITI modules at https://www.citiprogram.org, Registration instructions are available here.</p>
<p>What do I do once I have completed the Partners requirement?</p>	<p>You are required to provide documentation of completion of all three components of the Partners RCR program. You can do so by completing and submitting the RCR Attestation Form. You should retain a copy for your records as you may be asked by your sponsor or PI to provide documentation confirming that you completed the Partners RCR program.</p>
<p>Where can I get information to include in my new or renewal grant application describing the Partners RCR program?</p>	<p>Descriptions of the Partners program are available at the RCR website.</p>
<p>I took the RCR seminar in October 2009, don't I get "grandfathered" in for the new requirements?</p>	<p>The change in the NIH requirements does not allow for "grandfathering." We will need to review the facts of the situation prior to making a determination. You should send your questions to PHSR@PARTNERS.ORG.</p>
<p>I signed up/took the RCR course through the Harvard Catalyst/HSPH, does that count?</p>	<p>We require official documentation from the Catalyst or HSPH documenting that you have completed the course. You can provide this through a copy of the Catalyst or HSPH certificate or an email or letter from the RCR course director confirming completion. There are additional NIH requirements for individuals receiving training support beyond three years. Anyone who met the initial requirement through the Catalyst or HSPH should consult the Partners RCR web site for the Partners requirement prior to enrolling through the Catalyst, HSPH, or another RCR program.</p>

**Who is required to complete the RCR
"Refresher Course"?**

The NIH requires individuals with three or more years of training support to complete additional RCR training, what we are calling a "refresher" course. Partners has made arrangements for this requirement to be completed online by completing three modules; Collaborative Research, Peer Review and Research Misconduct of the CITI Program Responsible Conduct of Research Refresher Course. Instructions on how to enroll and complete the modules can be found [here](#). Once the RCR Refresher Course is completed, you are required to submit a [Refresher Course Attestation Form](#).