Wofford College Responsible Conduct of Research Training Policy

Effective January 4, 2010, in response to the America COMPETES (Creating Opportunities to Meaningfully Promote Excellence in Technology, Education, and Science) Act, Section 7009, the National Science Foundation (NSF) requires that all undergraduate and graduate students and postdoctoral researchers complete an education course in Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) prior to receiving any financial support from an award. RCR training is also required for National Institutes of Health (NIH) and Public Health Service (PHS) grant programs with a research training, career development, or research education component as stated in the funding opportunity announcement (FOA).

Wofford College’s Grants Office requires RCR training for students prior to their receiving any funds for research related to any NSF funded grant or contract or for any NIH/PHS funded grant or contract that requires the training. The Grants Office also will require training immediately following any revision of federal regulations that affect RCR training requirements. Principal Investigators (PIs) are responsible for ensuring their student research assistants complete RCR training prior to the student receiving financial support from the award. PIs will work with the Grants Office to develop a training method which meets the need of the specific grant project. Completion certificates for each student completing these trainings must be sent to the Grants Office and filed appropriately for compliance. A copy of this certificate should also be maintained by the student completing the training and the PI. This documentation will be maintained by the PI and the Grants Office for a period of at least three years after the conclusion of the award.

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