Mandatory Training in Responsible Conduct of Research for NSF Supported Students

As part of the America Competes Act, the NSF introduced a new requirement for educating undergraduate, graduate and post-docs in the Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR). The NBER is required to have a plan in place for addressing this requirement. Our plan includes the online RCR training provided by the Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) program. While this training is mandatory only for those supported by NSF awards, we encourage you to implement this training broadly to cover all students and post-docs.

One requirement of the NSF policy is that grantees must be able to identify who is supported on NSF awards, and when they have completed the required training. The NBER is working with CITI to customize their Responsible Conduct of Research for Social and Behavioral Research course. Once completed, this customization will streamline the delivery of the course materials and verification of students' course completions. **Until the NBER course is live, please have your research assistants complete the public access Responsible Conduct of Research for Social and Behavioral Research course. The student should attach a print out of the course's table of contents indicating the completion of the required modules to their new hire packet and indicate the date the student completed the training course on the Personnel Action Form.**

Students and postdoctoral researchers supported on these awards must complete the training when submitting their new hire packet. They will not be paid until they complete the training. We encourage PIs to submit hiring paperwork for all RAs before they begin to work on a grant.

The CITI course can be accessed at
https://www.citiprogram.org/rcrpage.asp?language=english&affiliation=100