



COLLEGE POLICY

Policy Title	Responsible Conduct of Research and Ethical Treatment of Human Research Subjects
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Policy number	6108
Date issued	<i>effective 2/24/2023</i>
Responsible office(s)	Institutional Policy and Strategy
Keywords	research; ethical treatment; research conduct; research rules; research guidelines

Policy purpose

This policy seeks to serve two purposes: (1) To ensure compliance with Section 7009 of the America COMPETES Act of 2007. Training in responsible conduct of research is intended to encourage best practices in the conduct of all research and scientific investigations and to foster the skills to recognize and make ethical decisions; and (2) To ensure compliance with the Office of Human Research for protection of human subjects and regulations for Institutional Review Boards (IRB).

Scope

Definitions

- NSF and other federal government entities utilize regulation 45 C.F.R. 46 which defines **research** as “systematic study directed toward fuller scientific knowledge or understanding of the subject studied.”

Policy

Madison College is committed to supporting responsible and ethical conduct of research and scholarship among its faculty, staff, and students. Responsible conduct of research fosters a climate of intellectual honesty and a commitment to ethical responsibilities by the College.

All members of the College community share responsibility for developing and maintaining standards to assure ethical conduct of research and the detection of violations of these standards. These standards must comply with the legal, regulatory, contractual, and ethical requirements established by the College, governing agencies, funding agencies, and professional associations.

These responsibilities include Madison College employees but also extends to the education of our students. Students engaged in independent research programs and enrolled in credit bearing courses with a research focus, must complete RCR education as part of their professional development. In addition, any research involving human subject needs to go through the College’s [Institutional Review Board \(IRB\)](#) process.

Links to state/federal regulations

- The National Science Foundation Policy on Responsible Conduct of Research: <https://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/rcr.jsp>

- Office for Human Research Protections Regulations: <https://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/regulations-and-policy/regulations/index.html>
- Madison College Institutional Review Board Process: <https://students.madisoncollege.edu/institutional-review-board>

Supporting documents

Related policies