

Online Training in the Use of Human and Animal Subjects

The major federal funding agencies require that all investigators complete training in the protection of human and/or animal subjects, and certification of this training is required before research funds can be released. Keeping in line with such requirements, CMU's IRB and IACUC note that the importance of understanding human- and animal-subjects protection should not be limited to researchers whose projects are funded, rather all investigators conducting research with human or animal subjects should understand these policies and ethical considerations. In continuing to be responsive to federal requirements, CMU's IRB and IACUC will implement the following:

- CITI Online Training System for Compliance
 - CMU has adopted the online training system offered through the Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI). CITI offers courses in the responsible conduct of research and can be individualized for specific university needs.
 - CITI allows for the tracking of individuals who have completed their respective training requirements. Thus, individuals who are required to complete training in human subjects research would complete only the training relevant in this area, whereas those conducting research with animal subjects would complete training in that area.

- Implications for Research Involving Human Subjects
 - All investigators conducting research with human subjects must provide evidence of training in human-subjects protection.
 - Training will be offered via the ORSP website and scheduled workshops throughout the Spring 2009 Semester.

- Implications for Research Involving Animal Subjects
 - Investigators whose research involves animal subjects are currently required to complete a specific training regimen, dependent on the type of research and animals involved.
 - By the beginning of the 2009 Fall Semester, training for those utilizing animals in research will be available through the CITI website.