Department of Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics
Training Plan for Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR)
For Compliance with NSF, NIH, and USDA-NIFA Guidelines

All individuals who are completing a graduate degree in the Department of Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics and research associates/visiting scientists hired by the AFRE Department to work on a NSF, NIH, or USDA-NIFA project will be required to complete the following components to fulfill the University requirement for the initial five hour RCR training.

**Initial Training (minimum 5 hours)**

1) All individuals associated with a project will be certified by the MSU Human Research Protection Program (HRPP). This training includes the online MSU tutorial for HRPP [https://hrpp.msu.edu/required-training](https://hrpp.msu.edu/required-training)
   Total for this segment 2 hours.

2) Face-to-face discussion with individual AFRE principal investigators (PIs) based on readings assigned from the Graduate School research integrity website [http://grad.msu.edu/researchintegrity/](http://grad.msu.edu/researchintegrity/):
   a. On **Conflict of Interest** (COI) using a sample COI federal form to initiate a discussion of our personal circumstances related to the funded project and to educate and provide an opportunity for questions related to COI in general.
   b. On professional relationships via meetings with the PI for Q&A related to **authorship issues and data issues** OR attendance at annual departmental brown bag on “Student-Advisor Relationships”.
   Total for this segment 1 hour.

3) Attendance at the Graduate School program titled **Misconduct in Research and Creative Activities** registration and information can be found at [http://grad.msu.edu/rcr/](http://grad.msu.edu/rcr/)
   Follow-up face-to-face discussion with individual PIs as a Q&A session. Explicit expectations for responsible research set by AFRE for individuals associated with the project and discussed at the session.
   Total for this segment 2 hours.

**Refresher Training (minimum 3 hours)**

1) Complete the required recertification for human research protection. 1-2 hours

2) Other use of CITI modules for general RCR—selected from the topics provided and with a follow-up discussion with individual PIs. These will be focused on any new areas of federal research compliance. 1-2 hours

**NOTE:** Graduate students or postdocs who come with certification in RCR from another institution must provide a copy of the certificate and the curriculum/syllabus.