

RST Training Instructions

(Research Security Training)

Research Security Training (RST)

https://www.ttuhs.edu/research/divisions/integrity-office/education/research_security_training.aspx

Research Security Training is a critical component of a robust research program, ensuring the responsible conduct of research and safeguarding sensitive information and intellectual property.

The U.S. National Science Foundation, in partnership with the National Institutes of Health, the Department of Energy, and the Department of Defense, is sharing online research security training for the research community. This training provides recipients of federal research funding with information on risks and threats to the global research ecosystem and the knowledge and tools necessary to protect against these risks.

Research Security Training is required as part of the [National Security Presidential Memorandum-33 \(NSPM-33\) from 2021](#) and the [CHIPS \(Creating Helpful Incentives to Produce Semiconductors\) and Science Act of 2022](#).

Starting October 1, 2025

The '*Research Security Training*' course
will be required annually for all senior and key study personnel
on research and development (R&D) projects.

See 'Who is Required' section below for details.

**If you do not see the RST course already listed in your CITI
account, you will need to add it.**

Refer to the '*How to access the RST course*' section below

OR email jennifer.board@ttuhsc.edu

(who can add the course for you)

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is Required to take Research Security Training

Covered individuals, as defined by each federal agency, must complete the Research Security Training **prior to submitting proposals for federal awards.**

The definition of a Covered Individual given in the Terms and Conditions of the funding notice, award, amendment, etc. supersedes definitions that might be found elsewhere. *Implementation timelines for this training requirement vary by federal funding agency; please see the Specific Federal Agency Implementation Timelines section on this page.*

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"Covered individuals" - study personnel who are required to complete the Research Security Training meet one or more of the following criteria:

- **TTUHSC faculty, staff, students, postdoctoral scholars, or TTUHSC affiliate researchers** serving as principal investigator, co-principal investigator, or key personnel on a federally funded research project (including subawards).
- **TTUHSC personnel designated as covered individuals** by a federal research agency in the Request for Proposals or the Federal Award.
- **TTUHSC personnel supporting federal contracts/awards with access to regulated data** (controlled unclassified information, HIPAA, genomic, etc.).
- **TTUHSC personnel involved in export-controlled projects.** Most TTUHSC research is not subject to export control regulations, which apply to research on specific technologies that could be used for military purposes and items listed on the United States munitions list.
- **TTUHSC personnel working on a federal agency contract/award requiring Operations Security (OPSEC) training.**

The required Research Security Training should be completed within 30 days of being appointed as a covered individual on a research project.

How to access the RST course

[CLICK HERE](#) to log in to your CITI account and complete the "Research Security Training (Combined)" course.

Please note that you will need to ADD THE COURSE first - it is not automatically added to your account. See instructions below.

Adding the RST course to your CITI account:

- Log in to your CITI account (*refer to our [HRPP CITI training page](#) if needed*).
- The page should default to the 'My Courses' tab.
- Scroll down to the bottom of the page, past the list of your courses, and you will see the last section titled, 'Learner Tools for Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center'.
- The first option is 'Add a Course'. Click on this and you will see a complete list of all the courses provided by TTUHSC.
- Scroll to the bottom of the course list and select "Research Security Training (Combined)", then click on 'Submit'.
- The course(s) will now be listed on your 'My Courses' tab.

If you need additional assistance with access to CITI, please refer to our [HRPP CITI Training page](#). or email jennifer.board@ttuhsc.edu.

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Required training/certification frequency

Training is valid for one year, per the CHIPS and Science Act. Most federal agencies will require annual certifications.

Training must be completed by the covered individuals **before** OSP can submit federal research proposals (including subawards).

Specific federal agency implementation timelines

Under the CHIPS and Science Act signed into law on August 9, 2022, federal agencies had 12 months to establish an annual research security training requirement. The implementation timelines given by federal funding agencies are listed below, and are subject to change.

DOE – **Beginning on May 1, 2025**, all DOE Notices of Funding Opportunity (NOFOs) will include a requirement for all covered individuals to complete research security training to submit a proposal. Covered individuals from recipients or subrecipients who are added to an existing DOE award that includes the research security training requirement must also complete the training.

NSF – **Effective December 2, 2025**, all individuals designated as senior/key personnel on a proposal must complete research security training within 12 months prior to proposal submission. Individuals will certify in the Biographical Sketch and Current and Pending (Other) Support documents that they have completed training.

NIH – **Effective May 25, 2026**, recipients must implement trainings, in addition to maintaining a written and enforced policy, on requirements for the disclosure of other support to ensure Senior/Key Personnel fully understand their responsibility to disclose all resources made available to the researcher in support of and/or related to all of their research endeavors, regardless of whether or not they have monetary value and regardless of whether they are based at the institution the researcher identifies for the current grant.

USDA – **The Secretarial Memorandum dated July 8, 2025**, directs a Department wide review of existing arrangements with foreign entities, establishes a justification process for establishing new arrangements, and enhances research security. As a term and condition of entering into an arrangement with USDA related to research and development (R&D) or science and technology (S&T), one of the requirements is that applicants must certify that research security training has been completed not more than one year prior to the date of application and must recertify annually for the duration of the award.

NASA - **Effective August 5, 2026**, NASA will require that all covered individuals associated with a research award certify that they have completed research security training within one year prior to application submission.

DoD – **Effective date TBD**; DoD has not yet detailed how or when they plan to comply with the research security training requirement of the CHIPS and Science Act.

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Resources for Research Security Training

Benefits of Research Security Training

Protection against risks: Training helps researchers guard against theft or misuse of research data, improper use of intellectual property, and dissemination of untrustworthy scientific results.

Promoting responsible collaborations: Research Security Training promotes responsible international collaborations and a positive culture of research security.

Upholding research integrity: It helps maintain the integrity of the research process by preventing misconduct and other forms of scientific dishonesty.

Safeguarding national security: Research Security Training is crucial for safeguarding the U.S. research enterprise from foreign interference and other security threats.

Training Overview of Research Security Training

Introduction to Research Security

Learn key concepts of research security and how to recognize situations that may indicate undue foreign influence. Understand the regulatory landscape that shapes research security and discover what you can do to safeguard the core values that underpin U.S. academic research.

The Importance of Disclosure

Learn about federal funding agency disclosure requirements, including types of information that must be disclosed, how that information is used, and why such disclosures are fundamental to safeguarding the U.S. research enterprise from foreign government interference and exploitation.

Risk Mitigation and Management

Learn to identify types of international collaborative research and professional activities, associated potential risks, and strategies and best practices for managing and mitigating such risks. Learner experience will be customized based on their role as either a researcher or administrator.

The Importance of International Collaboration

Learn about the role of principled international collaboration in U.S. science, innovation, and economic competitiveness. Discover how to balance principled international collaboration with research security concerns and foster an open, welcoming research environment that fulfills research security needs.

Useful Links for Research Security Training

- [National Security Presidential Memorandum 33 \(NSPM-33\)](#)
- [CHIPS and Science Act of 2022](#)
- [Executive Order GA 48](#)

Got Questions?

Chad Copeland

Chief Compliance Officer

806.743.4752

chadley.copeland@ttuhsc.edu
