

- **Certification Regarding Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR):** The AOR is required to complete a certification that the institution has a plan¹⁶ to provide appropriate training and oversight in the responsible and ethical conduct of research to undergraduates, graduate students, and postdoctoral researchers who will be supported by NSF to conduct research.

Additional information on NSF's RCR policy is available in the AAG, Chapter IV.B. While training plans are not required to be included in proposals submitted to NSF, institutions are advised that they are subject to review upon request.

Summary of change in the AAG (Award and Administration Guide):

Chapter IV.B, Responsible Conduct of Research, is a new section that provides NSF's implementation of Section 7009 of the America COMPETES Act regarding responsible conduct of research (RCR).

Institutions must have a plan in place to provide appropriate training and oversight in the responsible and ethical conduct of research to undergraduates, graduate students, and postdoctoral researchers who will be supported by NSF to conduct research. Institutions must designate one or more persons to oversee compliance with the RCR training requirement and must verify that appropriate training was provided.