

About Research Activities

All students, faculty, and staff who are engaged in research at the University of Massachusetts Lowell (UMass Lowell) are responsible to comply with all federal, state, local and university regulations and policies related to research activities. The Office of Institutional Compliance (OIC) provides assistance with meeting and oversight of research compliance for all faculty, staff, and students. To support understanding of compliance requirement, the responsible conduct in research (RCR) training is recommended for all students, faculty, and staff. RCR is simply good citizenship practices applied to professional life. It is an ongoing process of reconciling regulations, guidelines, standards, and ethics to promote integrity in the proposing, planning, conducting, reporting, and reviewing of research. It involves reporting and working honestly, accurately, efficiently, and objectively. RCR topics include human and animal subject research, conflicts of interest, data management practices, mentor and trainee responsibilities, authorship and publication, and peer review.

UMass Lowell provides **free online training (OIC)** <https://www.uml.edu/Research/OIC/training.aspx>

The UMass Lowell RCR Plan and Training Requirement (pdf) outlines the details and processes for completing the training to meet specific federal agency requirements.

The Office of Research Integrity directs Public Health Service funded research, and has published the "Introduction to the Responsible Conduct of Research," by N.H. Stenbeck, as a resource guide.

Responsible Conduct in Research Information (OIC)

<https://www.uml.edu/Research/OIC/Conduct/default.aspx>

Board of Trustee (BOT) Policy on RCR and Scholarly Activities (ORA)

https://www.umassp.edu/sites/umassp.edu/files/content/policies/board/academic/Policy_on_Responsible_Conduct_of_Research_and_Scholarly_Activities_7-24-12.pdf

Participation Agreement regarding Use of University Resources (OTC)

All students and employees are required to sign the University's Participation Agreement upon entering the University. If there is someone in your lab has not signed this agreement, please have them fill out and submit the form below.

https://www.uml.edu/docs/participation-agreement_tcm18-36973.pdf

Board of Trustee University of Massachusetts Intellectual Property Policy Lowell (OTC)

(Students refer specifically to section III.B.4)

<https://www.umassp.edu/sites/umassp.edu/files/content/policies/board/academic/IntellecPropertyUML.pdf>

Board of Trustee Policy on Conflicts of Interest Relating to IP and Commercial Ventures (OTC)

https://www.umassp.edu/sites/umassp.edu/files/content/policies/board/academic/Con_of_Inter_Lowell.pdf

University of Massachusetts Lowell Policy and Procedures Relating to Faculty Misconduct in Research and Scholarly Activities (ORA)

https://www.uml.edu/docs/BOTApproved-June262013FacultyMisconductPolicy1_tcm18-139468.pdf

Misconduct in Science (ORA)

Misconduct or scientific misconduct is defined as fabrication, falsification, or plagiarism in proposing, performing, reviewing or reporting on research. UMass Lowell's definition also includes unsafe practices, failure to comply with regulations, misuse of funds, or other activities that seriously deviate from those that are commonly accepted within the scientific community for proposing, conducting, or reporting research. For more information, go to <https://www.uml.edu/Research/ORA/policies/misconduct-in-science.aspx>