

Office of Research Compliance and Integrity

The Office of Research Compliance and Integrity (ORCI) provides comprehensive regulatory guidance, support, and fosters research integrity to the University of South Alabama research community regarding the specific components of research compliance listed below. Please visit the [ORCI website](#) for guidance and resources on each of these topics, and contact us with any questions.



Animal Subjects

Work involving the use of vertebrate animals requires approval by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC).



Human Subjects

Work involving human subjects research requires approval by the Institutional Review Board (IRB).



Biosafety

Work involving biohazards including infectious agents and/or recombinant or synthetic nucleic acids requires approval by the Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC).



Clinical Trial Support

Research coordinators supporting clinical trials undergo the Coordinator Onboarding & Research Essentials. Other services include mock consent, risk-based QA audits, external audit prep, ongoing training and consultation.



Conflict of Interest

University annual Conflict of Interest (COI) disclosure is required. Training and certification is mandatory for PIs/key personnel for PHS funded research and designated foundations/organizations. COI disclosure requirements, training and management plan templates is available on the ORCI website.



Research Misconduct

Information about what constitutes misconduct in research and other scholarly activities and how to report suspected misconduct is available on the ORCI website.



IRBNet

[IRBNet](#) is the online submission software utilized for management of all research projects that require committee review and approval. Guidance on navigating IRBNet is available on the [IRBNet webpage](#) broken down into step-by-step instructions on how to get started creating submissions, etc.



Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR)

Specified training is required for work with NSF, NIH, or USDA-NIFA funding. All faculty, regardless of funding, must complete RCR training. See [University's RCR Training Policy](#)

[Research Training Matrix](#)

Review the research training matrix to identify required training

[Meet the Team](#)

Contact us for assistance

New to South? Research Compliance Next Steps

Welcome to the University of South Alabama, the Flagship of the Gulf Coast! The following tips should be followed prior to engaging in research activities to ensure compliance.

1. **Visit the [ORCI website](#)** and review guidance for areas that may apply to your work. We offer guidance and resources to help you navigate through research compliance and conducting research responsibly.
2. **Determine if any regulatory approvals or trainings are required** before starting your research.
3. **Complete required trainings** as outlined in the [research training matrix](#).
4. **A Data Use Agreement or Material Transfer Agreement** must be established to transfer data or material to South from the previous institution. Visit [the Office of Commercialization and Industry Collaboration](#) for more information, or direct questions to techtransfer@southalabama.edu
5. **Contact ORCI** with any questions or to schedule a consultation.

Departing South? Research Compliance Next Steps

1. For funded research, departing faculty should work with the Office of Sponsored Projects of both institutions to determine if their project is transferable and to manage the transfer of funding.
2. If the research involves human subjects, a reliance agreement between South and the new institution may be necessary to ensure continuous oversight of the study.
3. If research activities will continue at South, oversight must be transferred to a new Principal Investigator (PI) at South. Prior to departure, the departing PI/research site must submit an amendment form to the respective regulatory committee requesting a PI change in IRBNet.
4. If research studies are complete or will not be transferred to another institution, the study(ies) must be closed by the exiting PI/research site prior to departure. The PI must submit a request to close the research study(ies) to the respective regulatory committee in IRBNet.
5. Research studies that will be transferred to another institution for continued research activity must establish a Data Use Agreement or Material Transfer Agreement to transfer data or material from South to the new institution. Visit the [Office of Commercialization and Industry Collaboration](#) for more information, or direct questions to techtransfer@southalabama.edu



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