The University of Mississippi

Education in Human Research Protection

Summary/Purpose: Mandatory educational requirement for all individuals involved in human subject research.

Education is a key component of UM’s human research protection program. Education includes the knowledge of federal, state, and local laws and regulations, relevant professional standards, and the policies and procedures of The University of Mississippi regarding the protection of research participants and the conduct of research. IRB applications will be accepted only when all project staff have completed an education requirement.

UM utilizes an online educational program sponsored by the Collaborative IRB Training Initiative (CITI) and hosted by the University of Miami. Investigators, research staff, Institutional Review Board (IRB) members, and IRB staff are required to complete the appropriate CITI course for their group and subject population. CITI certification is good for two years. A refresher course must be completed on or before one’s two-year anniversary date.

Alternatives to comprehensive CITI training, including exemption from training, may be allowed for some studies, depending on risk. See policy RSP.RI.301.015, Exempt Human Research. Research collaborators at other institutions must provide proof of comparable training (as determined by IRB) OR take the same training required of UM researchers.

When applicable, individuals may be required to complete other appropriate training, such as Radiation Safety, Biological Safety, Chemical Safety, and/or other training offered by the Office of Health and Safety. Specific training requirements may be obtained from that office.