

Education Requirement for Investigators and Study Personnel Involved with Human Subjects Research

Northern Kentucky University's requirement for education in human subjects protection was initially implemented in response to the National Institute of health (NIH) and Veterans Administration (VA) requirements (effective with October 2000 awards) of training. Those agencies required training for all investigators and study personnel conducting research with human subjects on projects funded by these agencies prior to making an award.

Since 2000, accreditation agencies and other funding agencies have adopted policies which mandate institutions to require human research protection education for study personnel on all research projects regardless of funding source.

In January 2008, Northern Kentucky University will extend its current policy to require *all* investigators/study personnel conducting research involving human subjects, or data or biological specimens derived there from, to be trained in the protection of human subjects.

This requirement may be met by successful completion of the Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) web-based human subjects' protection training program.

The successful completion of this program will be required for all study personnel who are involved in new Institutional Review Board (IRB) applications approved after January 1, 2008. The basic training program consists of six modules for social and behavioral researchers. The IRB may require the completion of additional modules if the proposed research includes vulnerable populations or special consideration. Nursing students are required to complete several additional designated modules.

Investigators and study personnel involved in research projects approved by the IRB prior to January 1, 2008 will not be required to complete the training, although it is recommended.

NKU requires that researchers and study personnel renew their Human Subjects Protection training every three years.

For questions regarding the education requirement, please contact IRB Chair Phil Moberg at mobergp1@nku.edu or ph; (859) 572-1913, or the IRB Administrator at irb@nku.edu or ph: (859) 572-5136. You may also visit the Research, Grants & Contracts online at <http://rgc.nku.edu/>, click on IRB Education Training.

Registration information for the CITI course is obtainable by visiting the CITI website at www.citiprogram.org.