

RESEARCH TRAINEES

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT RESEARCH MISCONDUCT

Misconduct Is Not Limited to Published Research

Research misconduct is fabrication, falsification, or plagiarism¹ and can occur in publications, presentations, posters, and grant applications – whether they are funded or unfunded.

Research Misconduct Affects Everyone

Tainted research can have negative implications on individuals in the lab, the larger research community, and in the public's trust in science.

There Is a Professional You Can Contact

Most institutions refer to this person as the Research Integrity Officer (RIO)². You can contact your RIO about questionable practices.

Anyone Can Report Misconduct

Scientists are obligated to point out errors regardless of their position in the lab. The research community depends on you to report misconduct.

Institutions Have Policies to Protect All Involved

Every institution has a requirement to take all reasonable and practical steps to protect the reputation of those who report research misconduct and anyone falsely accused.

You Can Report Research Misconduct Anonymously

Anyone can contact ORI anonymously by phone or email to address concerns.

 240-453-8800
 AskORI@hhs.gov

Of ORI's research misconduct cases³:

12% were reported by research trainees

40% were committed by research trainees

¹ For the full definition of research misconduct, see 42 C.F.R. § 93.103.

² RIOs may have other titles, such as Chief Compliance Officer, Director of Compliance, Vice President/Dean of Research, or Director of Integrity.

³ Statistics based on closed ORI case findings from 2011–2015. Trainees are students and postdoctoral fellows.

Learn more about responsible research at: ori.hhs.gov




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