1.0 **Purpose:**
The purpose of this standard operating practice (SOP) is to inform faculty, staff, and students at East Carolina University and all other researchers that rely on ECU’s IRBs of the mandatory requirements for education in human research protections. This SOP applies to all research involving the use of human participants regardless of whether it is funded and regardless of the source of sponsorship. It applies to both currently active and future research.

2.0 **Individuals Required to Complete Education:**
2.1 Education in human research protections is required for all faculty, staff, and students directly involved in the conduct of research with humans, including anyone who does any of the following:
   2.1.1Obtains informed consent of humans for research;
   2.1.2Collects data from or about humans for research purposes;
   2.1.3Conducts research procedures or interventions with humans; or
   2.1.4Obtains private identifiable data or specimens for research.

2.2 Researchers not employed by or affiliated with ECU must either provide documentation of completion of human research protections training within the last three years at their respective institutions or complete one of the ECU foundation requirements.

3.0 **Education Requirements:**
3.1 **Completion of the Education Requirement.**
   3.1.1The foundation requirement is a one-time requirement that must be completed before the individual first becomes directly involved in the conduct of human research at ECU
   3.1.2This requirement consists of completing either the biomedical or behavioral/social sciences modules of the CITI Training which is found at [http://www.citiprogram.org/](http://www.citiprogram.org/).
   3.1.3Completion of the foundation requirement meets the education requirement for a three year period;

3.2 **IRB-approved Continuing Education Requirement.**
   3.2.1Continuing education must be completed after three years as long as the individual is involved in human research.
   3.2.2The CITI **Refresher Course** is the preferred continuing education course to meet ECU’s requirements. This course may be repeated because new content is continuously being added.
   3.2.3Other continuing education in human protections will be considered on a case by case basis.
3.4 **Failure to Comply**

3.4.1 Failure to complete the education requirements will delay initial IRB approval. Also, the IRB has the authority to suspend or withhold approval from any project that involves study personnel who fail to meet these education requirements.

4.0 **Revision History:**

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