15.99.03.C1 Research Misconduct

Revised: December 12, 2025
Next Scheduled Review: December 12, 2030
Revision History

Rule Summary

The Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi (TAMU-CC) community, including students, staff, faculty, and administrators, shares the responsibility to promote, develop, and maintain research policies and practices that uphold honesty, scientific integrity, and ethical research conduct. The credibility of academic research depends on the appropriate design, execution, documentation, and dissemination of research outcomes. This rule governs research misconduct proceedings and applies to both non-sponsored and sponsored research activities, regardless of funding source.

Rule

1. DUTIES OF THE DECIDING OFFICIAL, RESEARCH INTEGRITY OFFICER, AND INSTITUTIONAL CERTIFYING OFFICIAL

   1.1. Deciding Official (DO)

   The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) appoints the Executive Vice President for Research and Innovation (EVPR) as the DO for TAMU-CC.

   1.2. Research Integrity Officer (RIO)

   1.2.1. The EVPR, acting in the role of DO, appoints the RIO for TAMU-CC.

   1.2.2. The DO may appoint a Deputy or Assistant RIO.

   1.3. Institutional Certifying Official (ICO)

   The EVPR serves as the ICO and is responsible for the duties described in System Regulation *15.99.03, Research Misconduct*.

2. ASSESSMENTS

   Upon receiving an allegation of misconduct in research, scholarship, and creative activity, the RIO will review and assess the allegation as outlined in System Regulation *15.99.03, Research Misconduct*.

3. INQUIRY, INVESTIGATION, AND ADJUDICATION

3.1. Inquiry

The RIO will initiate an inquiry after the completion of a prompt assessment and if the allegation meets the criteria outlined in System Regulation *15.99.03, Research Misconduct*.

3.2. Investigation

If the findings of the inquiry provide sufficient basis for conducting an investigation, one will be undertaken following the process described in System Regulation *15.99.03, Research Misconduct*.

3.3. Decisions on Allegations of Research Misconduct by the DO and Adjudication

3.3.1. The DO will render a decision in a timely manner, following the receipt of the investigation committee's report of findings in accordance with System Regulation *15.99.03, Research Misconduct*.

3.3.2. If the sanction(s) is less than termination or expulsion, the decision of the DO or their designee is final.

3.3.3. If there is a decision to terminate the employment of the respondent:

(a) respondents who are faculty members may request further review in accordance with University Procedure *32.01.01.C0.01, Complaint and Appeal Process for Faculty Members* and pursue the available means of appeal following such a hearing, as necessary; or

(b) respondents who are staff members may request further review and mediation as provided by University Procedure *32.01.02.C0.01, Complaint and Appeal Process for Non-Faculty Employees*.

3.3.4. If there is a decision to expel a student respondent, the student respondent may request a hearing in accordance with University Procedure 13.02.99.C0.01, Student Complaints Regarding Employees, or the Student Code of Conduct, as applicable.

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

Title 42 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 93

Title 45 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 689
System Regulation *15.99.03, Research Misconduct*
System Regulation *15.99.08, Artificial Intelligence in Research*
University Procedure *13.02.99.C0.01, Student Complaints Regarding Employees*
University Procedure *32.01.01.C0.01, Complaint and Appeal Process for Faculty Members*
University Procedure *32.01.02.C0.01, Complaint and Appeal Process for Non-Faculty Employees*

This rule supersedes:

- *15.99.03.C1, Ethics in Research and Scholarship*
- *15.99.03.C1, Ethics in Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity*

Appendix

Student Code of Conduct

Contact Office

Contact for interpretation and clarification:	Executive Vice President for Research and Innovation 361.825.7267