

EDUCATION AND RESEARCH CENTER

**TARGETED RESEARCH
TRAINING PROGRAM
(TRT)**

GUIDELINES
January 3, 2017

ERC – TRT GUIDELINES

I. SELECTION OF STUDENTS FOR TRT PROJECTS

The Steering Committee will select the students for the projects based on advisors' recommendation and student's research plan. Student helpers do not need approval from the Steering Committee, approval by student's advisor and the faculty PI of the project is sufficient. For the selection of students, the following documentation is needed:

- 1) Student's resume
- 2) One paragraph write-up on the rationale for match between the student and project
- 3) Commitment from the students to the project (include period of time commitment and student's role in the project)
- 4) Plan for specific additional courses (see Table 1) or one-on-one training by the mentor to enhance student's research skills.

II. RESEARCH PLAN

Students prepare a detailed plan; signed by student, advisor and submit to steering committee.

A) For projects outlined in the ERC competitive application (Specific Aims 1-2):

The plan should be 1-2 pages, and contain the following parts:

- 1) Background, 2) Goals, 3) Outline of activities, 4) Timeline, 5) Resources needed (e.g., supplies, equipment, mileage).

The write-up should show student involvement in all phases of the project, not just technical assistance of the faculty.

B) For new projects (sub-aims):

Any member of the ERC faculty can propose a new sub-aim. The Steering Committee reviews and approves the proposals for new sub-aims. In addition to items listed above in section A, proposal should indicate under which existing Specific Aim it belongs or if a new Specific Aim is added. The projects will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- Significance: Relevance to NORA and the long-term goals of the ERC and the TRT strategic plans.
- Approach: suitability for a student project, student involvement.
- Environment: Interdisciplinary interaction (need to have at least two ERC disciplines involved).
- Investigators: Advisor's track record of outside support and experience in research training and research to practice projects. Quality of the student.
- Outcomes: results, publications, recommendations, students' presentations and theses

The new proposals should include the above listed sub-headings.

C) Continued review of already approved project

At the time of the annual ERC renewal, the PI of each project will submit a progress report and detailed plan for the next year and an updated long-range plan. The plans will be evaluated using the above listed criteria.

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III. REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENTS

In addition to the requirements of their respective graduate programs, the TRT students are required to do the following:

- Present in the annual Pilot Research Project Symposium (poster or oral, depending on the status of the work)
- Participate in the annual Research Capacity Building workshop (once during their studies)
- Present in the annual Students' Research Findings symposium
- Present their projects in TRT Information sessions and relevant seminars and conferences.
- Students are required to take specific additional courses (see Table 1) or have one-on-one training by the mentor to enhance their research skills.

Table 1. TRT curriculum.

Topic	Courses
Research design, development and epidemiological methods	BE-9075 Design and Management of Field Studies (3 cr.) NPHD9010 Intro to Quant Methods (3 cr.), NPHD9012 Intro to Qualitative Methods (3 cr.)
Biostatistics	BE7022 Introduction to Biostatistics (3 cr) NPHD9014 Adv Multivariate Analysis I (3 cr.), NPHD9015 Adv Multivariate Analysis (3 cr.)
Study and survey design	BE-7089 Experimental Design (3 cr.) NPHD9010 Intro to Quant Methods (3 cr.)
Measures of outcomes Determining Impact	ANNA8010 Health Planning & Analysis (3 cr.)* MECH6050 Occupational Safety Engineering (3 cr.)
Ethical and regulatory principles of research	GNTD-7003 Ethics in Research (1 cr.) NPHD9009 Health Policy and Ethical Issues in Nursing Science (3 cr.), NPHD9001C Professional Seminar I (3 cr.)

*New course to be offered in fall 2016

Steering Committee:

Dr. Tiina Reponen, Environmental and Occupational Hygiene, Chairperson
Dr. Amit Bhattacharya, Environmental and Occupational Hygiene
Dr. Gordon Gillespie, Occupational Health Nursing
Dr. Jay Kim, Occupational Safety and Health Engineering
Dr. Andrew Freeman, Occupational Medicine
Dr. Debbie Sampsel, College of Nursing, Outside member

Coordinator: Jessica Bloomer

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