

Code of Conduct for Researchers, etc. at National University Corporation Kitami  
Institute of Technology

National University Corporation Kitami Institute of Technology (hereinafter referred to as the “University”) shall establish a code of conduct for researchers who conduct research activities at the University (hereinafter referred to as “Researchers”) and those who support them (hereinafter referred to as “Research Supporters”) to develop science and technology and to ensure the reliability and fairness of research activities.

This Code of Conduct shall apply to all of the Researchers and Research Supporters, regardless of their affiliations and identities.

(Responsibilities of Researchers)

1. Researchers shall be responsible for assuring the quality of the expert knowledge and skills that they themselves create, and for using their expert knowledge, skills, and experience to contribute to the health and welfare of humankind, the safety and security of society, and the sustainability of the global environment.

(Actions of Researchers)

2. Researchers should recognize that the autonomy of science is built on the trust and mandate of society, and should always make judgments and take actions with honesty and integrity. In addition, they should make best efforts to scientifically show the accuracy and validity of knowledge produced by scientific research, and should actively participate in mutual evaluation among researchers in the research community, particularly in the field of their expertise.

(Self-improvement)

3. Researchers should strive to maintain and improve their expert knowledge, skills, and techniques. In addition, they should continually make efforts to understand from a wide perspective how science and technology relate to society, nature, and the environment, and to always show their best judgment and attitude.

(Accountability and Publication)

4. Researchers should strive to publish and actively explain the roles and significance of their research, to evaluate the possible effects of their research on people, society, and the environment, as well as possible changes thereto, to publish the results of this evaluation neutrally and objectively, and to build a constructive dialogue with society.

(Research Activities)

5. Researchers should act with integrity according to the spirit of this Code of Conduct in the process of drafting, planning, application, implementation, and reporting of their research. They should ensure that research and survey data are recorded, stored, and handled strictly, and should neither perform any misconduct, such as fabrication, falsification, and plagiarism, nor be implicated in such misconduct.

(Improvement of Research Environments)

6. Researchers should recognize that they also have important duties to establish and maintain fair research environments where responsible conduct of research can be assured and misconduct can be prevented, and should work actively to improve the quality of research environments in their research community and their own institutions. In order to achieve this, they should strive to gain the understanding and cooperation of society.

(Compliance with Laws and Regulations)

7. Researchers shall comply with the laws and applicable regulations for conducting research and using research funds.

(Consideration for Research Subjects, etc.)

8. Researchers should respect the dignity and rights of individuals who cooperate in their research, and should give proper consideration to their welfare. They should treat animals and other research subjects with due care and respect.

(Relations with Others)

9. Researchers should appropriately criticize the research results of others, humbly listen to the criticism made by others against their research, and exchange opinions with an attitude of sincerity. They should appropriately evaluate the intellectual results and other achievements of others, and respect the honor and intellectual property rights of others.

(Elimination of Discrimination)

10. Researchers should, in their research, education, and academic activities, respond to others in a fair and scientific manner, and respect individual freedom and dignity, without discriminating against individuals based on race, gender, status, philosophy and religion, etc.

(Conflicts of Interest)

11. Researchers should, in their research, reviews, evaluations, judgments, and other activities, pay sufficient attention to conflicts of interest between an individual and an organization, or between different organizations, and should respond appropriately with paying due attention to public interest.

(Responsibilities of Research Supporters)

12. Research Supporters should, in accordance with the purpose of this Code of Conduct, provide support for the promotion of the development of research activities and the advancement of the development of research support environment. In particular, in the management of research funds, they should neither perform any misconduct nor be implicated in such misconduct, but should strive to prevent misconduct and to conduct appropriate management.

(Mutual Understanding)

13. Researchers and Research Supporters should strive to deepen their mutual understanding.