

September 26, 2022

Approved by the Board of Executives

General Policy for Ensuring Research Integrity at Hokkaido University

For the purpose of creating and developing science, technology, and innovation, it is necessary to promote international joint research with diverse partners based on the principle of open science. At the same time, new risks associated with the internationalization and openness of research activities in recent years have raised concerns that the value of the foundation that constitutes the research environment, such as openness and transparency, may be undermined and that scientists* may unintentionally fall into conflicts of interest and responsibilities. Creating an internationally trusted research environment is essential for promoting international cooperation and exchange.

The "[Code of Conduct for Scientists at Hokkaido University](#)" states that "research activities based on the development of science and technology and the independent judgment of scientists may gain social recognition only if they are grounded in the trust and confidence of society. Therefore, scientists must maintain transparency in their research activities, fulfill their accountability to society, and always be aware of the strict and high ethical standards required of them."

In addition, the "[Hokkaido University Code of Conduct](#)" states that "the roles of a university in advancing internationalization and responding to societal demands are increasingly diversified," and "strict adherence to ethical standards and compliance" shall be upheld by all members of the University.

In light of these considerations and based on the above codes of conduct which constitute [the Hokkaido University Charter](#), the following general policy is established to independently ensure the soundness and fairness (research integrity) of scientists and research at the University.

1. Scientists shall appropriately report necessary information (including reports and declarations in the event that such information is updated) to the University and research funding institutions in order to ensure transparency and fulfill their accountability for their research activities.
2. The University shall establish a system to ensure the research integrity of its scientists, receive the necessary information declared, and implement appropriate management. In particular, the handling of research with domestic or foreign military and defense

organizations shall be [stipulated separately](#).

3. When the research funding institution or other organization makes a request pertaining to ensuring research integrity, the relevant scientists and staffers will cooperate and respond appropriately in compliance with the related laws, regulations, and the University's internal rules and regulations.

* Scientists refer to researchers and other professionals as defined in the "Code of Conduct for Scientists at Hokkaido University," and include all individuals affiliated with the University and engaged in research activities, not limited to the faculty and staffers.