

Coordinated pan-Alberta clinical research training program

Introduction

The ACRC partner organizations are supporting clinical health research teams by subscribing to the Network of Networks (N2) online training resources. Through memberships with N2, each organization gains access to CITI-Canada training for their employees. CITI is offered by over 1000 participating institutions, facilities and disease networks around the world; and new courses are added on an ongoing basis.

CITI-Canada is an online clinical research training program that incorporates International Conference on Harmonization - Good Clinical Practice, Tri-Council Policy Statement Edition 2, and Health Canada guidelines. CITI-Canada is developed by CITI (Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative) and N2 (Network of Networks).

The online courses available are:

- Good Clinical Practice (GCP) & Refresher
- Health Canada Division 5
- Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR)
- Biomedical Research Ethics Tutorial
- Social and Behavioral Research
- Transportation of Dangerous Goods TDG/IATA

After finishing each course, participants can print a certificate as evidence of training.

N2's CITI-Canada aligns with the ACRC's goal of developing 'provincial **standards and opportunities for clinical research training**'. It is promoted as part of a suite of tools, templates and training which incorporate best practice and applicable guidelines.

Alberta Clinical Research Consortium (ACRC)

The ACRC is a provincial initiative that involves academic and community-based researchers and administrators working together to achieve the vision of 'high quality, integrated and efficient clinical research in Alberta'.

From study start-up to close in all phases and disease areas, the ACRC is simplifying and harmonizing administrative processes across the province while incorporating best practices and applicable guidelines to uphold high quality clinical research standards.

The goal is to make it easier to do quality clinical research that will improve patient outcomes in the province.

ACRC Partner Organizations

Alberta Health Services

Alberta Innovates - Health Solutions

College of Physicians & Surgeons

Covenant Health

University of Alberta

University of Calgary

Who can participate in CITI-Canada?

CITI-Canada is a resource for experienced and novice researchers, study coordinators, service departments and clinical staff in academic, healthcare and community-based settings.

There is no cost to participate for members of the ACRC partner organizations (AHS, AIHS, CPSA, Covenant Health, UofA and UofC) as it is covered through memberships with N2.

If you are not a member of one the ACRC partner organizations, you can still participate in CITI Training as an Independent Learner. Contact n2@n2canada.ca for more information.

Do pharmaceutical companies accept CITI-Canada GCP as equivalent to their GCP training?

Several pharmaceutical companies accept completion of CITI-Canada as equivalent to their GCP training requirement. It is also being considered by other companies. Please check the [ACRC website](#) for the latest list.

If you encounter a pharmaceutical company that does not accept CITI-Canada GCP training, please let us know, and we can help advocate.

How long do the courses take to complete and can it be done over a period of time?

Each course takes approximately three hours to complete. You can start and stop at any time.

Are CME/CEU credits available?

Yes, continuing education (CE) credits are available for most affiliations (e.g. medical, dental, nursing, pharmacy, psychology, social worker, etc.).

Check the [ACRC website](#) for instructions on how to claim CE credits for the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons, The College of Family Physicians of Canada, SOCRA, ACRP, and CARNA.

How do I access the CITI-Canada training?

Follow the instructions [below](#) to register under your organization.

Does CITI-Canada cover investigator training?

Check with the pharmaceutical company if the CITI-Canada GCP course is accepted as equivalent to their GCP training. Note, study-specific training will still be required.

Can I add the ACRC, AHS or UofA as an affiliate if I am already registered in CITI-Canada?

Yes, for individuals who have already enrolled in the CITI-Canada training program and want to share your information with another group, select 'affiliate with another institution' on the Main Menu and then add the institution'.

You will need to select each course you wish to share with the new institution. Note, if the record indicates incomplete, you may need to complete an additional module.

What is the difference between CITI and CITI-Canada?

CITI-Canada is based on CITI, which was developed by the University of Miami and the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, and focuses on GCP and the FDA regulations. N2, in partnership with CITI, customized the training to include Health Canada and TCPS2 guidelines for the N2 member organizations.

N2 is a national non-profit alliance of clinical research stakeholders (disease networks, institutions, universities, and industry) collaboratively working towards common practices and harmonization where possible. The CITI –Canada training program is one of the resources that have been developed.

Acknowledgements

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For information, contact acrc@aihealthsolutions.ca <http://researchalberta.ca/training-and-events/training-recommendations/citi-canada>

Instructions for CITI-Canada Website

Follow this step by step guide to access the CITI-Canada website. www.citiprogram.org



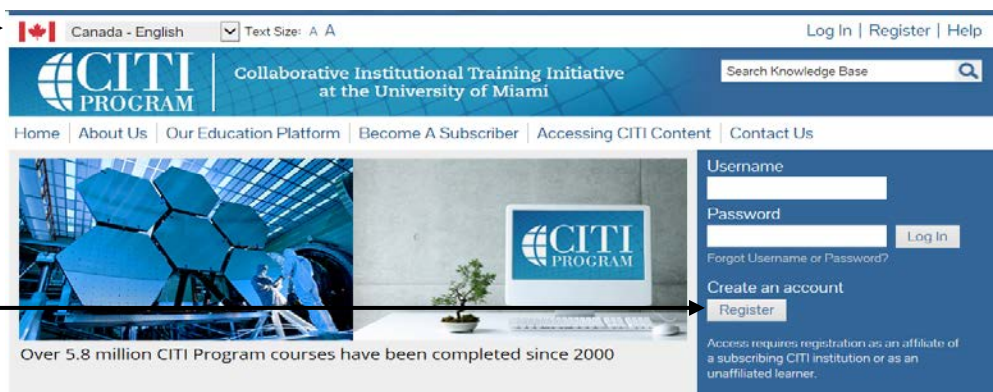
- Start by [creating an account](#)

- [Manage your courses](#) or
- [Affiliate with another institution.](#)

A. To Create an Account

Select "Canada – English" at the top for CITI-Canada.

Then click on the box that says, "Register".



Step 1 of Registration: Type in the name of your organization and select it when it appears in the drop down menu. Depending on your primary employer, please register for CITI under the following organization.

Your Organization/Employer	Register for CITI Under	For more information contact
Alberta Innovates – Health Solutions Covenant Health College of Physicians & Surgeons of Alberta University of Calgary	Alberta Clinical Research Consortium	acrc@aihealthsolutions.ca
Alberta Health Services University of Alberta	Alberta Health Services University of Alberta	research.administration@ahs.ca scott.jamieson@ualberta.ca

Type in the organization name here

The screenshot shows the CITI Learner Registration interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'Canada - English', 'Text Size: A A', and links for 'Log In | Register | Help'. Below this is the CITI PROGRAM logo and 'Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative at the University of Miami' with a search bar for the 'Knowledge Base'. A main navigation menu includes 'Home | About Us | Our Education Platform | Become A Subscriber | Accessing CITI Content | Contact Us'. The main content area is titled 'CITI - Learner Registration' and shows a progress indicator for 7 steps, with step 1 highlighted. A message states 'You must make a selection below.' The 'Select Your Organization Affiliation' section contains a search box with the placeholder 'Search for organization: Enter full or partial name' and a link 'Can't find your institution? It may use Single Sign On. Check here.' Below the search box is explanatory text: 'Drop-down lists have been replaced by this single search box. To find your organization, enter its name in the box above, then pick from the list of choices provided. If the selection is correct, click the "Continue to Step 2" button immediately below. To clear your selection and try again, click the "Search Again" button.' Two buttons are present: 'Continue to Step 2' and 'Search Again'. At the bottom, there is an 'Independent Learner Registration' section with the text: 'To register for independent learner courses, please contact n2@n2canada.ca'.

Steps 2-6: These pages contain prompts for personal information, user name and password setup. Complete all required fields as you navigate through the screens.

Step 7: Choose your curriculum by clicking the course(s) you wish to take. Note, you will be able to add or remove courses from your curriculum at any time after registration is complete.

In the next screen, you may be asked to indicate the organization(s) you are affiliated with or your role. Select all that apply. You will need to identify the affiliate organization(s) or role for each course selected in the previous screen.

In the next screen select "Finalize Registration". Shortly after registering, you will receive a confirmation email for your reference.

Registration is now COMPLETE!

B. Manage your CITI Canada Courses

1. On the Main Menu of your CITI-Canada account is the list of courses you are currently registered in and the completion status of each.
2. To start a course, click on the course name.
3. You will be prompted to complete an Integrity Assurance Statement before starting the first module.
4. At any time you can add or remove courses from your curriculum by clicking "Add a Course or Update Learner Groups". Select all courses that you want to appear on the Main Menu screen (including those you are currently registered in).

The screenshot shows the CITI PROGRAM interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the CITI PROGRAM logo, the text "Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative at the University of Miami", and a search box labeled "Search Knowledge Base". Below the navigation bar are links for "Main Menu", "My Profiles", "CE Credit Status", "My Reports", and "Support".

The main content area is titled "Main Menu" and features a section for "Alberta Clinical Research Consortium (ACRC) Courses". This section contains a table with the following data:

Course	Status	Completion Report	Survey
Biomedical - Alberta Innovates Health Solutions	Not Started	Not Earned	
Good Clinical Practice - Alberta Innovates Health Solutions	Not Started	Not Earned	
Responsible Conduct of Research - Alberta Innovates Health Solutions	Not Started	Not Earned	
Social and Behavioral Research Course - Alberta Innovates Health Solutions	Not Started	Not Earned	
Transportation of Dangerous Goods TDG/IATA course - Alberta Innovates Health Solutions	Not Started	Not Earned	

Below the table is a section titled "My Learner Tools for Alberta Clinical Research Consortium (ACRC)" which contains a list of actions:

- Add a Course or Update Learner Groups
- View Previously Completed Coursework
- Update Institution Profile
- View Instructions page
- View Contact Information
- Remove Affiliation

At the bottom of the page, there is a link: "Click here to affiliate with another Institution".

C. Affiliate with another Institution

For individuals who have already taken the CITI-Canada training program and want to share your information with other affiliates, you can do so from the CITI-Canada Main Menu. Click on the link indicated below and follow the prompts. You will need to select each course you wish to share with the new institution. Note, if the record indicates incomplete, this means that you need to complete an additional module that is required by the newly affiliated institution.

The screenshot shows the CITI PROGRAM website interface. At the top, there is a header with the CITI PROGRAM logo and the text "Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative at the University of Miami". A search bar labeled "Search Knowledge Base" is located in the top right. Below the header is a navigation menu with links: "Main Menu", "My Profiles", "CE Credit Status", "My Reports", and "Support".

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- View Instructions page
- View Contact Information
- Remove Affiliation

At the bottom of the interface, there is a blue button with the text "Click here to affiliate with another institution".

Additional Information

Additional instructions are located on

<http://www.citiprogram.org/citidocuments/CITI%20Canada/GCP/citiinstructionsCanadaGCP.html>

The ACRC has stipulated an average of 80% is required to complete the program. Requirements may vary by organization. The course(s) can be completed at your own pace. Once all of the modules in a course have been completed, you will receive a certificate for your records.

Once you've complete a course, we invite you to participate in a short survey. Email acrc@aihealthsolutions.ca to request a link to the survey. This survey will help us develop future training opportunities.