

## Comprehension Check Commentary

1. Public research funds, such as scientific research grants, are given to individual researchers, so each and every individual has an obligation to prevent fund misappropriation through their own self-discipline and sense of responsibility.

**Answer : False**

**Resume P.4, Video 7 : 09**

Public research funds come from the hard-earned taxes of Japanese citizens. This money cannot be used freely by faculty members. Taking from past lessons, you are required to continually strengthen your awareness to prevent misusing research funds. Additionally, you must manage expenditure by following the fund spending rules of your research organization as well as the organization that is awarding the grant.

2. Fraudulent remuneration doesn't constitute misappropriation if the amount is small.

**Answer : False**

**Resume P.6~7 , Video 9 : 10**

Small amounts still constitute misappropriation. Note that a few tens of thousands of yen and a few hundreds of thousands of yen in fraudulent remuneration and wages were reported as fund misappropriation in 2019 and 2020.

3. The guidelines only require research institutions to step in once funds have been misappropriated.

**Answer : False**

**Resume P.17 and more, Video 15 : 57**

The guidelines expect a number of things from institutions beyond simply responding to misappropriation after it has taken place. Institutions are also required to take steps to prevent the misappropriation of funds. For example, administrative employees who handle public research funds and researchers are expected to understand and abide by the rules. This is to ensure that public research funds are spent appropriately.

**4 . Particularly malicious cases of misappropriation are punished severely in addition to barring the individual from applying for funds according to the nature of their misconduct.**

**Answer : True**

**Resume P.12, Video 13 : 02**

Should researchers and joint researchers, etc. divert public research funds for their personal use, they are disqualified from applying for funding for 10 years. Furthermore, note that even you didn't divert funds for personal use, you will lose the right to apply for funding for 1-5 years if your actions constitute misappropriation.

**5 . The names of researchers who misappropriate research funds may be publicized.**

**Answer : True**

**Resume P.6~7, Video 8 : 54**

There are instances where the name of the researcher who misappropriated research funds is publicized. In fact, many cases of misconduct publicized the name of the offending researcher in 2019 and 2020.

**6 . The whistleblower complaint system is highly effective as a first step to uncovering misconduct. The guidelines expect institutions to provide a way to accept complaints in addition to providing whistleblowers with total protection.**

**Answer : True**

**Resume P.19, Video 17 : 58**

The guidelines expect that institutions provide a way to accept complaints in addition to providing whistleblowers with total protection. Furthermore, Paragraph 3 of Article 18 of the "The Ritsumeikan Trust Bylaws on Handling Tips" stipulates that "Whistleblowers and individuals who cooperated with the investigation of the complaint must not be treated unfairly, harassed, or abused in any manner due to making the complaint or cooperating with the investigation."

**7 . The fraud triangle is built on motivation, opportunity, and rationalization.**

**Answer : True**

**Resume P.25, Video 20 : 34**

Fraud takes place when three factors are present: the motivation to commit fraud, the opportunity to get away with it, and the rationalization to condone one's actions.

**8. Depositing money isn't considered misappropriation if you aren't diverting the money for personal use.**

**Answer : False**

**Resume P.28, Video 23 : 12**

Whether or not the money is diverted for personal use, depositing public research funds into an account managed by a supplier constitutes misappropriation. Keep in mind that there are no exceptions to this rule.

**9. If I'm acting out of good intentions from a sense of morality, then what I'm doing will never constitute misappropriation.**

**Answer : False**

**Resume P.8, 27 and more, Video 10 : 27**

Your actions may be deemed fund misappropriation from the perspective of spending public research funds appropriately. Be aware that just because you have good intentions or your actions never caused problems before doesn't mean they won't cause problems in the future.

**10. When using public research funds, if it's ever unclear or you are unsure of how to handle funds, you are encouraged to refer to the guidebook for handling research funds or to contact the research office.**

**Answer : True**

**Resume P.4, 37, Video 7 : 49**

When using public research funds, if it's ever unclear or you are unsure of how to handle funds, please refer to the guidebook for handling research funds or contact the research office.