

PATHWAY TO BECOMING A CLINICAL RESEARCH COORDINATOR (CRC)

A Clinical Research Coordinator can be an entry-level position. A high school diploma or GED is required for the CRC role, and zero to two years of Clinical Research experience is ideal. A college degree is not a requirement; however, a four-year bachelor's degree in a health-related field may be helpful for CRCs who want to continue to level up in the industry. Being familiar with medical terminology is also a plus.

The Clinical Research Coordinator Role

A Clinical Research Coordinator, also called a Clinical Trial Coordinator or Study Coordinator, works at a research site under the Principal Investigator's (PI) supervision. CRCs engage and work with patients and directly support, facilitate, and organize clinical trial activities across one or more trials at their site.

Characteristics of successful CRCs include:

- ✓ exceptional communication
- ✓ ability to multi-task and stay organized
- ✓ curious and willing to learn
- ✓ interpersonal skills
- ✓ naturally analytical
- ✓ empathetic

The Association of Clinical Research Professionals (ACRP) created a list of [Core Competency Guidelines for Clinical Research Coordinators](#) to use for self-assessment, analyzing gaps in competence, and making professional development plans.

Clinical Research Coordinators generally do not travel. There may be periodic meetings to attend but most CRC roles are in-person at a research site.

» There are various levels of the CRC role that are typically based on years of experience. Each company is different, but titles may include:

Research Assistant | CRC I | CRC II | Lead CRC

A natural career progression for a CRC is to the CRA role.

INTERESTED IN THIS ROLE & READY TO TAKE THE NEXT STEP IN BECOMING A CRC?

Get expert career guidance and advance on an intentional career path by booking your call with a Clinical Research Career Expert.



Book Your Career Services Call Today!

And Don't Forget! You've been added to our Clinical Research Facts to Know Email Series. These quick-read emails contain expertly curated information and will be key to understanding your journey through the Clinical Research industry.

