



The IRB: What Wayne State University Students Should Know When Conducting Research with Human Participants

Research involving human participants is regulated by Federal, State and local agencies. Federal regulations require that all researchers obtain approval from the WSU Institutional Review Board **before beginning** any human participant research. Use of research data may be denied if IRB approval is not granted prior to beginning the research. Other disciplinary actions may also apply to cases of non-compliance with this requirement. This guidance provides some preliminary information for students and references for additional guidance and assistance. Wayne State University (WSU) is committed to providing a user friendly and supportive environment for its student researchers; one that is grounded upon the highest research standards.

Definition of Research Requiring IRB Review

Research that requires IRB review will meet ALL of the following three criteria:

1. Involves direct interaction or intervention with living individuals or their private identifiable data, in order to collect data about them, AND
2. Is a systematic investigation (including research development, testing and evaluation), AND
3. Is designed to develop or contribute to generalized knowledge.

Use the Human Participant Research Determination Form on the IRB website to determine if a project will require IRB review: <http://irb.wayne.edu/forms-requirements-categories.php>

Mandatory Training Requirements

All researchers must be appropriately trained in the protection of human participants. WSU uses the Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) web-based human research courses to satisfy this requirement for faculty, staff, and students involved in research with human participants. Training must be completed prior to receiving initial or continuing IRB review of research. So this is an important step once it is known that IRB review will be required.

Additional Information: <http://irb.wayne.edu/mandatory-training.php>

Available Resources

- WSU Faculty! Seek out a faculty advisor (one is required) to be guided in the IRB process
- Guidance on WSU IRB website: <http://irb.wayne.edu/education.php>
- Weekly IRB Training sessions on various IRB related topics, search "IRB" on WSU Event Calendar
- Listserv for researchers: to join, send an email to: IRB-info@lists.wayne.edu
- Office for Research Compliance <http://www.research.wayne.edu/compliance>
- Graduate School www.gradschool.wayne.edu