DOES MY RESEARCH NEED IRB REVIEW?

Does the research involve human subjects?

→ NO → IRB review NOT required

→ YES →

Is the project solely for a class assignment where data will never be used or presented outside of the classroom context?

→ NO →

→ YES →

Does the research involve protected populations or the collection of sensitive or private identifiable information (see below for definitions)?

→ NO → IRB review NOT required

→ YES → IRB review required*

→ YES → IRB review NOT required

→ NO →

→ YES →

Does the research involve protected populations or the collection of sensitive information (see below for definitions)?

→ NO → An expedited IRB form must be submitted

→ YES → A full IRB review is needed

* Please contact your IRB representative to determine whether the project needs expedited or full review.
Protected Populations:

Examples include, but are not limited to:
- Children/Minors (under the age of 18)
- Prisoners (now includes non-publicly available secondary data)
- Pregnant women
- People with diminished capacity to give consent
- Mentally or physically challenged individuals

Sensitive Information:

Examples include, but are not limited to:
- Information relating to an individual’s psychological well-being or mental health
- Information relating to sexual attitudes, preferences, or practices
- Information relating to the use of alcohol or drugs
- Information relating to illegal behavior
- Information that if released could reasonably place the individual at risk of criminal or civil liability or be damaging to the individual’s financial standing, employability, or reputation
- Information that would normally be recorded in a patient’s medical record and the disclosure could reasonably lead to discrimination, stigmatization, etc.

Private Identifiable Information:

Examples include, but are not limited to:
- Study participant’s name
- Contact information of participant, including mailing address, telephone number, e-mail address
- Social security number
- Vehicle identifiers, including license plate numbers
- Account numbers
- Medical record numbers