

When Not to Apply for Human Subjects Approval

Minimal risk means that the risks of harm anticipated in the proposed research are not greater, considering probability and magnitude, than those ordinarily encountered in daily life or during the performance of routine physical or psychological examinations or tests.

Researchers do **NOT** need to apply for Human Subjects Research Approval for the following kinds of activities:

- Accepted and established service relationships between professionals and clients where the activity is designed solely to meet the needs of the client.
- Research using only historical documents.
- Research using only archaeological materials or other historical or pre-historical artifacts.
- Quality improvement and quality assurance activities conducted solely for the intent of maintaining or improving quality of services provided by an institution **where the data collected is not** generalizable and **will not** be shared outside of the institution through discussion, presentation, or publication.
- Class assignments primarily intended for educational purposes that involve interaction with human subjects that do not place human subjects at more than minimal risk and do not utilize systematic data gathering procedures with vulnerable populations. Results must be presented for the **class only**; if students or their professors think they may want to present the data in a more public context (e.g., conference or journal publication) in the future, then they should apply for Human Subjects Approval.

Students do **NOT** need to apply for Human Subjects Research Approval when:

- Class assignments primarily intended for educational purposes that involve interaction with human subjects that do not place human subjects at more than minimal risk and do not utilize systematic data gathering procedures with vulnerable populations. Results must be presented for the **class only**; if students or their professors think they may want to present the data in a more public context (e.g., conference or journal publication) in the future, then they should apply for Human Subjects Approval.
- Class assignments conducted within research methods classes with the intention of demonstrating **how research is conducted** that involve interaction with human subjects that do not place human subjects at more than minimal risk and do not utilize systematic data gathering procedures with vulnerable populations.
- When a student is working on a project that **already has Human Subjects approval** will use some of the data to fulfill a course or degree requirement, such as a senior thesis or master's degree. **The original principal investigator must submit an amendment to the HSC** requesting the student be added as a researcher on his/her project for the stated purpose, however, a new application is not required.