

Research Involving Students as Subjects (HRPP 4.7)

Description:

This policy describes UNMC's requirements for IRB review and approval of research involving students as subjects.

These persons are considered vulnerable because of the potential for undue influence or coercion.

Students as Research Participants:

Student recruitment guidelines:

- Students (*undergrad, graduate, medical, residents, fellows, doctoral*) may be recruited for research
- Students may NOT be required to participate in research without a comparable research alternative offered as a course requirement
- Students should not be selected solely for the convenience of their position as a student
- Recruiting students of the PI or other study personnel is strongly discouraged
- A student's choice to participate or not must not affect grades, assessments, or opportunities as a student
- The investigator must pay attention to the risks to the student's privacy
- **FERPA Compliance**
 - Research using student education records must comply with FERPA, which protects student record privacy
 - FERPA may require **signed written consent over and above the research informed consent** in order to access certain school records.
 - Contact the UNMC Division of Student Success, the UNOmaha Registrar's Office, or the relevant school district or educational institution for additional details and requirements

- **PPRA Compliance**
 - Research involving surveys of K-12 students which concern certain “protected information” (including but not limited to political beliefs, mental health, religious practices, income) must comply with the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA).
 - Contact the relevant school district or educational institution for additional details and requirements
- **SONA System and Student Registries**
 - UNO students may participate via SONA, provided all preceding requirements are met
 - Other student databases must exclude those who have enacted a FERPA hold (opted out of data sharing)

IRB Review Requirements:

- **Required IRB Application Details:**
 - A description of the nature of the professional relationship
 - A justification of the need to recruit students of the investigator
 - A plan for minimizing the risk of undue influence and/or coercion during the process of recruitment and consent
 - *E.g. having other study personnel aside from the investigator teaching the students involved in the consent process*
 - A description of the safeguards for protecting subjects' rights and welfare