Human subjects research can be tricky. It can be confusing. But The GC HRPP is here to help. The Researcher's Digest is a monthly newsletter that provides a space to share important updates, reflection on policies, spotlights on investigators and research, and some good fun.
Wishing everyone a safe, happy, healthy summer!

**Research:** An activity involving a **systematic** investigation, including research development, testing, and evaluation designed to develop or contribute to **generalizable** knowledge.

**Considering a Waiver of Documentation of Consent**

A waiver of documentation of informed consent is a request whereby a signed consent document is not required. Examples include online, verbal, and written-provided consent. **Consent must still be obtained** from participants; however, they will not be required to sign the consent form. There are three circumstances when the IRB may waive the requirement to obtain a signed consent form:

- The only record linking the research participant and the research would be the consent document and the principal risk would be potential harm resulting from a breach of confidentiality (participant must be asked if he/she want documentation).

**IDEATE**

**Reminder:** You must use Firefox when working in the Ideate system.

**Technical Issues?** Email ideate@cuny.edu and include screenshots when appropriate. **Include:** PI name, submission type, title, protocol number, and description of issue.

**Tip:** Privacy and confidentiality require different considerations. **Privacy** refers to the protections of the participants’ privacy. **Confidentiality** refers to the
• The research presents no more than minimal risk of harm to participants and involves no procedure for which written consent is normally required outside of the research context (for example, no risk surveys or interviews).

• If the subjects or legally authorized representatives are members of a distinct cultural group or community in which signing forms is not the norm, that the research presents no more than minimal risk of harm to subjects and provided there is an appropriate alternative mechanism for documenting that informed consent was obtained.

Training & Office Hours

Rebecca Banchik offers virtual trainings and overviews of HRPP/IRB via video chat and screen sharing. Please contact her at

Consenting is a PROCESS, Not Just a Document

Beyond signing or receiving a consent form, the process of obtaining consent involves both researcher and participant involvement.

Researchers are responsible for the following:

- Providing appropriate information about the study to eligible participants
- Actively seeking permission to participate
- Allowing potential participants the opportunity to ask questions and clarifications prior to agreeing to participate
- Providing the consent in written form for participants to maintain protection of the data and how that data will be managed and maintained securely.
rbanchik@gc.cuny.edu to set up a session.

Zoom office hours are available. Outlook invites will be sent when a time has been set up.

How long does the HRPP take to conduct a review?

Expect a pre-review from the HRPP within 5 business days from submission.

Once project is ready for official review, reviewers have 5 business days to make a determination of approval or send comments.

Do you Zoom?

Zoom security is a top priority for CUNY.

Zoom Security Protocols [cuny.us4.list-manage.com] and recommendations [cuny.us4.list-manage.com] required for those using a license to Zoom for any CUNY related activities.

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