



Research Ethics

After receiving initial research ethics board approval for the conduct of research involving humans, there are ongoing responsibilities that researchers must meet to remain in compliance with University and Tri-Agency policies

1. Additional Research Ethics approval

Prior to conducting any research involving humans, researchers must ensure that all required research ethics approvals are secured (in addition to Dalhousie approval). This includes, but is not limited to, securing appropriate research ethics approvals from other institutions with whom the lead researcher is affiliated; the institutions of research team members; the institution at which participants may be recruited or from which data or biological materials may be collected or shared; communities, organizations or groups (eg school boards, Indigenous communities, long term care facilities, service agencies and community groups) and from any other responsible and respected party (eg patient, alleged victim, or

interview report by a participant of some sort of negative repercussion from their participation (eg reaction of spouse or employer) or complaint by a participant with respect to their participation, report of neglect or abuse of a child or adult in need of protection, or a privacy breach. The above methods, analysis, study instruments or recruitment/consent material, researchers must

submit them to the Research Ethics Board for review and approval. This is done by completing the amendment request process (described on the website) and submitting an updated ethics submission that includes and explains the proposed changes. Please note that reviews are not conducted in August.

4 Continuing ethical review - annual report

Research involving humans is subject to continuing REB review and oversight. REB approvals are valid for up to 12 months at a time (per the Tii-Council Policy Statement (ICPS2) article 6.14). Prior to the REB approval expiry date, researchers may apply to extend REB approval by completing an Annual Report (available on the website). The report should be submitted 3 weeks in advance of the REB approval expiry date to allow time for REB review and to prevent a lapse of ethics approval for the research. Researchers should note that no research involving humans may be conducted in the absence of a valid ethical approval and that allowing REB approval to lapse is a violation of the University Scholarly Misconduct Policy, inconsistent with the ICPS and may result in the suspension of research and research funding as required by the funding agency.

5 Final review- final report

When the researcher is confident that all research related interventions or interactions with participants have been completed (for prospective research) and/or that all data acquisition is complete, there will be no further access to participant records or collection of biological

9 Supervision of students

Faculty must ensure that students conducting research under their supervision are aware of their responsibilities as described above and have adequate support to conduct their research in a safe and ethical manner.

10 University policies

Researchers are additionally responsible to comply with other University policies and procedures as applicable to the project.

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