

Marshall University
Office of Research Integrity

Human Subject Research

Marshall University has a Federal Wide Assurance (FWA) that states we will abide by all applicable federal regulations concerning human subject research. Any research study that involves human subjects (through interaction or identifiable private information) must obtain approval from the Institutional Review Board (IRB) **prior** to starting.

This means that if your study is going to use, for example, interviews, anonymous surveys, personal data, or educational techniques, then you must submit that study to the IRB for approval.

If you believe that your study is not human subject research or you are not sure, then submit a brief abstract to me at the Office of Research Integrity (preferably via email). An IRB Chair will review the abstract and make a determination.

If the IRB Chair deems that your study is not human subject research, you will be provided a letter stating that determination. If your study is deemed to be human subject research, then you will be given guidance on how to submit the study to the IRB for approval.

Any study conducted without prior IRB approval that is later deemed to be human subject research will be considered non-compliance under federal regulations, the data will be destroyed and you will not receive credit.

NOTE: When you receive an IRB approval letter or a letter stating that your project does not involve human research, please be sure to provide a copy to the Graduate College (Old Main 113) for your file.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at (304) 696-4303 or visit our website: www.marshall.edu/research/ori.

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