

Presentation “take-home” Messages:

- Keep the application and consent form concise but complete
- Describe your procedures, do not just make promises (e.g. Not: “I promise to protect your identity”, rather, “The survey will not ask for your identity and if you inadvertently provide identifying information, we will omit that information. from the records”
- You are not studying the average subject, there are all sort of people with all sorts of vulnerabilities
- You are not your subject, do not assume since the answers to your Q would not harm you that they would not harm others.
- Put yourself in the place of the subject... would you volunteer given the information you provide?
- Get permission from the property owner/manager to conduct the research on their property (including MU campus: Q3b)
- Use non-technical language, understanding is needed for subject consent and for the IRB to review and approve
- Use your Miami email address (with the new domain) for correspondence and with subjects and IRB
- Distinguish between the normal activities of the subjects and research activities
- Read the guidance document as you complete applications

For the research description in the application, describe in some detail how you are going to accomplish what has been agreed to in the consent form. Consult the guidance document provided with the application. In addition, consider this:

Q1: Risk/cost should be outweighed by benefit. Describe benefits to society.

Q2: Describe the people from whom data is to be collected. Consider and identify the vulnerabilities of these people . About how many subjects will there be? What population is to be described? The IRB uses this information for risk assessment

Q3A: How will you contact the subjects? Will they feel pressured to agree (friends family, student, employee)

Q3B: Describe where you will conduct the research, this relates to risk as well as feasibility.

Q3C: How will consent/assent be presented? Will they feel like they can say no?

Q3D: Plan your research. Refer to forms, survey instruments, interview questions. The IRB uses this to evaluate study feasibility (if the research cannot practically be completed, the notion of benefit is questionable), and risk (i.e., what information you are collecting).

Q3E: Confidentiality: Given your methods, what do you need to do to accomplish the confidentiality promised by your consent form? Computer security? Could you collect the information relatively anonymously? Given the demographic information you collect, what population could the subject have been drawn from. For example, this person could be any one of 16000 Miami undergrads vs. this person could be any one of the 15 or so Miami grad that self-identify as Miami tribe members.

Q4: Describe the risks and methods to deal with issues that might arise. For example, “these interview questions might upset the subject or reveal that they have a problem that should be addressed. I will provide contact information for local resources (counseling). For social workers/teachers: e.g. “This information will be kept as confidential as the law allows. If someone is at risk of harm, as a teacher I am required by law to report this information to an appropriate authority.”

Appendices to the application include anything the subjects see and other documents supporting your research.