



Office of Research Partnerships & Innovation
Office of Research Services

Questions & Answers

REB Review - Context & Process Refresher | February 10, 2023 at 1:00 p.m.

Presenter: Rashmi Pandya

Question #1:

Thank you for offering this presentation! I am a new faculty at UR and have a number of active research projects that have been previously approved by my previous university. What is involved and where do I start to get approved for these projects in place at UR?

Answer #1:

First step would be to let your prior institution know you will be moving your research projects to the U of R as you are now affiliated with the U of R. We will accept the initial approval and subsequent amendment approval documents and do our review on the basis of those. If you can fill in the Approved at Another Institution application form and make sure you submit all the most recent documents as well as the original REB approval please. If you are transferring funds as well, please email me and I can introduce you to the correct person in the Grants division of the Department.

Question #2:

How much time does it take in general, to get ethics approval for a master's thesis considering current trends?

Answer #2:

Currently we are at about 6 weeks but we are catching up on a backlog and the hope is we can shorten this to 5 weeks maximum. Our intake volume may affect these timelines. Please note that that timeline is for initial review, the quality of the application will determine how much revision will be required on the application. I would recommend perhaps running a draft proposal by Research Compliance for your first application so that we can work with you to assure a speedy review. Also please note simple survey projects have a much faster review timeline than more complicated studies that involve more participant interaction (i.e. interventions, interviews, focus groups etc.).



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Question #3:

I am doing a grounded theory study and my interview questions will evolve with the study. Do I need to submit an amendment for each time I add/change/revise a research question?

Answer #3:

Yes, the REB does require all changes to the originally approved Protocol (application and study documents) be submitted for review. The Compliance Specialist reviews those in a delegated review, unless changes impact risk factor for participants, the turnaround for delegated reviews is usually about 2 weeks but can be shorter for minor changes. However, some projects that have participant partners (i.e. participatory research) often do not have details of the actual study intervention, as the planning stage is part of the project, in these cases please reach out to me and we can assess whether an amendment is necessary at each stage of that process.