

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

How long will it take for my submission to receive approval?

Submission review times can vary depending on several factors such as the time of year, the number of submissions, and the quality of your submission. While we cannot provide exact timeframes, the quality of your submission plays a significant role in determining the review time. By submitting a comprehensive and well-prepared application, you can help minimize the need for revisions. Kindly refer to [The Dos of IRB Submissions](#) for a list of common concerns that PIs commonly address after a review.

What is the duration of my research?

If your submission was approved through Administrative or Exempt Review, it will not have an expiration date. However, if your minimal risk research was approved via Expedited Review, it will expire one year after the IRB approval date if no Annual Check-In is submitted. Similarly, greater than minimal risk research approved via Standard Review must submit a Continuing Review before the expiration date.

If my research is just for class, do I need to provide a submission to the IRB?

Data collection for instructional purposes does not require IRB review because the data collection is meant to teach research methods rather than contribute to “generalizable knowledge.”

My research is exempt, what does this mean?

pre-review process, the reviewer may provide recommendations for clarifying the purpose of the research and procedures to facilitate a smoother review.

Why is the IRB sending me A “Request for Modifications” Letter after my submission underwent an administrative pre-review?

The Pre-review helps identify and resolve major issues before the formal IRB review. During the Pre-review, the IRB staff may unlock your submission and provide recommendations for revisions.

The "Request for Modifications" Letter is the IRB official decision that lists required revisions needed for approval. Following a formal IRB review, each revision must be addressed before final approval.