

GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY  
INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD

## Levels of IRB Review



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Human subjects research is reviewed by an IRB according to the following categories:

### Exempt Review

Research can be approved as “exempt” if it is no more than “**minimal risk**” and fits one of the exempt review categories as defined by federal regulation 45 CFR 46. Studies that may qualify for “Exempt” must be submitted to the IRB for review. Exempt reviews are conducted by a member of IRB staff or an IRB member. They do not require a convened committee meeting.

- [Exempt Categories](#)

### Expedited Review

Research can be approved as “expedited” if it is no more than “minimal risk” and fits in one of the federally designated expedited review categories. Expedited reviews are conducted by Chair of the IRB and/or a member of the IRB committee. They do not require a convened committee meeting.

- [Expedited Categories](#)

### Full-Board Review

Research that does not qualify for expedited or exempt review (presents more than minimal risks to subjects) will receive review at a fully convened IRB committee meeting. Contact the IRB about meeting dates.

*Adapted from the guidance prepared by the University of Southern California – Office for the Protection of Research Subjects*