

# 8

# EXEMPTIONS

## for Institutional Review of Human Subjects Research

### Is your work research?

"A systematic investigation, including research development, testing, and evaluation, designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge"

### Does your work involve human subjects?

"A living individual about whom an investigator obtains information or biospecimen through intervention or interaction, and uses studies, or analyzes the information or obtains, uses, studies, analyzes or generates identifiable private information."

If you answered yes to both, let's find out if your research is exempt.

Does it meet any of the following 8 criteria?



**01.** Conducted in an **educational setting** using normal educational practices.

**Example:** Effectiveness of professor led study sessions as supplement to regular instructional approach.

**Examples:** Focus group of staff to discuss impacts of new policy. Course Evaluations or faculty-created surveys of student course perceptions

**02.** Uses **educational tests, surveys, interviews, or observation** of public behavior.



**03. Benign behavioral interventions** in adults.

\*Limited IRB review may be required.

**Example:** Marketing wants to test time of day of sending a text message on response rate.

**Examples:** Collecting random samples of student credit taking behaviors every term. Names and other identifiers are not recorded.

**04. Secondary research** using identifiable information or biospecimens if **publicly available**, or recorded such that participants **cannot be re-identified**.



**05.** Research or demonstration projects designed to study, **evaluate, improve, or examine** a federal **public benefit or service program**.

**Example:** Outcomes evaluation of NIH conducted mental health service program.

\*This exemption is rare and must prove federal involvement or sponsorship.

**Examples:** Evaluation of soda preferences. Investigating approved food washes impact on fruit tastes.

**06.** Taste and **food** quality evaluations.



**07. Storage or maintenance** of identifiable information or biospecimens for **secondary research** use.

\*Broad consent obtained and limited IRB review conducted.

**Example:** Creating a dataset containing identifiers from a previous study to conduct future research.

**Examples:** Using blood samples from a collaborator's study for an additional research question.

**08. Secondary research** using **identifiable** information or **biospecimens**.

\*Broad consent obtained and limited IRB review conducted.



If you identified at least one of these exemptions as relevant to your work, you likely do not need IRB approval.

Still have questions? Get in touch!

<https://www.excelsior.edu/about/institutional-review-board/IRB@excelsior.edu>