Determining whether you need IRB review for your research involving human subjects

It is possible that the journal you would like to submit an article to or a granting agency requires review by a research ethics committee or IRB. It is also likely that the professional organization you are a member of requires it. These considerations aside…

Is my project purely for pedagogical or institutional purposes?

YES

Do I plan to publish/present the findings? This includes promotional materials and online postings of excerpts of journals, interviews, etc.

YES

Do any of these apply:

1. Sampling or manipulating body tissue (including blood)?
2. Wound treatment?
3. Any procedure for which a reasonable adult would seek physician advice?

*Note: if answer is no to all of these, it is still possible that you may be referred to an alternate IRB.

NO


Submit to HERB

HERB application and procedure are available on website:
http://www.wagner.edu/departments/psychology/herb

HERB will issue its decision in a written statement.

No IRB review needed. No materials from the project will be presented, published or posted online. Follow appropriate human protections methods.

NO

Service learning project? Community service project? Oral histories in community?

Submit to CERB

Do not use HERB. Submit to IRB with expertise in this area. If you need local approval, HERB can consider the proposal after the alternate IRB has approved it.