

Research Review Boards

The University maintains ~~five~~ the following ~~four~~ research review boards. These review boards are responsible for approving research (funded and unfunded), teaching, and clinical activities ~~proposals~~ involving human subjects, ~~animals, biohazardous agents, radioactive materials and/or radiation producing equipment, and lasers~~ ~~recombinant DNA, radiation safety, and animals~~.

1. **Institutional Review Board:** All research involving human subjects (according to the Common Rule definition of the US Department of Health and Human Services) must be reviewed and approved, prior to its initiation, by the Institutional Review Board (IRB). The IRB has the authority to approve, exempt, disapprove, monitor, and require modifications of all research activities that fall within its jurisdiction as specified by established university, federal, state, and sponsoring agency guidelines for the protection of the rights and welfare of subjects. ~~It is University policy that all projects involving risk to human subjects must be approved by the Institutional Review Board. Approval is based on established University, state, and sponsoring agency guidelines for the protection of the rights and welfare of subjects at risk.~~
2. **Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee** - All animal research, teaching, training, breeding, testing (e.g., clinical research/tests, vaccine trials or tests, screening or diagnostic assays), and related activities, hereinafter referred to collectively as “activities”, involving live vertebrate animals and higher-level invertebrates in the class Cephalopoda (e.g., octopuses, squid, cuttlefish, and nautilus), and conducted at or under the auspices of Old Dominion University must be reviewed and approved, prior to initiation of the activity, by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC). The IACUC has the authority to approve, exempt, disapprove, monitor, and require modifications in all animal-related activities that fall within its jurisdiction in accordance with applicable federal, state, university, and sponsoring agency regulations.
3. **Institutional Biosafety Committee:** All activities must be reviewed and approved by the Institutional Biosafety Committee if they involve any of the following materials: (1) recombinant DNA or (2) microorganisms, prions, and other potentially infectious materials (including those infectious to plants), tissues, or cells derived from humans or animals; or select agents or toxins, in accordance with applicable federal, state, university, and sponsoring agency regulations. ~~It is University policy that all research projects involving recombinant DNA and that are considered non-exempt under the [NIH “Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant DNA Molecules”](#) must be approved by the Institutional Biosafety Committee.~~
4. **Radiation Safety Committee:** All proposed uses of radioactive materials and/or radiation-producing equipment must be reviewed and approved by the Radiation Safety Committee prior to the start of the activity. ~~It is University policy that all projects involving radioactive materials must be approved for usage and safety procedures by the Radiation Safety Committee.~~
5. **Laser Safety Committee** - The Laser Safety Program is responsible for overseeing the safe use of lasers and ensuring that appropriate control measures for lasers or laser systems are utilized, including appropriate training for personnel. The Laser Safety Officer, with the approval of the Laser Safety Committee, reserves the right to terminate any activity involving the use of lasers if it is found to be detrimental to the health of University personnel, the property of Old Dominion University, or the health

and/or property of an individual member of the public. Approval by the Laser Safety Committee is required prior to operating any Class 3B or Class 4 lasers.

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It is the responsibility of the principal investigator (1) to gain the approval of the appropriate review board(s) prior to initiation of any research, teaching, or clinical activity, and (2) to gain the approval of the appropriate review board(s) prior to the submission of a proposal to a funding agency if the review board's approval is required at the time of submission by the funding agency the submission of a proposal to a funding agency or, in the case of unfunded research, prior to engaging in the research activity.

The vice president for research and economic development is authorized to issue procedures to ensure that assure that these research policies are implemented in compliance with applicable regulations. Information on the review board policies is available from the Division of Research and Economic Development (<https://www.odu.edu/research/compliance>)

- Approved by the president
October 1, 2003
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