

Institutional Review Board (IRB) for the Protection of Human Subjects COVID-19 Policy Update – Fall 2022

As a matter of regular course, all IRB Protocols must describe what steps will be taken to reduce risk to research participants. Depending upon the nature of the research project, any special requirements or precautions that will be taken to ensure the safety of participants, and of researchers, relative to COVID-19 should be described within the protocol.

Following current University COVID-19 guidelines,

- Research participants may be invited to campus, in accordance with University health and safety measures announced on: <https://www.scranton.edu/royals-safe-together/index.shtml> .
- While on campus, researchers and research participants should follow current masking guidance outlined via the link above.
- Student researchers may conduct research studies that require them to interact with University faculty, staff and/or students, as well as off-campus participants.
- Researchers may meet with participants at appropriate off-campus research locations, following all CDC, state, local, and site-specific COVID-19 policies.

Please note that this policy may change at any time following updates to University policy and safety protocols.

Questions related to this policy, or to a specific IRB protocol, may be directed to Kathryn Yerkes, IRB Administrator, at Kathryn.yerkes@scranton.edu, or to the IRB Chair, Dr. Bryan Burnham, at bryan.burnham@scranton.edu.