

<b>ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION</b>	Office of Research
<b>POLICY NUMBER</b>	RSCH 1.03
<b>POLICY TITLE</b>	Research and Human Subjects
<b>SCOPE OF POLICY</b>	USC System
<b>DATE OF REVISION</b>	April 27, 2026
<b>RESPONSIBLE OFFICER</b>	Vice President for Research
<b>ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE</b>	Office of Research Compliance

## **PURPOSE**

This document establishes a policy for students, faculty and staff engaged in human subjects research within the University of South Carolina.

## **DEFINITIONS AND ACRONYMS**

Institutional Review Board (IRB)

Office of Research Compliance (ORC)

Research-a systematic investigation, including research development, testing and evaluation, designed to develop or to contribute to generalizable knowledge.

Human subject -a living individual about whom an investigator conducting research:

- 1) Obtains information or biospecimens through intervention or interaction with the individual, and uses, studies, or analyzes the information or biospecimens; or
- 2) Obtains, uses, studies, analyzes, or generates identifiable private information or identifiable biospecimens.

## **POLICY STATEMENT**

The University adheres to all laws, regulations and ethical principles applicable to the protection of human subjects in research. All projects involving human subject research must be approved by the University's IRB or, in the case of exempt research, its designee.

## **PROCEDURES**

The principles and procedures guiding this policy are promulgated by the ORC and are contained in the *Policies and Procedures of the Institutional Review Board*. Additional guidance to assist in complying with these policies and procedures are located on the ORC web site at [Institutional Review Board](#).

The ORC is responsible for administering the University's program for protecting the rights of human research subjects. It is the responsibility of the principal investigator to submit all required information to the IRB. Requests for information, IRB application materials, and other assistance should be directed to ORC.

**HISTORY OF REVISIONS**

<b>DATE OF REVISION</b>	<b>REASON FOR REVISION</b>
August 13, 2020	Updated to new format
April 27, 2026	Reviewed by division and revalidated.