

Is my research exempt?

- The PI must submit the exempt application for IRB review and select the category best fitting the type of study to be conducted.
- Studies may be exempt under more than category, please select all that apply.

Category 1

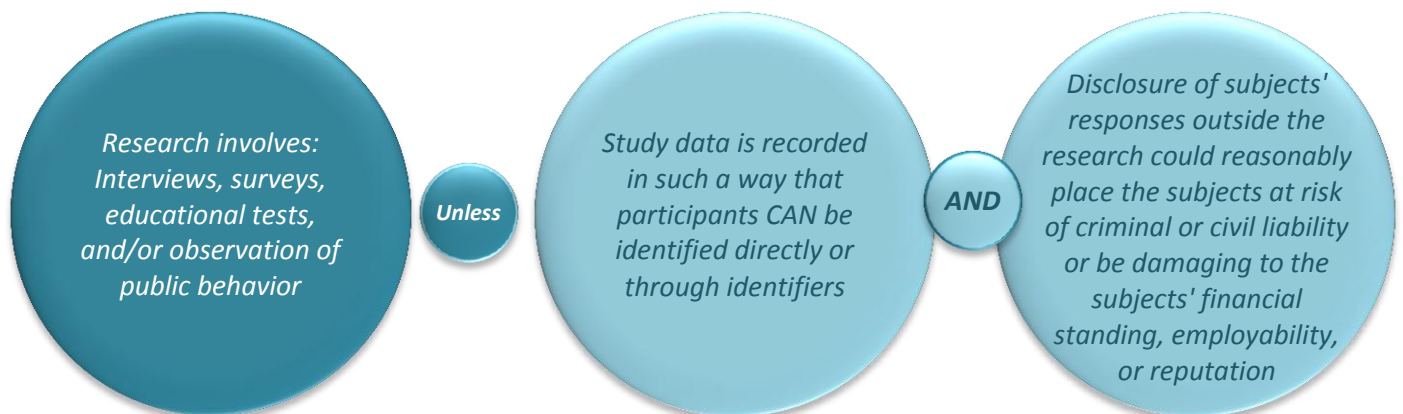


Examples:

- Comparison of a new and standard math curriculum
- Assessment of classroom management strategies used in Special Ed classrooms.
- Study of a new reading technique on delayed readers in 3rd grade.
- Evaluating the use of accepted or revised standardized tests
- ★ Students are not asked to do anything outside of the normal educational activities planned for the classroom.

Category 2

! Research studies involving surveys or interviews of minors under 18 are not exempt.



Examples:

- Surveying teachers, nurses, or doctors about a technique or an outcome
- Interviewing managers about a management style or best practice
- Conducting a focus group about an experience or an opinion of a community program
- Observations of public behavior where the researcher does not interact with study participants

Category 3



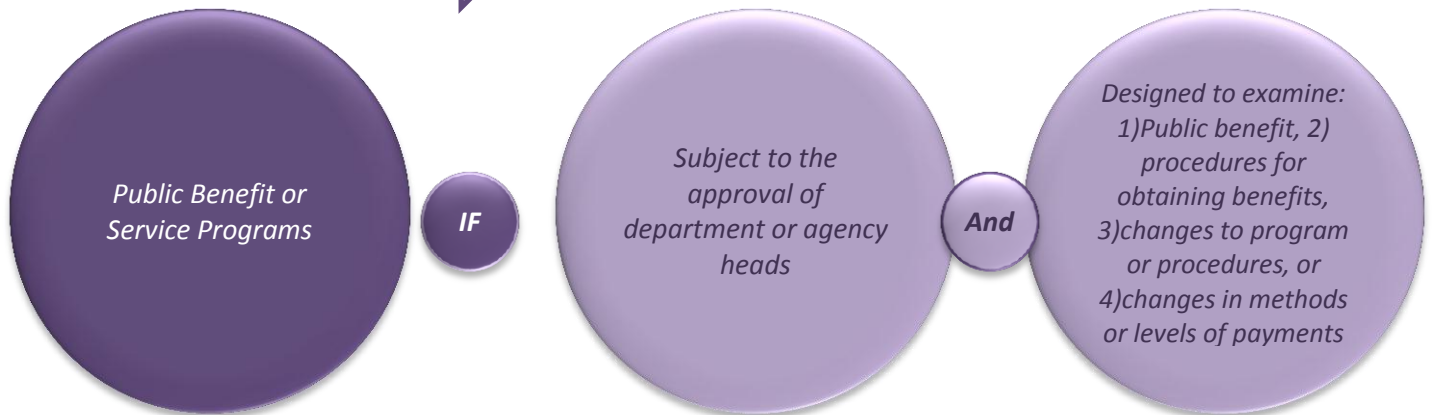
Category 4



Note regarding existing data:

- Records considered private based on federal and state statute, including medical records and education records, require written release by the study subject or by the custodian of the record.
- Data, documents and/or specimens whose access is restricted to select groups are not publicly available.
- Research using existing data is exempt if it uses: a) publicly available and identifiable data OR b) privately available data, extracted in anonymous format from identifiable records by the investigator.
- Temporarily recording a name or other identifiers that allow individual subjects to be identified will exclude this type of research activity from meeting the exempt 4 criteria.
- Exempt Chart Review Studies -a review of existing records may be considered exempt if the records are collected without identifiers or a link to identifiers. There can be no method for re-linking the data to a subject at a later date. The review must be done by the investigator who would normally have access to the records as part of the patient's routine clinical care. Access can be performed but recording identifiers or maintaining a link will require an expedited application. A de-identified electronic record search requested through normal hospital/clinic channels could be approved under this category. The data set must be provided per HIPAA regulations for research use of PHI.

Category 5



Note regarding Category 5:

- Reserved for Federal Government research, generally not available for UWG IRB review.

Category 6



Examples:

- Taste testing whole grain food products
- Comparing taste or smell of molasses, cheese or milk
- Sampling texture of ice cream

Research not eligible for Exempt status:

- Sensitive information (sexual behavior or preference, use of alcohol or illicit drugs, criminal behavior, financial or employment information).
- Research involving prisoners.
- Deception should not be involved

Examples of Non-Research Activities:

- Quality assurance activities or evaluation projects designed for self-improvement or program evaluation, not meant to contribute to "generalizable" knowledge.
- Interviews of individuals where questions focus on things not on people (eg. questions about policies, general facts about an organization or business not involving personal opinion of policies or the organization).
- Searches of existing literature or analysis of aggregate or public data that cannot be linked to a living individual (e.g. data sets available on the web that do not require any sort of privacy/confidentiality agreement or special request procedure, newspaper accounts, census data held in public libraries, published school test scores). *However, if access to the data is limited to researchers, and not publicly available, then IRB review is needed.*