

**Criteria for Research Project Categorisation
for Certificate of Human Research Ethics Approval Application**

The University of the Thai Chamber of Commerce Human Research Ethics Committee

Research Projects Entitled to Exemption Review

Research projects which are entitled to exemption review are the research projects which carry no risks to participants, or with minimal risk; or research projects whose data collection is untraceable to individual participants and results report only the overall information. The research projects which are entitled to exemption review are as follows:

1. Educational Research, which must be conducted by certified educational institutes involving normal teaching and learning process and new strategies in education in accordance with the institute's policy such as research relating to new approaches that may compare marks or proficiencies of all students in the same class year in a subject which adjusts teaching approach, course evaluation, or educational quality assurance. The collected data of the research must be untraceable to individual participants and the results must report only the overall information

2. Applied Research, which involves cognitive, aptitude, and achievement evaluation approaches

3. Opinion Survey Research, which is conducted in a wide area, Survey Research, Interview, or Behavioural Observation

4. Research which involves testing quality and taste of food and consumer acceptance of food products. The tested food must not contain any adulterant but only natural substances. In case that the tested food contains adulterants, nutrients, and chemicals from agriculture or environment, quantity of the adulterants, nutrients, and chemicals must not exceed the quantity indicated as harmful by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

5. Research which involves testing qualification, quality, and overall consumer satisfaction of a product/consumer goods such as soap, detergent, dish washing liquid, shampoo. The tested product must be safe and meet the standards required by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) or Thai Industrial Standards Institute (TISI)

6. Test of tools or equipment on non-human subjects

7. Research of other categories whose scope and methodology are as follows:

1) Data collection and data statistics in which the data does not relate to or indicate any individual

2) Research procedure and results which do not result in any participant/volunteer or individual being arrested, fined, charged according to the laws; or received criminal and civil punishment; or lost opportunities for occupation, money, employment, further education, and their reputation

3) Research which reanalyses published research results or employs secondary data or public data about human subjects in which the data used is untraceable to the data provider

4) Research in strategic policy conducted under an agreement and approval of an institute to seek for new approaches to reorganise, increase work proficiency, and upgrade the institute to the international standards without violating personal information and laws.

Research Projects Entitled to Expedited Review

Research projects which are entitled to expedited review are the research projects whose processes carry low risk to participants, or with minimal risk; or research projects which pose a risk to violate privacy and may disclose participant's confidential data, but appropriate means of protection have been used by the researcher. The research projects which are entitled to expedited review are as follows:

1. Research projects whose methodology poses a low risk or minimal risk to volunteers
2. Research projects which pose a risk to violate privacy and may disclose participant/volunteer's confidential data, but appropriate means of protection not to exceed minimal risk have been used by the researcher
3. Research projects which involve individual or group behaviour, survey research, interview, history taking, focus group, and quality assurance, all of whose evaluation is based on the questions asked mainly about human
4. Research projects which involve data, records, documents, and specimens that are kept or will be kept for the objectives unrelated to the research such as diagnosis or treatment; research projects which involve interviews or questionnaires, and the collected data is not confidential or sensitive such as sexual orientation, domestic violence, illegal behaviour,

defiance of community belief, etc. The collected data must not damage the individual status or benefits nor transgress sensitivity of the involved community

5. Research projects which collect the secondary data from documents, audio records, video records, or photos that have been already published to the public

6. Research projects which involve tools with non-significant risk and with clear and standardised indication

7. Research projects which are certified with an ethics approval and the researcher wants submit a minor change that does not increase any risk to participants/volunteers, change the methodology, nor participants/volunteers inclusion/exclusion criteria

8. Research projects with the continuing review, that is, the research projects have been approval with the expedited review or the research projects with the progress review which do not enrol any new participant/volunteer and the interventions have been completed without any increased risk

Research Projects that must be approved by Full Board Review

Research projects that the Research Ethics Committee will consider for Full Board Review are the research projects which collect data or experiment with vulnerable individuals; the research projects which involve physical check-up, blood test, or specimen collection that may result in physical injury; the research projects which involve sensitive issues such as sexuality, violence, human trafficking, prostitution, drug, religion, culture, political view that deeply affect mentality, livelihood, economy, and society of the participants. The research projects which must be approved by Full Board Review are as follows:

1. Research projects which conduct with groups that require extreme cautiousness and the research projects which conduct an experiment with children, individuals, students in the School, and vulnerable groups

2. Research projects which involve sensitive issues such as sexuality, sex, violence, human trafficking, prostitution, drug, religion, culture, political view that deeply affect mentality

3. Research projects which the participants/volunteers have a risk to be liable to prosecution such as drug addicts, prostitutes, prisoners

4. Research projects which involve physical check-up, blood test, or specimen collection that may result in physical injury

5. Experimental or quasi-experimental research projects, operations research, or complex research methods