IRB Expedited Review Category Fact Sheet

This guide is meant to serve as a helpful tool for faculty, students or other researchers when determining which review category their project falls into and covers the most commonly-seen categories of review at SIUE.

Expedited Category 4 v. Exempt Category 3

Expedited Category 4	Exempt Category 3	Expedited Category 4 Example	Exempt Category 3 Example
Collection of data through noninvasive procedures routinely employed in clinical practice, excluding procedures involving x-rays or microwaves.	Research involving benign behavioral interventions thorough verbal, written responses, when: • Recorded information cannot readily identify the subject **OR** • No sensitive information is being collected (illegal behaviors, medical records, etc.)	• Physical sensors applied to the surface of the body or at a distance. • MRI • Moderate exercise, muscular strength testing, body composition assessment	• An intervention where participants are being exposed to stimuli such as color, light, or sound at a safe level. • Performing cognitive tasks • Solving puzzles under various noise conditions.

Expedited Category 5 v. Exempt Category 4

Expedited Category 5	Exempt Category 4	Expedited Category 5 Example	Exempt Category 4 Example
Research involving materials (data, documents, records, or specimen) that have been collected, or will be collected solely for nonresearch purposes (such as medical treatment or diagnosis).	Secondary research with identifiable information/specimens collected for some other initial activity, when: • Identifiable private information or biospecimens is publicly available, OR • The recorded identifiable private information has been de-identified.	• Chart reviews, studies using student records, or collection/use of discarded tissues that contain identifiable information.	• Analysis of public officials' leaked emails available on X. • Chart review of de-identified patients so they cannot be readily identified.

Expedited Category 6 v. Exempt Category 2

Expedited Category 6	Exempt Category 2	Expedited Category 6 Example	Exempt Category 2 Example
Collection of data from voice, digital, or image records made for research purposes.	Research involving the use of educational tests (cognitive, diagnostic, aptitude, achievement), survey procedures, interview, or observation of public behavior, when: • Recorded information cannot readily identify the subject OR • No sensitive information is being collected (illegal behaviors, medical records, etc.)	• Audio/video recordings of interviews or focus groups involving sensitive information, • Video recordings of participants completing an intervention or task.	Conducting an interview, not asking sensitive information, and the information cannot readily identify the subject.

Expedited Category 7 v. Exempt Category 2

Expedited Category 7	Exempt Category 2	Expedited Category 7 Example	Exempt Category 2 Example
Research on individual or group characteristics or behavior (including, but not limited to, research on perception, cognition, motivation, identity, language, communication, cultural beliefs or practices, and social behavior) or research employing survey, interview, oral history, focus group, program evaluation, human factors evaluation, or quality assurance methodologies.	Research involving the use of educational tests (cognitive, diagnostic, aptitude, achievement), survey procedures, interview, or observation of public behavior, when: • Recorded information cannot readily identify the subject OR • No sensitive information is being collected (illegal behaviors, medical records, etc.)	• Interviewing or surveying a vulnerable population such as children or pregnant persons. • Focus groups or interviews of a sensitive topic (i.e., related to illegal behavior, sexual activities/practices, traumatic experiences).	Conducting an interview, not asking sensitive information and the information cannot readily identify the subject.

Please note, a project can fall into more than one Expedited review category. If you believe your project should be reviewed under multiple categories, please select all that apply when submitting your protocol in Kuali Research.

If you believe your project falls within Expedited Categories 1-3 or you have any questions, please email researchcompliance@siue.edu.