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Institutional Review Board
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UCF IRB
Institutional Review Board
For the protection of human subjects in research.

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UCF IRB Fast Facts

UCF Institutional Review Board Composition

Institutional faculty and members of the community serve on the UCF Institutional Review Board (IRB) usually for a period of two to five years. Each IRB is required, by federal regulations, to have members with varying backgrounds and expertise to promote complete review of research activities commonly conducted by the institution. In safeguarding the rights and welfare of human subjects, it is important that the IRB membership be diverse including consideration of race, gender, cultural backgrounds and sensitivity to such issues as community attitudes.

The UCF IRB consists of approximately 13 regular members and 6 alternate members. Members are interviewed and appointed by Dr. Thomas O'Neal, Associate Vice President for Research & Commercialization, for a two-year term which is extendable by mutual agreement. New members usually start as alternates unless they have prior IRB experience. Interested persons may apply in the spring by submitting the membership application which has been added to the IRB website. Changes to the membership are usually made effective August 1 of each year. See the 2007-08 UCF IRB Membership Roster at http://www.research.ucf.edu/Compliance/IRB_Roster.doc . º

UCF IRB Goes Paperless

On May 7, 2007 the UCF IRB office rolled out an electronic submission, review and management system called iRIS™ .

This paperless web-based system is part of the Office of Research & Commercialization's (ORC) effort to enhance UCF's research administration tools and services. To date, approximately 300 studies have been approved in iRIS™ .

iRIS™ (integrated Research Information System), is designed to speed up the UCF Institutional Review Board submission and approval processes, provide real-time tracking of study progress, and ensure compliance with regulations regarding research involving human participants. Initial protocol submissions must be entered into iRIS™ and be routed electronically to Faculty Advisors and Department Chairs/Directors for signature. Forms for continuing reviews, addendums, adverse events, etc. are also entered electronically, but only require the principal investigator's signature.

Go to the UCF IRB website at
http://www.research.ucf.edu/Compliance/irb.html
for information about usernames/passwords.
Contact the IRB for help with this process
or to schedule a training session for your department.

CITI Training Required for Research with Human Subjects

The University of Central Florida participates in the Collaborative IRB Training Initiative (CITI) on-line program to provide educational courses for personnel involved in the conduct of human subjects research. **As of August 1, over 1,800 UCF staff, faculty and students have completed the CITI training**. The course curriculum has been defined by UCF to include different learner groups based on the specific area of research. For research to be conducted at UCF the learner should select the modules that most closely represent the type of research to be conducted. For research involving surveys, questionnaires, etc., the Social & Behavioral modules should be completed. If the research involves the use of human tissue, blood, etc. and/or is 'clinical' in nature, then the researcher should complete the Biomedical modules. For more information visit http://www6.miami.edu/citireg/