

Do I need ethics approval?

The definition of research is an 'undertaking intended to extend knowledge through a disciplined inquiry or systematic investigation'₁
Is one of the intended purposes of the activity, project or data collection 'research'?

Yes or Not Sure

No or Not Sure

Will the undertaking involve living human participants₂ who may be observed, provide information, data, or responses to interventions, stimuli, or questions that are intended to help answer the research question?

Yes

No

Will the undertaking involve individuals whose involvement is intended to answer the research question?

Yes

No

Ethics review and approval needed.

Ethics review is not required when the research may involve individuals who are not themselves the focus of the research to obtain information. Such individuals are not considered participants₁₀.

Will the undertaking involve the observation of people₄?

Yes

No

Will the observation be in public places?

Yes

No

Ethics review not required.

Ethics review is required.

Ethics review is not required for the observation of people in public places when it does not involve any staged intervention or direct interaction with individuals or groups, there is no expectation of privacy, and dissemination of results do not identify individuals.

Is the sole intended purpose of the undertaking for MacEwan quality assessment or management purposes to improve services or practices within a program, department, club or faculty₃?

Yes

No

Contact the MacEwan Office of Institutional Analysis and Planning (IAP)₅ for information on the review of surveys and evaluations conducted on campus.

If your project involves collecting or receiving data to assess external organizations, it may need review. Contact Research Ethics Officer (REO)₆ to discuss.

Will the undertaking rely exclusively on publicly available literature or other information₇?

Yes

No

Ethics review not required.

Ethics review may be needed. Contact the REO₆.

Will the undertaking use a person's non-anonymous data or information that was collected for one purpose but now being proposed for another purpose₈?

Yes

No

Ethics review is required.

Will the undertaking involve the use of human biological materials derived from living or deceased individuals₉?

Yes

No

Ethics review not required.