

2012

## 2012 - 2013 Diversity Initiative: Brochure for committee recruitment

Human Research Protection Office, Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis

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### Recommended Citation

Human Research Protection Office, Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, "2012 - 2013 Diversity Initiative: Brochure for committee recruitment" (2012). *2012 - 2013 Diversity Initiative*. Paper 1.  
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## The Institutional Review Board (IRB)

The IRB should represent the diverse population which research affects, and with **YOUR** participation as a community member, the review process is better equipped to address critical questions that arise during reviews of research studies.

**Your unique viewpoint provides  
more complete research study reviews.**

In order to have a breadth of experiences within our IRB membership, we need community members such as yourself to provide us with perspectives different from those who have scientific backgrounds.

We need perspectives of community members, those who do not have a background in science, in order for our committees to provide a balanced outlook on what a research participant should expect to encounter, and what the research should address in order to protect the participants.



### Institutional Review Board (IRB)

#### IRB Mission

Protect the rights and welfare of participants in human research.

314-633-7400(ph)

<http://hrpo.wustl.edu>



## Institutional Review Board

# I R B

**DO YOU  
WANT TO  
MAKE A  
DIFFERENCE?**

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<http://hrpo.wustl.edu>



## Want to Make a Difference?

# Join an IRB!

Are you or anyone you know interested in helping protect the safety, rights, and welfare of individuals who volunteer to participate in research studies?

If you answered **YES**, the following opportunity may be of interest to you.

The Washington University Institutional Review Board (IRB) is a committee made up of individuals both with and without science backgrounds, as well as community members - like yourself!

The IRB oversees the ethical conduct of research that involves people as participants.

### IRB's MISSION

Protect the rights and welfare of participants in human research.

## IRB Member Responsibilities

### Review of Research

As a member of the Washington University IRB, you will be formally designated to review Washington University biomedical and behavioral research that involves human participants.

You are asked to review and comment on the research studies regarding their approvability based on criteria for review. You will determine if the research is conducted in accordance with Federal and State regulations along with University sponsoring agency policies and procedures instituted to protect the rights and welfare of human research participants.

### Attendance/Quorum

Your attendance is a **very** important part of the process; according to the regulations and Human Research Protection Office (HRPO) policies and procedures, a committee meeting cannot begin until a quorum of members is achieved. Cancelling meetings due to lack of quorum may cause delays in approval of new protocols and renewal of existing ones.

### Trust, Respect and Communication

The committee has a diverse membership; all members regardless of job title, level of education, or any other differences are essential to the review process.

**In order to grow, committee members are encouraged to coach each other and receive feedback with an open mind.**

## IRB Member Training

Training and ongoing education is provided by Washington University's Human Research Protection Office, at no cost to you.

Since this is a **volunteer** activity, there isn't payment for your time, but as an IRB member you are rewarded by the difference you make in protecting the rights and welfare of those who participate in research and, that is priceless!

## IRB Member Training Schedule

### 4 Steps to Become an IRB Member

1. New Member Training
2. Online education course
3. Observe an IRB meeting
4. 1st Review = **IRB member!**

## IRB/Human Research Protection Office (HRPO) Contacts

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