Expedited Review Status

Expedited review status is given to research that presents no more than minimal risk to human subjects. To qualify for expedited review status, you must answer NO to the following questions:

1. Does your project involve clinical studies of medical devices, procedures, treatments, or drugs?
2. Does your project involve pregnant women, fetuses, neonates, or human in vitro fertilization?
3. Does your project involve prisoners?
4. Does your project involve deception?
5. Does any part of your project present more than minimal risk to human subjects?

(Minimal risk means that the probability and magnitude of harm or discomfort anticipated in the research are not greater in and of themselves than those ordinarily encountered in daily life or during the performance of routine physical or psychological examinations or tests.)

6. Could identification of the subjects and/or their responses reasonably place them at risk of criminal or civil liability or be damaging to the subjects’ financial standing, employability, insurability, reputation, or be stigmatizing?

If the answer is YES to question 6, you may still qualify for expedited review if you answer YES to the following question: Will reasonable and appropriate protections be implemented so that risks related to invasion of privacy and breach of confidentiality are no greater than minimal?

There is a formal list of categories that expedited research must fall in that is indicated in your application when you request expedited status. For social work research, the most common categories are:

CATEGORY 5: Research involving materials (data, documents, records, or specimens) that have been collected, or will be collected solely for non-research purposes (such as medical treatment or diagnosis).

CATEGORY 6: Collection of data from voice, video, digital, or image recordings made for research purposes.

CATEGORY 7: 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.