So You Want to Do Research in Schools?

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What is EHE Office of Research’s Role?

- Ensure researchers have proper documentation as required by IRB, the university and college, individual school districts, and state of Ohio policies;
- Provide a record of research activities between EHE/OSU and individual school districts;
- Document required information to trigger the issuance of fee authorization credits for eligible schools; and
- Make sure researchers share the results of their work with districts.
Where to Start?
With Everything!

Determine the school district or buildings you want to work with

Contact EHE Office of Research

Contact District Research Coordinator

IRB application

Background Check
What District/Schools?

• High needs?
  – Teacher Cancellation Low Income Directory
  – Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates
  – State of Ohio designations (attached doc)
• % of underrepresented populations?
• Typology of Ohio school districts
## Typologies

**2013 School Districts Typology**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2013 Typology Code</th>
<th>Major Grouping</th>
<th>Full Descriptor</th>
<th>Districts Within Typology</th>
<th>Students Within Typology</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>Rural - High Student Poverty &amp; Small Student Population</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>170,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>Rural - Average Student Poverty &amp; Very Small Student Population</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>110,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Small Town</td>
<td>Small Town - Low Student Poverty &amp; Small Student Population</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>185,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Small Town</td>
<td>Small Town - High Student Poverty &amp; Average Student Population Size</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Suburban</td>
<td>Suburban - Low Student Poverty &amp; Average Student Population Size</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>320,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Suburban</td>
<td>Suburban - Very Low Student Poverty &amp; Large Student Population</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>240,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>Urban - High Student Poverty &amp; Average Student Population</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>225,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>Urban - Very High Student Poverty &amp; Very Large Student Population</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>185,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
State-Provided Data

Interactive Local Report Card (iLRC)

• District Level
  – 2011-2012 Local Report Card
    • % of proficient students
      – How did sub-groups perform?

• School Level
  – Building Ratings

• Power User Reports
Red Flags
[Values/Benefit/Cost]

• Political/sensitive issues
• Utilization of instructional time
• After-school activities which require school personnel supervision
• Additional work for the school district (although sometimes they can collect data for the researcher)
• Teachers are collecting data
• Cash incentives
IRB Considerations

• Human subjects research includes:
  – Intervening or interacting with living individuals for research purposes;
  – Obtaining individually identifiable private information for research purposes; or
  – Receiving a direct federal grant to support human subjects research.
IRB Considerations

• Approval is not based solely on contributing to generalizable knowledge.
  – If you are doing human subjects research and even if you do not plan on publishing the information you still need IRB approval.
  – A reverse scenario is that you can publish an article on quality improvement and not need IRB approval.

• When in doubt – check the website and ask!
  – http://orrp.osu.edu/irb/guidance/PIGuideChapt2.cfm
IRB Considerations

• IRB applications require letters from schools or the district you list on your application

• If the district requires you to change your protocol then you will have to amend your IRB application (but you can’t amend exempt applications…)

• Don’t ask teachers to collect data…
IRB Open Office Hours

• Every Wednesday, 215-A **PAES Building**, 1-3pm
  – Sessions are intended to help faculty and graduate students navigate IRB forms, policies, and review procedures. No appointment is necessary. Please contact Joni Barnard at (614) 688-3405 or barnard.15@osu.edu for questions or more information.

• Additional Training – check the University Office of Research calendar
EHE Requested Information

- **Information Form**
  - Research start and end dates
  - IRB approval number
  - Estimate of the total number of hours you expect to spend with staff and students
  - What schools/district you want to work with

- **Application Materials**
  - Prospectus, Instruments, Background Check
Background Checks

• Baseline BCI and FBI criminal background check are required for all teachers –
  – Section 3319.291 – working with children in a public/charter school setting OR working with children in a childcare center.

• All districts adhere to the same policy

• University Police & Public Safety Office in Blankenship Hall

• 9-11am and 1-3pm -- Tues, Wed, Thurs
Letters of Collaboration

• Need letter(s) from district research coordinators outlining how the district will participate
  – Provide a template with choices on how they might participate
• I can also write a letter of collaboration
Additional Resources

- [Research in Schools Workshop Page](#)
- [Office of Responsible Research Practices](#)