

**Research Ethics Board**

**Draft REB Application to Conduct Research Involving In-person Interaction among Researchers and Participants**

The purpose of this form is to provide information for the REB to use to assess research-attributable risks associated with in-person interaction among researchers and participants during the Provincial State of Emergency related to COVID-19. Once approved by the REB, this document becomes part of the ethical protocol to which researchers are required to adhere.

This form does not replace the requirement for prior approval of the relevant Dean, Health and Safety, and the AVP Scholarship, Research and Creative Activity, in accordance with [VIU’s Resuming Research Framework](https://research.viu.ca/covid-research-viu).

## 1. Project Title

Click here to enter text.

## 2 Project Personnel

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **NAME** | **PROGRAM/DEPT.** | **EMAIL** |
| **Project lead**  |
| Click here to enter text. | Click here to enter text. | Click here to enter text. |
| **Supervising Faculty (if student/s is/are involved)**  |
|  | Click here to enter text. | Click here to enter text. |
| **Other team member/s**  |
| Click here to enter text. | Click here to enter text. | Click here to enter text. |

**1. Describe the benefits that would likely result from the project, and how** (e.g., direct benefit to participants though provision of service; benefit to society through policy impact and/or contribution to knowledge, etc.)

Click here to enter text.

**2** **Explain why you believe that the project should not be delayed until such time as risks associated with COVID-19 have diminished** (e.g., research is directly related to pandemic, participants may not be available, loss of funding, etc.)

Click here to enter text.

**3** **Explain why you believe that it would not be possible or appropriate to conduct the research remotely** (e.g., research would take place in an isolated community with no internet, research requires equipment that is not portable, etc.)

Click here to enter text.

**4. Are there characteristics of the study population that would make participants particularly susceptible to risks associated with COVID-19?** (e.g., age, difficulty in accessing health care due to geographic location, living conditions, etc.)

Click here to enter text.

**5. Describe the research activities that would occur in-person and the number of people involved in the activity** (e.g., one-on-one interviews, focus group involving x people, one-on-one questionnaire, etc.).

Click here to enter text.

**6. Describe the physical space in which in-person research activities would take place** (Please describe whether in-person activities would take place indoors or outdoors, and describe physical aspects of the space such as size, seating arrangements, ventilation, etc.)

Click here to enter text.

**7. Is there an existing COVID-19-related safety protocol for the physical space you propose to use for in-person research activities? If so, please attach the protocol** (e.g., if proposing to conduct in-person interviews in a community center, please attach the COVID-19 safety protocol for the community center).

Click here to enter text.

**8. Does the research involve travel for participants and/or researchers? If so, please describe where and how researchers and participants would travel.**

Click here to enter text.

**9. Describe the steps that would be taken to minimize research-attributable risks associated with COVID-19, such as:**

* Protocol for physical distancing and arrangements that would be made within the physical space where in-person research activities are proposed to take place (e.g., arrangement of furniture, use of barriers, enhanced ventilation, etc.);
* Use of personal protective equipment (PPE) (e.g., who would supply and how would PPE be used?);
* Sanitization of surfaces (when, how, and by whom?); and
* Limits that would be placed on the number of people permitted in the physical space in which in-person activities take place, and for how long, etc.

Click here to enter text.

**9. Describe how the protocol for in-person interaction would be communicated to participants.**

Click here to enter text.

**10. Describe how participants will be made aware of the requirement for participants to inform the principle investigator if they develop symptoms of and/or test positive for COVID-19 during or up to two weeks after in-person activities have taken place.**

Click here to enter text.

**11. Describe the steps that will be taken if a study team member or a participant develops symptoms of and/or tests positive for COVID-19 up to two weeks after in-person activities have taken place.**

Click here to enter text.

**12. Describe how participants will be informed of research-attributable risks associated with COVID-19 prior to providing consent.**

Click here to enter text.

Please attach this form and an approved [Application to Request to Resume Research Activities](https://research.viu.ca/sites/default/files/application-to-request-to-resume-research-activities_0.docx) form to your [REB Application for Ethical Review in ROMEO](https://research.viu.ca/sites/default/files/guide_for_submitting_an_reb_application_for_ethical_review_using_romeo_0.pdf).