



# Research Ethics Matters

## University Research Ethics Board (UREB)

May 2021

### FEDERAL WIDE ASSURANCE (FWA) ANNOUNCEMENT

The University Research Ethics Board (UREB) has recently acquired a Federal Wide Assurance (FWA) and is also now registered as an Institutional Review Board (IRB) in the United States of America. Under the United States Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Code of Federal Regulations 45: Part 46 A Protection of Human Subjects §46.103, every institution engaged in human subjects research supported or conducted by any United States Federal Department or Agency must have assurance of compliance approved by the United States Office for Human Research Protections (OHRP). The Assurance formalizes MSVU’s commitment to protect human subjects.

OHRP Federal Wide Assurance (FWA) and Institutional Review Board (IRB) assurance have been obtained for the MSVU UREB as noted below (REB is the Canadian equivalent of IRB).

<b>Type of Assurance:</b> Federal Wide ( <a href="#">see details</a> ) <b>Policy Number:</b> FWA00031225 <b>Expiry Date:</b> May 5, 2026	<b>Type of Assurance:</b> Institutional Review Board ( <a href="#">see details</a> ) <b>Policy Number:</b> IRB00013058 <b>Expiry Date:</b> April 13, 2024
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Under the FWA, all investigators submitting for DHHS-supported agency grants or contracts require education on the protection of human participants in research. Assurance that an appropriate course has been taken is needed for all renewals and new applications once a decision on funding has been reached by the agency (in other words, no course – no funds). This includes the Principal Investigator(s) (PI) and research team members. The following online course is recognized by MSVU as fulfilling this responsibility?:

- **Course on Research Ethics (CORE) tutorial** for the Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans (TCPS)  
This course is mandatory for all researchers, students and REB members who are involved with research with human participants or their data, as it provides a good foundation for ethical conduct in human participant research.

Other courses, some which **may** charge a fee, are available in the USA such as:

- NIH-supported Protection of Human Research Participants (PRHP) [Online Training](#)
- HHS - [Educational Resources for Investigators](#)
- HHS – [Human Research Protection Program Resources](#)
- HHS - [Online Education](#)
- CITI Program – [Research, Ethics and Compliance Training](#)

For any questions regarding the use of the FWA or NIH funding, please contact:

FWA – <a href="mailto:ethics@msvu.ca">ethics@msvu.ca</a>	NIH Funding – <a href="mailto:research@msvu.ca">research@msvu.ca</a>
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For more information, please visit our website → [Research Ethics \(msvu.ca\)](http://Research Ethics (msvu.ca))

