**Guidelines for Research activities to be reviewed for EXEMPT status.**

The IRB chairperson or a designated member of the committee will ascertain that the research protocol is exempt, and notify the investigator and departmental chairperson whether the protocol was approved under the "exempt" category. Once the protocol is approved under the exempt category, continuing approval is not required (unless the protocol is modified causing it to no longer meet the criteria for exemption).

Currently, the Federal human subjects protection regulations (45 CFR 46.101(b)) define the following six types of human subjects research as exempt:

1. Research conducted in established or commonly accepted educational settings and practices, involving normal educational practices, such as (a) research on regular and special education instructional strategies, or (b) research on the effectiveness of or the comparison among instructional techniques, curricula, or classroom management methods;
2. Educational tests (cognitive, diagnostic, aptitude, achievement), surveys, interviews and observation of public behavior, unless   
   (a) information obtained is recorded in such a manner that human subjects can be identified directly or indirectly and (b) any disclosure of the human subjects’ responses outside the research could reasonably place the subjects at risk of criminal or civil liability or be damaging to the subjects’ financial standing, employability, or reputation;
3. Surveys, interviews, and observation of public behavior when maintenance of confidentiality is federally mandated, or when subjects are appointed public officials or candidates for public office;
4. Existing data, documents, records, pathological or diagnostic specimens, if these sources are publicly available or if the information is recorded by the investigator in such a manner that subjects cannot be identified directly or indirectly;
5. Evaluation of public benefit or service programs; and
6. Non-risk taste, food quality, and consumer acceptance studies.

This list is neither exhaustive nor final.