

Pandemic Related IRB Adjustments to Research Protocols Involving Human Subjects

Manhattan College statement on research involving human subjects during the Covid-19 Pandemic:

When possible for the safety of participants and research staff, the IRB advises human subjects research to be conducted virtually via secure online data collection (eg. Qualtrics) following appropriate ethical guidelines.

Any in-person research is required to follow ALL general Manhattan College guidelines and policies for Covid-19. This includes all precautions for safety currently in force at the time the research is conducted. In addition, the IRB requires that an additional Covid-19 consent form be administered prior to research participation.

New Research Submissions:

All new research proposals for in-person data collection MUST include a statement of why in-person data collection is necessary, and a description of the protocol that will be used to ensure the health and safety of participants and research staff. This also must include methods for obtaining consent to health information and/or verifying on-campus Covid compliance status, and how confidentiality will be maintained. This information should be included in the IRB application under 3c.

Sample Consent for In-Person Research. (Please note that the consent below should be administered prior to and separate from the research consent form. It is acceptable to email this consent to participants prior to their signing up for research study times, but the form should be returned prior to the participant coming to the research site. Participants should retain a copy of the form for themselves.)

This document contains important information about your in-person participation in the research study titled **XXX** in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. Please read this carefully and let the researchers know if you have any questions.

Your Responsibility to Minimize Your Exposure

- By coming to campus to participate in this study, you are required to have a GREEN pass to be on campus.
- You are required to wear a mask during the entirety of the study including while on campus generally. As per College guidelines, neck gaiters, bandanas, and face shields (without a mask) are not acceptable face coverings.
- You will maintain 6 feet of social distance from the researchers and/or other participants in the study unless otherwise noted in the research protocols.

- You will be asked to use hand sanitizer when entering the research site before touching any equipment, pens, or papers.

Our Commitment to Minimize Exposure

- All research staff will have a GREEN pass to be on campus.
- All research staff will wear the appropriate face mask during the entirety of the study and while on campus.
- All research staff will maintain 6 feet of social distance from participants and each other unless otherwise noted in the research protocols.
- All research staff will use hand sanitizer to clean their hands and appropriate cleaning products to clean all equipment and pens between participants.

Research Protocols

In this section, the researchers should briefly describe what the participant will be doing during the study including how long the study session will last. Importantly, if 6 feet of social distancing cannot be maintained due to the research protocols, that should be explicitly stated and highlighted.

By signing below, you agree to follow all protocols for avoiding the spread of COVID-19 as dictated by Manhattan College's One Manhattan guidelines. You also agree to immediately notify the researchers if you are feeling unwell prior to your research appointment in order to reschedule.

Participant: Print Name

Date

Participant: Signature

Researcher: Print Name

Date

Researcher: Signature

The consent form above is for in-person research on campus while Manhattan College maintains protocols to avoid the spread of Covid-19. This form should be included along with the usual IRB application materials. The IRB may require full review of protocols involving in-person data collection during Covid-19. For in-person data collection conducted off-campus, please inquire with the IRB at irb@manhattan.edu.

For any general questions or concerns, please contact irb@manhattan.edu.