

## **GUIDING ETHICAL PRINCIPLES**

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When reviewing research for approval the ASU Institutional Review Board (IRB) is guided by federal regulations. In particular there are three ethical principles that are fundamental to human participant protections: respect for persons, beneficence, and justice.

- **Respect for Persons**

Provides for the personal dignity and autonomy of individuals, and the importance of appropriate informed consent for individuals volunteering to participate in research.

- **Beneficence**

Deals with the obligation of researchers to protect human participants from harm by assessing the risks and benefits of the research and assuring that the anticipated benefits are outweighed and are greater than the anticipated risks.

- **Justice**

Ensures that research participants are fairly selected with regard to the purpose and expected outcome of the research, including consideration of the participant as an individual and as a member of society. Research participants in studies should be similar to those who may benefit from the outcome of that research.

These ethical principles are discussed in the [Belmont Report](#) and form the basis for the regulatory standards for human subject protection in the United States.

The U.S. federal regulations are found in [45 CFR 46 Protection of Human Subjects](#). In addition, these principles are also incorporated in international guidance for ethical and scientific quality standards.

**Contact us:**

[research.integrity@asu.edu](mailto:research.integrity@asu.edu)

480-965-6788

The IRB and the Office of Research Integrity and Assurance is responsible for ensuring compliance with Federal, state, and local regulations as well as institutional policies and procedures regarding the use of humans as participants in research.