IRB Office Update: Student Research

Beginning April 1, 2024, undergraduate and graduate students (master's and Ph.D.) will no longer be able to be the Principal Investigator (PI) on human subjects research and will not be able to submit Initial Applications to the IRB for review.

All students who plan to conduct human subjects research must work with a faculty member who will be the PI for the study. The faculty member will be responsible for all aspects of the research including the student's involvement in the research.

1. Why are students no longer able to be the PI on human subjects research submitted to the IRB?
   This rule has been implemented to align with other campus compliance committees.

2. Are there any exceptions to this?
   No, there are no exceptions.

3. What do I need to do to get IRB approval for my research?
   a) You must work with a faculty member who has experience with your research topic and is willing to be the PI.
   b) The faculty member will need to oversee the development of the protocol, consent form and any other supporting documents.
   c) As PI, the faculty member will create and submit the Initial Application in eRA. You can be listed as co-investigator with edit on the HRP-211 form.
   d) The faculty member will be responsible for communicating with the IRB throughout the approval process.

4. My research has already been reviewed by the IRB and has been returned to me with Modifications Required, what do I do now?
   This change does not affect research that is currently in the review process. You may make your modifications and resubmit to the IRB for review.

5. I already have an approved study and I need to make changes to the research, or I need to send in an annual check-in, what do I need to do?
   This change does not affect currently approved research. You may continue as the PI on your research.

6. I am a faculty member, what do I need to do?
   The IRB website provides all the information you need to create and submit a protocol in eRA.