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## University of Maine Human Subjects of Research

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# Office of Human Resources

[Home](#)[Meet the Team](#)[Career Opportunities](#)[Employee Resources](#)[Manager Resources](#)[Policies](#)

## UMaine Policies

- [AIDS Policy](#)
- [Accommodating Individuals with Disabilities](#)
- [Affirmative Action](#)
- [Alleged Misconduct in Research and Other Scholarly Activities](#)
- [Alternatives to Teaching](#)
- [Background Check Policy](#)
- [Consenting Relationships](#)
- [Domestic Partner Policy](#)
- [Drug and Alcohol Policy](#)
- [Financial Conflict of Interest Procedures](#)
- [Free Speech and Assembly Policy \(UMaine\)](#)
- [Human Subjects of Research](#)
- [Inclement Weather](#)
- [Legal Services Guidelines](#)
- [Parking](#)
- [Partner/Spouse Accommodation Policy](#)
- [Pet Policy](#)
- [Policies and Procedures for the Humane Care and Use of Animals](#)
- [Policies and Procedures for Financial Disclosures and Conflicts of Interest in Extramurally Sponsored Activities](#)
- [Retention of Personnel Files](#)
- [Sexual Harassment Policy](#)
- [Surveillance Camera Policy](#)
- [Tobacco-Free Policy](#)
- [Volunteer Policy](#)
- [Weapons Policy](#)
- [Workplace Harrassment and Violence Policy](#)

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# Office of Research Compliance

[Home](#) [Contact Us](#) [News & Events](#)

## Human Subjects

[IRB Overview](#)

[Guidance & Policy](#)

[Training](#)

[Forms and Samples](#)

[Application Deadlines](#)

[Resources](#)

[FAQ](#)

## Institutional Review Board for the Protection of Human Subjects (IRB)

### **Important Update (Effective 2/10/2021, revised 2/17/2021):**

Researchers conducting research with human subjects are encouraged to design their studies to be conducted remotely if at all possible as this is the safest approach for our research participants, researchers and the university community. For those studies which cannot be conducted remotely, face-to-face human subjects research may be allowed on a case-by-case basis if it is determined that it can be conducted safely, and all participants either participate in the University's COVID testing program or provide documentation that they've had a negative PCR or antigen test no more than 72 hours prior to being on campus. It is recommended that researchers limit research participants to those individuals who are already on campus and participating in the University's COVID-testing program. Limited approvals for participants outside of the university COVID-testing program may be given under other circumstances (outside PCR or antigen test within 72 hours prior to campus visit). The full guidance available at [COVID-19 Guidance for Researchers](#) has been updated to include this new requirement.

Submit new applications or modifications to: [umric@maine.edu](mailto:umric@maine.edu)

Federalwide Assurance #: FWA00000479

IRB Organization (IORG) #: IORG0000642

Students, employees, and agents of the University who conduct research involving human subjects must comply with the University Policy and Procedures for the Protection of Human Subjects of Research. These procedures exist for the rights and welfare of the people who participate in UMaine research. No systematic investigation of information obtained by observing or interacting with people, or by collecting and examining any form of identifiable private information about people, may be conducted until the Protection of Human Subjects Review Board has approved the research protocol.

## Contact for Questions



**Paula Portalatin**

Research Compliance Officer III

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