

# APA Ethical Guidelines for Human Research

Research involving humans must meet the following standards:

1. *Informed Consent*-participants must know that they are involved in research and give their consent or permission
2. *Deception*-if the participants are deceived in any way about the nature of the study, the deception must not be so extreme as to invalidate the informed consent. Also, researchers must be very careful about the trauma deception may cause.
3. *Coercion*-participants cannot be coerced in any way to give consent to be in the study.
4. *Anonymity*-the identities and actions of participants must not be revealed in any way by the researcher.
5. *Risk*-participants cannot be placed at significant mental or physical risk. This clause requires interpretation by the review board.
6. *Debriefing Procedures*-participants must be told of the purpose of the study and provided with ways to contact the researchers about the results.

## Animal Research

### APA Ethical Guidelines for Researchers Experimenting With Animals

1. **(purpose)** They must have a clear scientific purpose. The research must answer a specific, important scientific question. Animals are chosen because they are best-suited to answer the question at hand.
2. **(care)** They must care for and house animals in a humane way.
3. **(acquiring animals)** They must acquire animal subjects legally. Animals must be purchased from accredited companies. If wild animals must be used, they need to be trapped in a humane way.
4. **(suffering)** They must design experimental procedures that employ the least amount of suffering feasible.
5. **(supervision)** A trained psychologist must supervise all research with animals