Checklist for Exempt IRB Review

While the MSSU IRB has ultimate authority to decide on the level of review, researchers are asked to make an initial determination by answering the following questions.

1. Will the research expose participants to discomfort or distress beyond that normally encountered in everyday life?

2. Could the disclosure of participants’ responses outside the research place participants at risk of criminal or civil liability, or be damaging to participants’ financial standing, employability, or reputation?

3. Does any part of the research require deception or incomplete disclosure of information to the participants?

4. Will prisoners, pregnant women, or people with disabilities be recruited as participants in the research?

5. Will the research be conducted in an educational setting, but outside of common educational practices?

6. Will the research involve surveys or interviews with children, or observations in which the researcher participates?

7. Will any information be recorded in a way that will identify participants?

If you have answered YES to any of these questions, the research CANNOT be Exempt.