

## Chapman University (CU) IRB Guidelines for International Research

All international research studies must adhere to recognized Ethics Codes such as [Title 45 CFR 46](#), the [Declaration of Helsinki](#), the [Nuremberg Code](#), or the [Belmont Report](#). Chapman faculty, staff or students conducting research outside of the U.S. or with subjects outside the U.S. must respect domestic regulation, university policy and applicable foreign requirements for protecting human subjects.

Chapman researchers must obtain CU IRB approval prior to commencing research activities and in most cases will also be required to obtain approval from a foreign Research Ethics Board, an IRB equivalent, or a ministry of health. Where local regulations do not exist and as determined by the IRB, an expert in the culture of the other country may be used in lieu of the IRB equivalent from the country where the study is being conducted. Where two or more sets of standards present a conflict, the research must meet the higher standard of protection for human subjects.

Many international universities have ethics committees that can review and approve research. Local collaborators and local IRBs can provide insight on local laws, such as privacy or other laws that may restrict the export of personally identifiable data from other countries. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services also provides a [resource](#) to identify local standards and U.S. federally assured sites.

Investigators are encouraged to contact the CU IRB to discuss issues related to international research. Researchers should investigate and learn about cultural and political differences that may bear on the conduct and purpose of the proposed research and communicate this information to the IRB in the protocol application.

### Resources for International Research

<https://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/international/index.html>

<https://report.nih.gov/NIHfactsheets/ViewFactSheet.aspx?csid=101>

<https://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/international/compilation-human-research-standards/index.html>