

University of Maryland School of Nursing

Updated Guidance on Involvement of Students as Research Team Members in Humans Subjects
Research that Involves Direct Contact with Research Participants

2-19-21

The University of Maryland School of Nursing (UMSON) has updated guidance related to student research education. Students will be permitted to participate as research team members in human subjects research that requires contact with research participants and has been approved for research resumption by the UMB Institutional Review Board/Human Research Protections Office (IRB/HRPO) if the research does not include contact with individuals with COVID-19 symptoms, who are COVID-19 positive, or persons under investigation for COVID-19. The study Principal Investigator (PI) must follow their UMB-approved COVID-19 precautions for in person research, including, but not limited to, providing the student research team members with PPE and arranging for and monitoring use of appropriate COVID-19 precautions such as social distancing, symptom screening, COVID-19 testing and contact tracing as needed. Students must be provided with the opportunity to opt out of participation in human subjects research with direct human participant contact and students may not be penalized or delayed in their educational programs for opting not to participate in research-required direct contact. If a PI intends to have students participate as research team members in human subjects research, they must amend their protocols to indicate inclusion of students and any revisions to procedures, space utilization, and all other aspects of the research that it entails and receive approval from both the UMSON Research Resumption Committee and the IRB/HRPO prior to student participation. This guidance will be effective 3-1-21.

For questions please contact the UMSON Research Resumption Committee (DL-NRSResearchResumptionCommittee@umaryland.edu)