

Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Council of NSW

Timely Review of Student Research Applications



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The AH&MRC Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC) recognises that research conducted by students enrolled in Honours, Masters, and PhD programs often operates within limited academic timelines. To support timely completion of these projects, the HREC aims to facilitate an efficient ethics review process while maintaining the highest standards of ethical oversight.

1. Eligibility for Expedited Review

Student research projects that align with ethical principles outlined in the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research may be eligible for an expedited or delegated review process.

2. Supervisory Oversight

Applications must include clear evidence of academic supervision and endorsement from the relevant tertiary institution. Supervisors are responsible for ensuring that the project design, consent processes, and data management practices meet ethical and methodological standards prior to submission.

3. Review Timelines

The AH&MRC HREC will endeavour to review eligible student applications as promptly as possible, aiming for a turnaround of within four weeks of submission for expedited reviews, and within the next scheduled HREC meeting for full reviews.

4. Priority Consideration

Where feasible, student applications may be given priority in scheduling to support university research timelines, provided that all required documentation is complete upon submission.

5. Communication and Support

The Ethics Secretariat will provide clear guidance on documentation requirements, review processes, and expected timelines to assist students and supervisors in planning their research activities.

