
Research Participant Bill of Rights

Researchers are responsible for ensuring that participants are protected and that any identifiable private information that participants disclose remains confidential. Research participants have a special rights granted to them while participating in a research study.

Specifically, research participants have the right to:

1. have enough time to decide whether or not to be in the research study, and to make that decision without any pressure from the individual(s) conducting the research.
2. refuse to be in the study at all, and stop participating at any time after they begin the study.
3. be told what the study is about, what will happen to them, and what they will be asked to do if they are in the study.
4. be told the truth about any foreseeable risks of being in the study.
5. be told about the possible benefits of being in the study.
6. be told whether there are any costs associated with being in the study, and whether they will be compensated for those costs.
7. be told who will have access to the information collected about them, how their identity will be kept confidential, and how the information will be destroyed.
8. be told whom to contact with any questions about the research, about research related injury, and about their individual rights.

Becoming a Research Volunteer: It's Your Decision

The Office for Human Research protections (OHRP) offers potential participants information on how to make the decision whether to volunteer for a research study.

[English Brochure](#)

[Spanish Brochure](#)

Before deciding to participate in a study, potential participant should ask the following questions:

- Why is the research being done?
- What will be done to me as part of the research?
- How will I benefit from the research?
- Could the research hurt me?
- What will the researcher do with my information?
- Will the research cost me anything?
- Who pays if I'm unexpectedly injured in the study?
- How long will the study last?
- What happens if I decide to leave the study early?
- Who should I call if I have a question about the research?

If you have been contacted by a Capella researcher to participate in a study and have questions or concerns, please contact the researcher directly or the email the IRB Office at irb@capella.edu.