

## **IRB Policy 28: Community Outreach**

**Revision Date: February 16, 2008, revised January 27, 2011, revised February 9, 2015, revised October 15, 2015, October 22, 2020**

### **I. Summary Policy**

It is the policy of both the East Tennessee State University Campus Institutional Review Board (ETSU IRB) and the East Tennessee State University/Veterans Affairs Institutional Review Board (ETSU/VA) to continually strive to engage the community it serves. This not only includes researchers and IRB members but also the community from which research participants are recruited as it is important for those agreeing to participate in research to know about the protections afforded to them. This policy summarizes the various methods utilized for community outreach in support of the ETSU Human Research Protection Program.

### **II. Resources and brochures**

The ETSU IRB website maintains webpages dedicated to community outreach and provides numerous publicly available resources for the research community. Individuals considering participating research can refer to the ETSU IRB website for brochures, links, and other resources about participating in research, clinical trials, research protections, and much more. The ETSU IRB provides links to external research sites, regulatory resources, and internal university support.

### **III. Education Program**

The ETSU IRB maintains a robust education and training program not only for committee members, researchers, and the research community. The ETSU IRB Chairs, members, and staff provide education and outreach upon request to classes, departments, other university offices and committees, and others. In addition to formal presentations, the IRB staff and Chairs offer appointments to investigators for research consultation and guidance upon request.

### **IV. Contact information**

During the review and approval of research involving interaction with participants, the IRB will ensure that investigators provide contact information to each participant for the investigator and someone independent of the research team. Each informed consent document will be stamped by the ETSU IRB upon approval and verification of this and other required language.

## **V. Evaluation**

The Community Outreach Program is evaluated annually by the IRB Performance Group. The goal of this outreach program is to enhance understanding of human research by investigators, participants, prospective participants, and the community. Changes will be made as appropriate to ensure that this goal is reached.