The Negotiating Offices, Office of the Vice Provost for Research (OVPR) and Harvard University Information Technology (HUIT) gathered feedback on the following research related processes:

- Documenting Institutional Review Board (IRB) review;
- Negotiating and executing Data Use Agreements (DUAs); and
- Completing Information Security review for use and management of research data.

A suite of online applications (Agreements/DUA, Data Safety, ESTR/IRB) was implemented to support management of these processes. The following briefly describes options for where to start when seeking these reviews, when required. Please see Related Policies and Process Information for all related requirements.

### Application Use Overview

Reviews may be initiated in various applications that can be visited directly or via tab-navigation once you are in the suite. These reviews can be connected via a Manage Related Projects activity, in the suite.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If the project involves...</th>
<th>... it needs review by a</th>
<th>Manage review in the...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Human Subjects Research where the IRB has determined that the research involves use of only non-Sensitive data</td>
<td>Harvard IRB</td>
<td>ESTR/IRB Application</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use of research data qualifying as Data Security Level (DSL) 3, 4 or 5 that is not managed via a DUA and is Not Human Subjects Research.</td>
<td>Information Security Reviewer</td>
<td>Data Safety Application</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Subjects Research where the IRB has determined that the research involves use of Sensitive data</td>
<td>1. Harvard IRB AND 2. Information Security Reviewer</td>
<td>ESTR/IRB Application Data Safety Application</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. Harvard IRB</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>IRB review will not be completed until ISR review is completed.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data exchange where a contract (or DUA) is needed and the exchange is part of a project that meets the definition of Human Subjects Research</td>
<td>1. Negotiating Office AND 2. Information Security Reviewer AND 3. Harvard IRB</td>
<td>Agreements/DUA Application Data Safety Application ESTR/IRB Application</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>DUA will not be signed by the Negotiating Office until ISR &amp; IRB reviews are completed.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer of non-public data from a third party to Harvard, or from Harvard to a third party, with restrictions on handling, use, retention, security, etc., where a contract (or DUA) is needed.</td>
<td>1. Negotiating Office AND 2. Information Security Reviewer</td>
<td>Agreements/DUA Application Data Safety Application</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>DUA will not be signed by the Negotiating Office until ISR review is completed.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A sponsored award (managed in GMAS) • where the funder has added special data management requirements; OR • where Harvard is the prime awardee and there will be Sensitive data exchanged with subaward recipients</td>
<td>1. Information Security Reviewer</td>
<td>Data Safety Application</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Award setup will not be completed by Negotiating Office until ISR review is completed.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Subjects Research and a sponsored award • where the funder has added special data management requirements; OR • where Harvard is the prime awardee and there will be Sensitive data exchanged with subaward recipients</td>
<td>1. Harvard IRB AND 2. Information Security Reviewer</td>
<td>ESTR/IRB Application Data Safety Application</td>
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<td>Award setup will not be completed by Negotiating Office until ISR review is completed.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Where to Start Required Reviews

**There is no wrong place to start!** The suite of online applications allows the initiation and connection of reviews at any time that makes sense for the project and research team. Always start where the most information is known for proposal and review and proceed from there. If more than one or all requirements are known at the same time, initiate reviews in tandem.

Selecting the starting system
(see Application Use Overview)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Application</th>
<th>General information included in this review</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Data Safety Application** | • What kind of data will be managed at Harvard?  
• Where will data be managed, analyzed, or stored?  
• Who is accessing the data?  
• Is there funding for any additional required controls to manage the data?                                                                                                                 |
| **ESTR/IRB Application** | • What is the aim/hypothesis of the research?  
• Who will be the subject of / participant in the research via intervention, interaction, or data/specimen use?  
• How will consent be obtained and the data/specimens collected?  
• What is involved in participating in the project (including where the research will take place)?  
• Who is working on the project (including study team members and collaborating teams or institutions)?  
• Does the research have funding (sponsored or non-sponsored)?                                                                                                                     |
| **Agreements-DUA Application** | • Who will exchange and utilize data?  
• What kind of data will be exchanged?  
• Under what terms must the data be exchanged, managed, returned or destroyed?                                                                                                     |

When the review of a submission is relevant to another submission (for example, the Security Review of a DUA), link the reviews via the Manage Related Projects activity in the project workspace. This will allow users of the other applications to see the relationship and the status of that other (possibly required) review.
Related Policies and Process Information

This section is a quick reference centered on research data management and use of a system to support required reviews. Please review related policies and office websites for information on the scope of each review and all relevant requirements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policy area</th>
<th>Reviewed by a</th>
<th>Policy and process reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
• [Harvard University Area IRB](https://www.humanresources.fas.harvard.edu/privacy-and-data-protection/research-data-security-policy) FAS, HGSE, HKS, HBS, HLS, SEAS, GSD, HDS, WYSS, and the Radcliffe Institute |

Other Reference

- Data Safety Application: [researchsafety.harvard.edu](http://researchsafety.harvard.edu)  
  - Data Safety Help Desk: [rshelp@harvard.edu](mailto:rshelp@harvard.edu)  
  - Data Safety Support Site: [https://ras.fss.harvard.edu/data-safety](https://ras.fss.harvard.edu/data-safety)
- Electronic Submission tracking and Reporting (ESTR) – IRB Application: [irb.harvard.edu](http://irb.harvard.edu)  
  - ESTR Help Desk: [estrhelp@harvard.edu](mailto:estrhelp@harvard.edu)  
  - ESTR Support Site: [https://estrsupport.fss.harvard.edu/](https://estrsupport.fss.harvard.edu/)
- Agreements/DUA Application: [dua.harvard.edu](http://dua.harvard.edu)  
  - Agreements/DUA Help Desk: [duahelp@harvard.edu](mailto:duahelp@harvard.edu)  
  - Agreements/DUA Support Site: [https://ras.fss.harvard.edu/agreements](https://ras.fss.harvard.edu/agreements)