 **NIH Single IRB Use Policy Guidance**

**What is the NIH Single IRB Use Policy?**

Effective January 25, 2018, the NIH Single IRB Use Policy requires NIH-funded research being conducted at multiple domestic (US) sites to use a single IRB for oversight of the study as opposed to multiple IRBs. The goal is to streamline the IRB review process to avoid repetition of review across sites.

**What does it apply to?**

* New NIH grants and competitive renewals submitted on/after Jan 25, 2018
* NIH contracts with solicitations on/after Jan 25, 2018
* Studies in which the “same protocol” is being conducted at multiple domestic sites
* If the RFP or FOA says it applies, it applies!

**What doesn’t it apply to?**

* Career Development (K), Fellowship (F) and Research Training (T) Awards
* “Exempt” studies (those that fall under Exemption categories per federal regulations)
* International sites or those for which federal, state or tribal laws conflict with use of a single IRB

**How does this impact my grant application?**

* You’ll be asked to provide a single IRB plan (name the single IRB and all sites who will use it or provide adequate justification for any exceptions)
* You’ll need to account for IRB review fees in your budget
* Plan ahead for these components! Determining the single IRB & related costs will take time!

**Who should I list as the Single IRB?**

* If your study is minimal risk: SLU IRB can act as single IRB. Email [irb@slu.edu](mailto:irb@slu.edu) to confirm.
* If your study is more than minimal risk:
  + If SLU is not the coordinating site: select the collaborating institution’s IRB
  + If SLU is the coordinating site/direct recipient of the award: select a SLU partner central IRB (currently WIRB or Advarra). Contact [irb@slu.edu](mailto:irb@slu.edu) with questions or exception requests.

**What are the IRB review fees?**

* For SLU IRB: these are currently accounted for in indirects
* For non-SLU IRB: the single IRB will provide cost estimates
  + (WIRB: Deena Horowitz <dhorowitz@wirb.com>;   
    Advarra: Kathleen Rankin <kathleen.rankin@advarra.com>)

**What if I’m not the lead PI (e.g., this is a subcontract)?**

* SLU is prepared to rely on the named (non-SLU) single IRB. Contact [irb@slu.edu](mailto:irb@slu.edu) with questions.

**Where can I learn more about the NIH Single IRB Policy?**

<https://grants.nih.gov/policy/clinical-trials/single-irb-policy-multi-site-research.htm>