Do I Need SRC Approval BEFORE I Begin My Project?

Some projects may fall under the rules of more than one category listed below.

Human Subjects
Does your project involve . . . asking your friends or other people questions? experiments on yourself or others? experiments with or tests of/on people in any way?

NO

Submit your paper-work to the school’s IRB for approval prior to submitting to the GNOSEF SRC for approval.

YES

Vertebrate Animals
Does your project involve . . . your pet? any other animals that have bones (except people)?

NO

YES

Potentially Hazardous Biological Agents
Does your project involve . . . mold or other fungus? bacteria? viruses? anything that might make you sick? cultured samples collected from the environment? (Microorganisms)

YES

Does your project involve . . . DNA from one organism inserted into the DNA of another organism? (rDNA)

NO

Does your project involve . . . anything coming from or part of a human or animal body? cheek cells or other cells? teeth? bone? fluids such as blood, saliva or urine? (Tissues)

YES

Hazardous Chemicals, Activities and Devices
Does your project involve . . . any chemical such as household cleaning agents, solvents, metals or organic chemicals? (Chemicals)

YES

Does your project involve . . . dangerous activities, such as being on a roof? or igniting objects? (Hazardous Activities)

NO

Does your project involve . . . model rockets? Laser? UV light? radiation? guns or other projectile implements? power tools, or anything else that might be considered dangerous or hazardous? (Hazardous Devices)

YES

Does your project involve . . . prescription drugs? alcohol, wine or beer? cigarettes or other tobacco? gunpowder? any product which the student may not legally purchase? (Controlled Substances)

NO

Is your project a Continuation/Research Progression Project?
Project is based on any years’ prior research (immediate or past). Additional research must be substantive expansion from prior work (e.g. testing a new variable or new line of investigation.)

NOTE: Repetition of previous experimentation with the same methodology and research question, even with an increased sample size, is an example of an unacceptable continuation.

YES

You must have SRC prior approval. You may NOT begin working your project until the GNOSEF SRC has approved your paperwork.

NO

If your project does not involve any of the above, you do not need SRC prior approval. Check with your teacher before you begin your experimental work. Make sure to note your start date on Form 1A.