A proposal may be considered exempt from IRB review, if one of the conditions below are met. Exempt from review status can only be determined by the IRB chair or vice chair after submitting a complete IRB proposal. The IRB will still require insurance of basic human subject rights protection.

Criteria for Exempt from review status:

- Research developed for a **specific class project** with no intent to publish and disseminate the results publically. The project must meet the IRB guidelines to be classified as either less than minimal risk or minimal risk. In the absence of an IRB approval the faculty supervising the classroom project is liable.

- A retrospective chart review of less than or equal to **3 patients**.

- Research conducted in established or commonly accepted educational settings, involving **normal educational practices**.

- Research involving the use of **educational tests** (cognitive, diagnostic, aptitude, achievement), **survey procedures, interview procedures or observation of public behavior, unless:**

o human subjects can be **identified**, directly or through identifiers,

o any disclosure of the human subjects' responses outside the research could reasonably place the **subjects at risk** of criminal or civil liability or be damaging to the subjects' financial standing, employability, or reputation.

o the human subjects are **elected or appointed public officials or candidates for public office**

o **federal statute(s) require(s)** without exception that the confidentiality of the personally identifiable information will be maintained throughout the research and thereafter (HIPAA, FERPA, etc).

- Research involving the **collection or study of existing data, documents, records,** if these sources are publicly available or **subjects cannot be identified**, directly or through identifiers linked to the subjects.

- Research and demonstration projects which are conducted by or subject to the approval of department or agency heads, and which are designed to study, evaluate, or otherwise examine:

o Public benefit or service programs;

o procedures for obtaining benefits or services under those programs;

o possible changes in or alternatives to those programs or procedures

o possible changes in methods or levels of payment for benefits or services under those programs.

- Taste and food quality evaluation and consumer acceptance studies

o if wholesome foods without additives are consumed

o if a food is consumed that contains a food ingredient at or below the level and for a use found to be safe, or agricultural chemical or environmental contaminant at or below the level found to be safe, by the Food and Drug Administration or approved by the Environmental Protection Agency or the Food Safety and Inspection Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.