Human Subjects Research Protection Education Program for Community Partners

PURPOSE:
Washington University (WU) is committed to fostering excellence. An integral part of this commitment is ensuring that individuals involved in community engaged research receive adequate education in the protection of human subjects appropriate to their role in that research. This policy acknowledges the unique role community partners play in the WU research enterprise.

APPLICABILITY:
This policy defines the educational requirements for community partners participating in human subjects research as collaborators with Washington University faculty and staff engaged in community engaged research. This policy does not replace the Washington University “Human Subjects Education Policy” nor is it applicable to any individual employed by Washington University.

EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS:
The Human Research Protection Office (HRPO) in conjunction with the Vice Chancellor for Research will select educational programs for research.

The education program for Community Partners will consist of a specific curriculum identified based on the role of the community partner in the research, their contact with the human subjects and their access to research data involving human subjects. The Principal Investigator (PI) is responsible for identifying and certifying the role of the community partner collaborating in the research project. This certification must be submitted to HRPO as part of the submission process. Certification will be approved by HRPO based on the protocol. Recertification may be necessary for subsequent protocols in which the community partner is engaged if his/her role changes. Information regarding educational modules appropriate for each role is accessible via the HRPO website at http://hrpo.wustl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/2015-04-02v2-Community-Partner-Education-Manual.pdf.

FREQUENCY:
The community partner must complete the educational program prior to any involvement with human subjects. Continuing education is currently not mandated. However, HRPO reserves the right to require additional education as it deems appropriate for the proposed research and proposed community partner role in order to ensure research is conducted by individuals appropriately educated in the protection of human subjects.

MONITORING:
Washington University reserves the right to monitor the appropriate completion of the human subjects research education program for community partners.