

Guideline for Payment to Subjects to Recruit Other Subjects (Peer Recruiters)

The Research Subjects Review Board (RSRB) will consider payment to peer recruiters on a study-to-study basis. Peer recruitment will be permitted only for adult subjects who recruit their adult peers. Minors (subjects under 18 years old) may not be paid peer recruiters. In making the determination whether peer recruitment methods are appropriate for the study, the following should be considered by the Investigator and the RSRB:

1. Paid peer recruitment may **only** be used in studies determined by the board to be minimal risk to the subjects participating in the study and to those whom they recruit. Participation in the recruitment program may not increase the risk to the subjects, e.g., discovery of recruitment materials by a spouse or significant other may not pose greater than minimal risk to research subjects who are the victims of domestic violence.
2. The peer recruitment process may not be used for research in which the Investigator has a dependent relationship over the subject, e.g., teacher/student or physician/patient.
3. To avoid the possibility of coercion (to both recruiters and peers), study participation by their peers is not a condition of payment to the recruiters (i.e., peer recruiters would be paid for recruiting a potential candidate, regardless of determination of eligibility or the individual's decision to participate).
4. Subject recruiters will be limited to the number of individuals they may recruit (to further avoid means of coercion).
5. The research protocol will provide a detailed, written description of the peer review payment procedure and how it will be conducted. The description will address:
 - The potential for violation of the subject's privacy (whether voluntary or involuntary).
 - Measures to protect subject privacy (this may include identifying recruiters through a sequential numbering system rather than by name, and omitting sensitive details from recruitment materials).
 - Measures to protect possibility of coercion to recruiter and peer (e.g., limiting number of individuals the subject recruiters may recruit).
6. The research consent will provide a description of the peer review payment procedure, as described in the protocol (e.g., how much the subject will receive for each peer recruited, total number of peers subjects are allowed to recruit).
7. A script for use by the subject recruiter must be provided by the Investigator with the study materials for review and approval by the RSRB prior to use.
8. Any adverse experiences or consequences resulting from the peer recruiting process should be reported according to the [Guideline for Reporting Research Events](#).