

# RESEARCH ON HUMAN SUBJECTS

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The Wentworth Institute of Technology Code of Ethics for Projects with Human Subjects (hereafter “the Code”) is based upon, and consistent with, the federal Common Rule (<http://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/regulations-and-policy/regulations/common-rule/#common>) for the Protection of Human Subjects at 45 CFR 46. The requirements of the Code, as well as the requirements of the Common Rule upon which it is based, show what investigators must oversee and review all projects involving research with human subjects conducted at and sponsored by Wentworth Institute of Technology. Wentworth has elected to apply the principles of the Code to all projects with human subjects whether or not under review by the IRB as covered projects.

The importance of demonstrating respect for research participants – both investigators and their human subjects – is reflected in the following Code of Ethics. It is founded on the basic principles generally used to define ethical research and the regulations, policies, and guidance that describe the implementation of those principles, and should be used to assist in resolving the ethical problems that surround the conduct of research with human subjects. Based on those articulated by the NIH and The Belmont Report (1973), these principles are:

- **Respect for Persons.** Incorporates at least two ethical convictions: first, that individuals should be treated as autonomous agents, and second, that persons with diminished autonomy are entitled to protection.
- **Beneficence.** Persons are treated in an ethical manner not only by respecting their decisions and protecting them from harm, but also by making efforts to secure their well-being.
- **Justice.** Consideration of who ought to receive the benefits of research and bear its burdens.

Please see the complete Policy Regarding Research on Human Subjects (<https://wit.edu/about/policies/human-subjects/>) for more information.