

OMSA Guide for Research Participation

Ochsner MD Phase 2 Students

Approval to participate in research:

Before you commit to a project or supervisor, you must gain approval to participate in research at Ochsner by completing the following steps.

- Obtain confirmation that you are in good academic standing and meet requirements for research participation. Note that this includes a GPA ≥ 4.5 for the MD program.
 - To obtain confirmation of status, register here: https://is.gd/UQ_student_research
- Register with Ochsner's Internal Review Board by creating an eIRB account: [eIRB link](#)
 - Click "Login" and "Request New Account"
- Ethics training is required to participate in research at Ochsner. Training can be completed online through the CITI program: [CITI Training Instructions](#)
 - Training is free when you affiliate with Ochsner Clinic Foundation.
 - Training takes multiple hours but does not have to be completed in one session.

Finding a mentor:

Students cannot serve as PIs on research studies and must work with a mentor.

- To find a mentor, start by looking at posted projects on the [Ochsner Student Research Hub](#) of the [Student Research Portal](#): [Ochsner Mentor Projects](#)
- If you need assistance or cannot find something of interest on the portal, reach out to Dr. Courtney Parke, courtney.parke@ochsner.org, Director for Student Research.

Approval to start a research project:

If you are joining an ongoing research project, your mentor can assist with adding you to the current IRB protocol. If you are working with your mentor to begin a new investigator-initiated project, note the following:

- Only your mentor can submit an IRB protocol, and your role as a student is to assist with mentor-led research, not to develop and/or lead new studies.
- Studies must have a well-formulated and testable hypothesis, measurable outcomes, and a statistical plan. Note that all investigator-initiated projects will be pre-screened by a review committee prior to moving forward for IRB review.
- Submission via eIRB and approval by the IRB is required prior to beginning research activities.

For additional questions and guidance, contact Dr. Courtney Parke, courtney.parke@ochsner.org.

Register your research:

All UQ-Ochsner medical students must register any research they are involved in during their MD program via the Student Research Portal: [Register Research Project](#)

- Research must be registered when you begin.

Reporting your achievements:

Once your project is complete, report your achievements (i.e., publications, abstracts, presentations) via the Student Research Portal: [Report Research Achievements](#).

Reported research achievements will be included in:

- Research Letter: an official document acknowledging your research accomplishments beyond what is required for the MD degree. This is not a part of the Dean's Letter but instead is a separate supportive document signed by the UQ Medical School Dean.
- Society Cup Points: reported achievements will tally for society cup points.

Don't forget to include abstracts/publications on your CV/resume: [Ochsner CV Template](#)

More questions? Contact:

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