**Appendix 1**

**Research Ethics Checklist**

All researchers have a responsibility to follow TCD’s *Policy on Good Research Practice* (<https://www.tcd.ie/about/policies/assets/pdf/Good-Research-Practice-1.1.pdf>), as well as any academic or professional code of practice or guidelines relevant to the specific research project. This form should normally be completed prior to the commencement of data collection.

**Section 1**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **YES**  | **NO**  |
| 1. Does this research involve the participation of humans? (e.g. interviews, surveys).  |  |  |
| 2. Has this research application or any application of a similar nature been refused ethical approval by a review committee of College or other higher-education institute? |  |  |
| 3. Does this research involve documentary material that is not already in the public domain?  |   |   |

If you have answered **NO** to the questions above, ‘ethics release’ is indicated and there is no need to pursue ethical scrutiny further.

If you have answered **YES** to any of the above questions, you must apply for a Certificate of Ethical Approval for Research(Appendix 2)using the process described in §3.1 (staff) or §3.2 (students) of the Research Ethics Policy.

**Section 2**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **YES**  | **NO**  |
| 1. Does the research involve participants who are considered to be vulnerable or unable to give informed consent (e.g. children, people with learning disabilities, your own students)? |  |  |
| 2. Will the research involve access to records of personal or confidential information concerning identifiable individuals, either living or recently deceased?  |   |   |
| 3. Will the deception of participants (including covert observation in non-public places) be necessary at any time?  |   |   |
| 4. Will the research involve discussion of sensitive topics (e.g sexual activity, drug use)?  |   |   |
| 5. Will the research involve any drugs, placebos or other substances (e.g. food substances, vitamins and other supplements) being administered to the participants, or will the study involve invasive, intrusive or potentially harmful procedures of any kind?  |   |   |
| 6. Will blood or tissue samples be obtained from participants?  |   |   |
| 7. Is the research likely to involve or result in participants experiencing pain or more than mild discomfort?  |  |  |
| 8. Could the research induce psychological stress or anxiety or cause harm or negative consequences beyond the risks encountered in normal life (both research participants and their living relatives should be considered)?  |  |  |
| 9. Will the research involve prolonged or repetitive testing of participants?  |  |  |
| 10. Will financial inducements (other than reasonable expenses and compensation for time) be offered to participants?  |  |  |

If you have answered **YES** to any question in Section 2, your research project may require authorization by a Level 3 Research Ethics Committee (in this case the Arts, Humanities and Social Science Faculty Committee). You are advised to discuss the proposal as soon as possible with the School’s Research Ethics Officer in order to clarify which procedure should be followed in the first instance.

Please note that the above questions are an indicative list of topics that might require Level 3 authorisation, but they are not exhaustive, nor do they preclude a decision of the School Research Ethics Committee to refer the application to the Faculty Research Ethics Committee. For further guidance on the distinction between Level 1, 2 and 3 research, please consult p.14 of ‘Trinity Policy on Good Research Practice:

<https://www.tcd.ie/about/policies/assets/pdf/Good-Research-Practice-1.1.pdf>