

# WCG IRB International Fellows Program



The first independent review board, Western Institutional Review Board was founded in 1968 and remains the unrivaled leader in ethical review. Although the name has changed to WCG IRB, the organization's approach to reviewing research and facilitating human subject protection has remained steadfast.

Recognized as the gold standard of human subject protection, WCG IRB is the trusted partner to over 3,100 institutions in the United States alone, ranging from small community hospitals and research sites to large academic medical centers and universities. WCG IRB is also the largest global presence in the ethical review space.

With over 200 experienced board members, and over 50 years of experience in protocol and study-related review, only WCG IRB has the capacity and expertise to provide custom solutions to meet the unique and highly specialized needs of its institutional partners.

## Capsule

### WCG IRB's International Fellows Program in Research Ethics

Capsule is designed for global healthcare professionals who intend to improve institutional review board (IRBs) operations in their home countries. The program has been designed to continue to provide broad-based research ethics and human subject protection training against the backdrop of the limitations imposed by the realities of the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic which currently prevent in-person activities.

#### DURATION

1 month (a distillation of our existing 2 and 6 month programs)

#### LOCATION

Online (only for 2021)

#### CONTENT

Access to a dedicated platform containing links to session recordings, supplemental readings, and other interactive media.

#### TUITION

Training and educational materials are provided at no cost to participants.

## Fellows Candidates

Candidates for the Fellows Program include health professionals, lawyers and bioethicists working to strengthen human research protections outside of the United States. Any individuals who demonstrate a commitment to research and an interest in bioethics may apply. A selection committee will review the candidates' applications and award placement in the program to successful individuals.

## Eligible Candidates Must Possess

- Operational knowledge of research procedures and methods
- Fluency in spoken and written English (verbal proficiency will be assessed by a mandatory interview before final acceptance into the program)
- Bioethical responsibilities within the candidate's institution
- A decision/change-making role within the candidate's institution

## Training Highlights

During the program, fellows will:

- Study human subject protection and regulations, learning about concepts such as vulnerability and confidentiality of research participants
- Receive bioethics lectures and training materials from WCG IRB and its affiliates at NYU
- Receive a certificate of completion from WCG IRB

## Advantages of the Program

Following their training, many of WCG IRB's fellows have gone on to make significant contributions in the field of clinical research. One such example is that of a Fellow from Liberia who played a key role during the 2014 Ebola outbreak in West Africa: he was appointed to the country's new National Research Ethics Board, which is now registered with the Office for Human Research Protections at the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services. He was also selected to serve on the regulatory and ethics team for the U.S.-Liberia Partnership for Research on Ebola Vaccines in Liberia, which is evaluating two candidate vaccines to prevent against Ebola.

## How to Apply

Send a completed application form, cover letter, current CV and copies of degrees to: [fellowsprogram@wcgirb.com](mailto:fellowsprogram@wcgirb.com)

or

WCG IRB International Fellows Program 1019 39th Avenue SE, Suite 120 Puyallup, WA 98374 USA.

The cover letter should include a summary about the candidate's experience in research ethics, and a brief description of how the training program will enhance human subject protection in the candidate's home country.

Access the application form at <https://www.wcgirb.com/about/international-fellows-program/>