


# Annual Report on Human Subjects Research

***State Fiscal Year 2026:***
***July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026***

***To the Governor and the General Assembly of Virginia***

**July 2026**

# Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services
# Human Research Review Committee
# 2026 Annual Report

The Code of Virginia § 51.5-132 directs the Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS) Human Research Review Committee (HRRC) to submit to the Governor, the General Assembly, and the DARS Commissioner, at least annually, a report on the human research projects reviewed and approved by the HRRC, including any significant deviations from the research applications, as approved by the Committee. The HRRC has internal oversight responsibilities for ensuring protection of the rights and welfare of clients and employees who volunteer to participate in research conducted or authorized by DARS. The DARS Commissioner established the HRRC in August 2000 to review and approve research proposed or authorized by DARS, the Wilson Workforce and Rehabilitation Center (WWRC), Centers for Independent Living (CIL), Employment Service Organizations (ESO) that have a vendor relationship with DARS, and Area Agencies on Aging (AAA). As of July 1, 2026, the HRRC has six members and one alternate. This document is the HRRC's twenty-sixth Annual Report.

The HRRC complies with federal requirements for the Protection of Human Subjects (45 CFR § 46). The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services approved the HRRC Federal-wide Assurance (FWA #00008936) beginning August 15, 2005. The FWA is currently effective through January 14, 2029. The HRRC conducts four types of reviews: Exempt Review (regulatory oversight not required), Expedited Review (application reviewed and approved by one or more HRRC members), Full Committee Review (a quorum of members in attendance), and Cooperative Research Review (Authorization Agreement executed between two Institutional Review Boards). There were no new applications reviewed during the state fiscal year (SFY) 2026. Four studies were amended or continued, and three were closed.

To the best of the Committee's knowledge, the HRRC reviewed all research involving human volunteers conducted or authorized by DARS, WWRC, CILs, ESOs, or AAAs during SFY 2026. The HRRC has no evidence suggesting that there were any significant deviations from study procedures, as approved by the HRRC, for the studies approved, amended, or continued during SFY 2026. Composition of the HRRC is governed by 22 VAC 30-40-60 and 45 CFR § 46.107.

I wish to express my appreciation to the members of the HRRC for their commitment to supporting this important endeavor.

Sincerely,



10/30/2026

**Dr. Nedra Moncrief-Craig**
**Commissioner**

**During SFY 2026, the DARS HRRC provided oversight for seven applications.**

| SFY 2026 Research Applications | |
|---|---|
| Initial Approval | 0 |
| Amended or Continued | 4 |
| Closed | 3 |
| Cancelled or Withdrawn | 0 |
| **Total** | **7** |

**Initial Approval:** None

**Amended or Continued:**

| Study Title | Principal Investigator | Review Type | Control Number |
|---|---|---|---|
| Pathways to Careers Using Partnerships, Apprenticeships and Equity[1] | Susan Foley, University of Massachusetts Boston | Cooperative | SFY23-001 |
| Evaluation of: Real Pay for Real Jobs (RPRJ) Education and Outreach, Partnership Development, provisions of Individualized Services and Capacity Building (EPIC) in Virginia[2] | Michelle Yin, Northwestern University | Cooperative | SFY24-002 |
| Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) Disability Innovation Fund (DIF) Program Evaluation[3] | Ayesha De Mond, Mathematica | Cooperative | SFY24-003 |
| SWITCIE[4] | Tim Risesen, Utah State University | Cooperative | SFY25-001 |

**Closed:**

| Study Title | Principal Investigator | Review Type | Control Number |
|---|---|---|---|
| Effects of a 9-month Internship Intervention for Military Dependents with ASD | Carol Schall, Virginia Commonwealth University | Expedited | SFY17-005 |
| Effects of Knowledge Translation Methods on VR Counselors Providing Pre- ETS to Youth with Significant Disabilities 14-16 Years of Age: A Pilot RCT | Susan McKelvey, Virginia Commonwealth University | Expedited | SFY20-001 |
| HealthWise: Computer Coaching for Social Connectivity of Older Adults | Marissa Galicia Castillo, Eastern Virginia Medical School | Exempt | SFY24-001 |

[1] University of Massachusetts Boston (UMB) is serving as the IRB of Record. IRB Authorization Agreement successfully executed between DARS and UMB on 7/6/22.

[2] The American Institutes for Research (AIR) is serving as the IRB of Record. IRB Authorization Agreement successfully executed between DARS and AIR on 12/13/23.

[3] Health Media Lab (HML) is serving as the IRB of Record. IRB Authorization Agreement successfully executed between DARS and HML on 6/6/24.

[4] Utah State University (USU) is serving as the IRB of Record. IRB Authorization Agreement successfully executed between DARS and USU on 6/30/25.