

Unit 3: Getting People Involved in Research

Topic 3.1.1: Recruitment: Finding People to be in a Research Study

We have talked about what research is and how to treat people well in research.

In the next several units, we will talk about specific ways we can treat people well when they are in research.

We'll start first with talking about getting people involved in research. Getting people involved in research is all about finding people to be in your study and working with them as they make their decision about being in your study.

This unit is about recruitment, or finding people to be in a research study.

You are learning about doing research with people. Before you can start the research, you need to find people to be in the research study and help them make a decision about whether or not they want to do it.



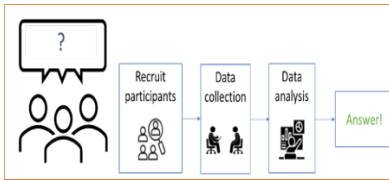
The first part in deciding about being in a research study—whether the person agrees or says no—starts with learning about a new study. **Recruitment** is the thing researchers do to find people and invite them to be in a research study.

Research participants are the people who agree to be in a research study.

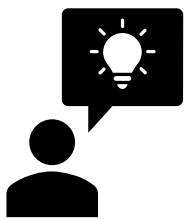
You can find people to be in your studies in different ways. You can use flyers, social media, email, or letters to tell people about a new research study.



Remember, the IRB will review your recruitment materials to make sure they support everyone’s rights. The IRB will make sure your recruitment materials have required information. This includes that you are doing research, why the study is being done, how long the study will take to do and who to contact for more information. It’s important that you use the materials the IRB approves. It is also important to follow the research plan for how you will recruit people.



It is important to show respect and build trust with the people you are recruiting, or asking to be in your research study. There are a few different ways to demonstrate respect and build trust—we’ll hear from the Mental Health for All team about their ideas.



You may have ideas about how to do recruitment with people with disabilities that is accessible, respectful, and earns their trust—this is an important role you have on a research team!

It is also important to think about who people will feel comfortable learning about the study from. It's also important to think about who people trust and who they will feel comfortable saying no to.

Some people with disabilities want to be recruited by the people who are doing the research themselves. Other people with disabilities feel more comfortable being recruited by someone they know and trust. For other people, it might be harder to say no to someone they know already.

When you are the person sharing information about the research study, you might feel like it is sometimes easy to earn the trust of people you are recruiting and sometimes it is hard. It can help to take extra time to talk to the person and get to know them a little bit.



They might also ask you questions to make sure that your research project is real and not a scam— sharing information like who is doing the study and where they work or volunteer and who is paying for the study might help them understand your study is real.

When you are finding people to be in your research study, be sure to talk to them in a way that does not make them feel pressured to be in the study. Let people know that they don't have to be in the study. You should make sure that they know that you will not be upset if they say no, and that no one else will be mad if they say no.