**APPLYING FOR ETHICS APPROVAL OF EMPIRICAL STUDIES**

 **CONDUCTED BY STUDENTS**

In line with the regulations of psychological training at other Hungarian universities and the clear recommendation in the science of psychology, the Council of the Institute of Psychology decided that students should require ethical permission to conduct empirical research at the BA and MA studies at the Institute of Psychology, in the University of Debrecen, and for research presented at the National Scientific Students' Associations Conference, hence **empirical research should only be started with ethical permission.**

The rule requires students **to seek ethics approval for data collection from the Institutional Research Ethics Committee BEFORE starting data collection**. This rule became mandatory from the 1st semester of the 2016/2017 academic year.

**To apply, students must fill out the form on the Institute of Psychology website, have it signed by their supervisor after their supervisor has given their opinion, and then have it signed by their supervisor.** Applications with attachments (e.g., informed consent, non-standard measures to be attached) have to be submitted electronically in a single file. Please insert the page(s) with signatures in this single file as an image or scanned file in the designated place in the application and send the file in .doc, .docx, or .pdf format to the Institutional Research Ethics Committee at ikeb@arts.unideb.hu.

The application should include a description of the purpose of the research and the instruments to be used in the study, as indicated in the points to be completed (if the instruments are well known, it is sufficient to refer to them, although some examples of each instrument items may be useful; if they are not known, it is necessary to provide enough information in the application). The application should also include how the subjects are to be approached (if this is done through an institution, a letter of approach to the institution should be included) and the informed consent form. In addition, applicants must answer a few yes-or-no questions (e.g., does the procedure cause pain?), and if they answer yes to any of these questions, they must explain. Yes answers alone do not cause disapproval of an ethics licence.

If psychological assessment or patient testing is to be carried out at any level of health and social care, ask about the institution's specific ethical requirements and testing conditions and obtain the necessary written authorisation.

**The deadline for submitting the ethics approval request for thesis research is no later than 90 days before the deadline for submitting the thesis.** Suppose the ethics approval request is not submitted by the deadline. In that case, it is the subject supervisor's responsibility to assess whether the research remains feasible and to complete it on time, even with a late approval. He or she needs to give consent to submit the thesis.

The committee will consider the permissions within ten working days and notify the applicant accordingly. If this is not done within ten working days, it is advisable to contact the operational chair (currently balazs.katalin@arts.unideb.hu) as soon as possible.

The committee assesses whether the research aligns with the general ethical requirements for

psychological research. Before filling in the application form, please also visit the website,

"Points of reference for making a statement." Ethical control and authorisation of research protect the interests of the research subjects, the researchers themselves, and the interests of the psychological community. This ethical permission can also help with the potential publication process of the research results later, as many journals require ethical authorisation to publish research results.