START HERE: Does the research project pose less than minimal risk (i.e., no known physical, emotional, psychological, reputational, or economical risk)?

Does the research pose minimal risk typically encountered in daily life such as moderate exercise, minor stress from testing or surveys?

Does the research pose greater than minimal risk typically encountered in daily life such as maximal exercise, stressful psychological tests, and/or questions about illegal activities?

Does your research involve ONLY de-identified existing data or biospecimen?

Does your research involve a vulnerable population?

NOTE the exception on children in normal curriculum/class settings. In such cases, these types of research may qualify for EXEMPT review.

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1 Minimal risk means that the probability and magnitude of harm or discomfort anticipated in the research are not greater in and of themselves than those ordinarily encountered in daily life or during performance of routine physical or psychological examinations or tests [Code 45 CFR 46.102(i)]

2 Vulnerable subjects include children, the elderly, prisoners, pregnant women, students in special circumstances, handicapped or mentally disabled persons, among other populations.