

From: [IRB Office](#) on behalf of [Mason Institutional Review Board](#)
To: MASON-IRB-L@LISTSERV.GMU.EDU
Subject: NEW IRB System at George Mason
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Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

Institutional Review Board
OFFICE OF RESEARCH INTEGRITY & ASSURANCE

Welcome to the George Mason University IRB listserv!

We are launching this email list as a way to communicate with researchers at George Mason – we'll use it to send you updates, share new information impacting IRB submissions and reviews, and provide you with helpful resources, tips and tricks. And as always if you need to contact us, please reach out to irb@gmu.edu.

Read on for updates on the new IRB submission system, RAMP.

RAMP IRB Implementation

Highlights:

- The IRB is transitioning to a new submission and review platform, called RAMP. RAMP will replace IRBNet.
- RAMP IRB will go live at the end of July.
- There will be a blackout period in mid-July, during which no new IRB submissions will be processed. The blackout period will end when RAMP goes live.
- Be sure to save any IRBNet documents locally since access will be restricted once the black out dates begin. Researchers will no longer have access to IRBNet or any data/documents on IRBNet, so plan accordingly to save study materials elsewhere.
- The IRB team will use this email listserv to share RAMP updates.

What?

George Mason is in the process of implementing an integrated research web-based system, RAMP, to support Mason's growing research enterprise. A number of RAMP modules have already gone live, including Grants & Agreements, COI, and Safety. The IRB team has been working behind the scenes to implement the IRB module, which will replace IRBNet as the IRB

submission system at George Mason.

For more information on the RAMP project, click here: <https://ramp.gmu.edu/>

When?

RAMP IRB will go live at the end of July. To facilitate the transition, we will stop accepting new IRB submissions through IRBNet in mid-July and no new submissions will be accepted for approximately two weeks. During the blackout period, the IRB staff will complete the review process for all in-progress submissions and work to transition study records from IRBNet to RAMP.

The specific dates for the blackout period and the RAMP go-live will be shared as we get closer.

Take Action

In the lead up to the RAMP IRB go-live, there are some things you can do to help streamline the transition.

1. Review your studies in IRBNet and close any that are no longer active. See the [Project Completion SOP](#) for more information.
2. Download any documents from IRBNet that are not already part of your study records. Once RAMP is live, you will no longer be able to download documents from IRBNet.

FAQs

1. **Are all active studies being transitioned to RAMP?**
No. Only active studies that are reviewed under the Full Board or Expedited review procedures are being transitioned. Exempt studies will not move over to RAMP.
2. **I have an expedited or full board study in IRBNet. Will the entire study record transition over to RAMP?**
No. At the time of go-live, each active study from IRBNet will have a shell record. At the time of your first modification, we can provide guidance on how to update your study in RAMP.
3. **Will I continue to have access to IRBNet after RAMP is live?**
No. IRBNet will be disabled once RAMP is live, and researchers will no longer have access. We recommend that you review your studies in IRBNet and proactively download any documents that need to be part of the study record.
4. **What if I need to submit something during the blackout period?**
The IRB will not be able to accept new submissions during the

blackout period. If you have plans to submit a new study or amendment during the last two weeks of July, we recommend you either submit early or wait until RAMP is live to submit.

5. Where can I find additional resources?

We will update the IRB website with information and new resources as they are developed, and we will use this listserv to provide updates as well.

6. Who do I contact if I have questions?

Reach out to irb@gmu.edu if you have additional questions.

RESOURCES

Office of Research Integrity & Assurance (ORIA): <https://oria.gmu.edu>

IRB Information: <https://oria.gmu.edu/topics/human-subjects/irb/>

Contact Us: <https://oria.gmu.edu/about/contact/>

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