

## Bulk Proposals

A bulk proposal is a proposal sent to the Ethics Review Board containing multiple research projects within one department. In this document you can find information on what a bulk proposal is, when it is possible to apply via the bulk proposal of your department, how to do this and what should be included.

### 1. What is a bulk proposal?

Twice a year, each department has the opportunity to upload a so-called bulk proposal to the Ethics Review Board. This bulk proposal contains multiple research proposals of the department. The proposals give a short explanation of the research project and are collected by the ERB member of your department. To include your project in this bulk proposal, your project should meet certain conditions.

### 2. Conditions

To apply via the bulk proposal, your research project should have the following characteristics:

- Participants from the general population without complaints
- The burden on participants is minimal in terms of time, procedures, and content of the assessment. Responsibility to evaluate this lies with the PI, possibly in consultation with the Department's Ethics Review Board committee member or the ERB Chair
- During the project you collect new data or use anonymous secondary data (e.g., World Values Survey)

See appendix 1 for the flowchart: 'Can I use bulk proposal?'

### 3. Content

**Each project should include information about the following:**

- Personal information: name researcher and ANR
- Research question
- Sample and recruitment procedure (e.g., TiU students, Prolific/MTurk etc.)
- Methods (including but not limited to type of assessment instruments, location, duration, use of deception, debriefing)
- List of constructs/measures used
  - In case of sensitive topics (e.g., psychopathology, stressful life events, etc.), the full list of items need to be included (this can also be asked for specific projects by the reviewers)
  - In case the specific constructs/measures are not known yet, they can be submitted later with an amendment
- Aim of the project (i.e., educational vs. research purposes)
- Information letter and consent form (only if it is different from the template and/or different from the standard used across projects)

- List of all personal data that will be collected (GPDR):

**General**

- Contact data (for example: name, email address, phone)
- Gender
- Age, birthdate
- Nationality, birth place, birth country
- Student number/employee number
- Experiences (work, education)
- Finances
- Visual materials (pictures, video)
- IP-address

**Special data**

- Racial or ethnic origin
- Religious or philosophical beliefs
- Political opinions
- Health data (e.g. stamina, eating habits, exercise regimen)
- Sex life or sexual orientation
- Trade union membership
- Genetic data
- Medical data (e.g. illness, blood values, mental disorder, side effects)
- Biometric data
- Criminal records

**Sensitive data**

- Copy identification card
- R&D meeting
- Study results

**Other**

- Namely, [Click here to enter text.](#)

#### 4. Procedure

- Bulk proposals should be submitted via G.E.D. Started!, where the list of all the projects is submitted as additional information.
- The department's Ethics Review Board committee member collects all the projects for the bulk proposal and submits the proposal.
- Each department can submit a bulk proposal two times a year maximum. This is always around the start of a new semester, so January and September.
- Student projects can also be part of the bulk, including bachelor's and master's theses or RSiP/POP projects.
- The review process of bulk proposals is the same as all other proposals. The reviewers of the proposal can always identify specific projects within the bulk proposal that need to be submitted separately for full review.

- Amendments also go via G.E.D. Started. Write down what you want to change and why in a separate document and title this document with the title of your project + amendment. Amendments also go via the Ethics Review Board committee member.

## 5. Examples of project descriptions

- A. According to Aristotle's philosophy, for many positive factors, it is the moderate rather than the highest level that yields the best outcomes. This idea has been recently picked up by psychological research that detected an inverted-u shaped pattern in several areas. For example, moderate (vs. high) life satisfaction has been associated with higher income and higher reemployment chances in unemployed individuals. The present project will explore whether the associations between personality factors previously linked to career success (e.g., self-control, life satisfaction), actually follow an inverted-u shaped pattern, with moderate levels of a trait yielding the best outcomes. The project will use secondary data (e.g., LISS Panel, German Socio-Economic Panel) and experiments where participants will be asked to evaluate different targets (e.g. someone described as having poor, moderate or high self-control) on different dimensions (e.g., competence, fit for a leadership position etc.). Anonymous data will be made available on OSF.
- B. This project will investigate how expressions of doubt (vs. expressions of confidence) influence trust in advice. A series of studies will be conducted where participants will read and evaluate different pieces of advice (for example, online consumer reviews; political statements; and financial recommendations) which contain either doubtful or confident language. Participants will then be asked to evaluate how much they trust in the advice, and to assess the psychological characteristics of the advice giver. Anonymized data from this project will be publicly shared online (e.g., on the Open Science Framework).

# Appendix 1

## Can I use Bulk proposal?

Twice a year, each department has the opportunity to upload a so called bulk proposal to the Ethics Review Board (ERB). This bulk proposal contains multiple research proposals of the department. The proposals give a short explanation of the research project and are collected by the ERB member of your department. To include your project in this bulk proposal, your project should meet certain conditions. In this flowchart, you can easily find out if your project can be included in the bulk proposal.

If you want more information about the bulk proposals or if you want to include your project to the bulk proposal of your department, please contact the ERB member of your department.

