



SMART TALK

A Community Forum to Explore
Issues Surrounding Single IRB
Review

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Before we begin

Questions are welcome! Please post these under 'Q/A'

Discussion with fellow attendees should be posted under 'Chat'

A link to today's recording will be emailed to attendees. A recording will be posted on the SMART IRB website

Your feedback is valued! Please complete the survey at the end of the SMART Talk! The survey will be emailed as well.

SMART IRB: Your Roadmap to Single IRB Review

Agreement

Providing a common, comprehensive framework reliance agreement with 1490+ signatories across North America



Reliance System

Your home to request, document, and track reliance requests with fellow SMART IRB [Participating Institutions](#)



Harmonization

Strategically align your institution's policies and procedures with industry best practices



Resources & Education

Explore an ever-growing portfolio of customizable resources for your institution's reliance program



Support

Need assistance? Check out our [Support Center](#), [Ambassadors](#), and [Helpdesk](#)



SMART IRB Version 3.0 Participating Institutions

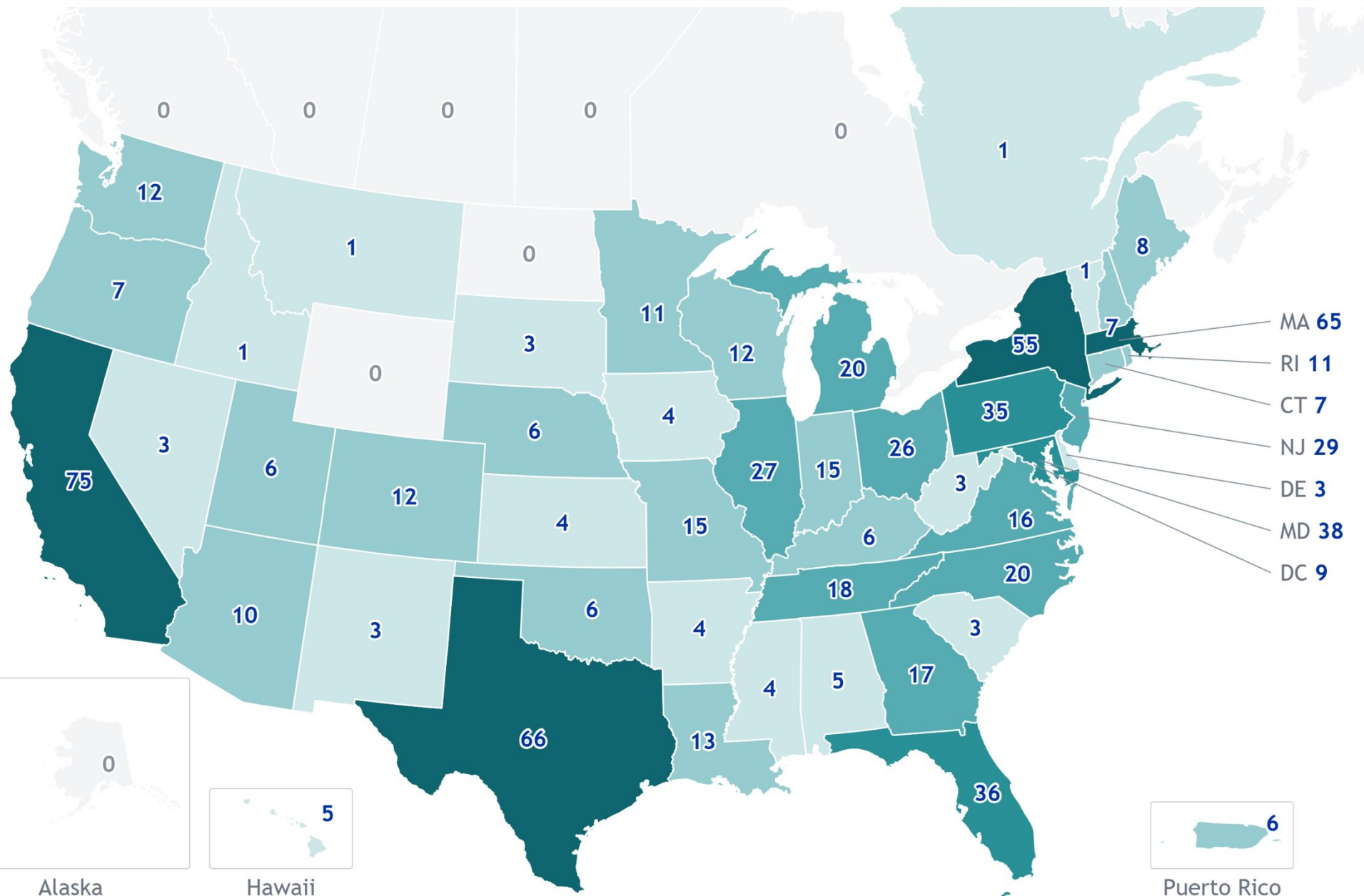
770

institutions have joined
Version 3.0

- 47** states with at least one participating institution
- 9** in the District of Columbia
- 6** in Puerto Rico
- 1** in Canada

Institutions per state

- 51 or more
- 31 - 50
- 16 - 30
- 6 - 15
- 1 - 5
- None yet



Local Considerations Harmonization: Now Live!

Experts across the US convened to establish:

- **A Shared Definition:** Distinguishing local considerations from standard IRB review
- **Streamlined Data Collection:** Clarifying what Reviewing IRBs need from Relying Institutions
- **Continuous Assessment:** Evaluating local context throughout the entire study lifecycle
- **Updated Resources:** Institutional Profile, Study-Specific Document, and more

Learn more today!

www.smartirb.org/harmonization



Recommendations for the Harmonization of Local Considerations

Local Considerations Working Group of the SMART IRB Harmonization Steering Committee

HARMONIZED AUGUST 2025

This document underwent a review and input process from July 2023 to September 2023 and has now been finalized.

Institutional Profile

- Summary of an Institution's state, local and Institutional requirements that apply to all protocols
- Completed by the Institution's POC (Site Admins) within the SMART IRB Reliance System
- Publicly available on the Participating Institutions Page
- New Features
 - Concise format
 - Date content last updated



1. Name of Institution

Sample University

2. List all other names by which the institution is known.

Sample U

3. List all organizations that are considered components under this institution's FWA.

Sample Medical Center

4. Identify any affiliations this site has, such as university, clinic, or hospital.

Sample University

Sample Medical Center

a. If any of the sites are within a network or system, identify all sites with separate Federal Assurances.

none

5. Does your state law or institution require you to apply the Common Rule to all studies?

No

6. Does your state law or institutional policy require you to apply any of the subparts (B, C, or D) of the HHS regulations at 45 CFR part 46 that provide additional protections for certain populations in research to all studies, when applicable?

No

7. Are there any local considerations (i.e., customs, beliefs, values, or practices of a distinct subject population(s)) that a Relying Institution could expect to be included in the research?

ID, Law Code, Title, Description

1, ACT-101, Gravity Compliance Act, All citizens must remain tethered to the ground during designated municipal anti-gravity events.

2, ORD-042, Tuesday Taco Mandate, Food establishments operating on Tuesdays must feature at least one taco variant on the menu.

3, REG-305, Airborne Shoelace Regulation, Laces must be double-knotted prior to boarding any commercial aircraft to prevent tripping hazards.

4, DIR-992, Quantum Parking Directive, Motor vehicles are strictly prohibited from occupying two parking spaces in separate dimensions simultaneously.

5, MUN-014, Feline Curfew Ordinance, Domestic cats must be indoors by 10:00 PM to mitigate nighttime world-domination planning.

6, STA-776, Sidewalk Velocity Limit, Pedestrians in downtown sectors must not exceed a brisk walking pace of 4.5 mph.

7, BIL-228, Mandatory Nap Statute, Employers must provide a 15-minute, uninterrupted nap window for all

Last Updated: 09/15/2026

Some Recent SMART Talks To Note

To Be Great Is to Be Misunderstood: Common SMART IRB Myths Debunked (2026)

All Aboard! Helping Researchers and Research Partners Navigate Single IRB (2026)

The Indemnification Dilemma & Single IRB: What? Why? And Why Not? (2025)

How Shall I Staff for Single IRB? Let Me Count the Ways...Exploring Models of Reliance Staffing (2025)



What's Working (and What Isn't) in this Single IRB World

Moderator:

Nichelle Cobb, SMART IRB Ambassador At Large + Senior Advisor

Panelists:

Beth Poplaski, Senior Reliance Specialist, Emory University

Wanda Quezada, Director, Regulatory Oversight, Houston Methodist Research Institute

Lisa Rigtrup, Senior Manager, Single IRB Reliance, University of Utah

Next SMART Talk



Inquiring Minds Want to Know: Insights from the SMART IRB Survey



October 21, 2026, 2-3:30 pm EST