

Potential Barriers Research plans involving any of the following topics or issues could pose potential barriers.	Next Steps The following describes next steps if the learner may encounter a potential barrier.
Capella Research A study involving Capella records/data and/or include learners, faculty, or staff in their research must be reviewed by the Dissertation Support Center prior to moving forward.	Submit the research plan to the Dissertation Support Center (DSC) for a preliminary review. The DSC will contact the learner to schedule a consultation or solicit additional information. Results of the preliminary review will be provided via email.
Complex Research Site Permission(s) Research that involves multiple research sites such as federal agencies, hospitals, schools/universities, or multiple IRBs which may result in difficulties in obtaining timely research site permission(s).	Learners should consult with the IRB Office (irb@capella.edu) to discuss the feasibility of the study. A summary of the discussion will be provided via email.
Data Usage Agreements and Contracts Research that requires a data usage agreement or contract between the learner/institution and the research site must be assessed as soon as possible. Note: Some datasets cannot be approved due to stringent data security requirements such as the ICSPR and Institute of Educational Sciences (IES) restricted data.	Documents requiring Capella University's or a mentor's signature must be reviewed by Capella University prior to signing. Send a copy of the agreement to the IRB Office (irb@capella.edu) for review.
Highly Vulnerable Populations While many populations are considered vulnerable, that does not necessarily mean that the study poses greater than minimal risk . Research involving a highly vulnerable population on a sensitive topic may pose greater than minimal risk to participants and should be assessed by the IRB as soon as possible. For more information click on sensitive topics or vulnerable populations .	Research involving highly vulnerable populations may not be appropriate for a dissertation. Learners must consult with the IRB Office (irb@capella.edu) to discuss the feasibility of the study. A summary of the discussion will be provided via email.
Military or VA Research Research that involves military or VA personnel or records must be assessed as soon as possible.	Each branch of the military has a distinct permission process and often multiple layers of permission are required. In some cases requests are denied. Learners must consult with the IRB Office (irb@capella.edu) to discuss the feasibility of the study. A summary of the discussion will be provided via email.
Passive Recruitment Strategies Some learners will attempt to create a 'work-around' for recruiting participants in order to avoid complex or burdensome research site permission processes.	Learners should review the recruitment information available on iGuide (click here). Learners should also consult with the IRB Office (irb@capella.edu) to discuss the feasibility of the recruitment process.
Prisoner, Parolee, Probationer Research Research that involves prisoner, parolee, or probationers and/or their records should be assessed as soon as possible.	Many prison facilities and department of corrections have complex research review processes and requirements. Learners must consult with the IRB Office (irb@capella.edu) to discuss the feasibility of the study. A summary of the discussion will be provided via email.