Projects that have been granted approval and receive an expiration date can only be approved for up to one year from the date of approval. Re-approval is required before the expiration of the study. Federal regulations do not allow for a grace period after a project’s approval period expires.

Projects that are not reapproved by the expiration date of the study will be administratively closed by the Human Subjects Protection Program (HSPP). If the approval of Human Research expires, all Human Research procedures related to the protocol under review must cease, including:

- Recruitment
- Advertisement
- Screening
- Enrollment
- Consent
- Interventions and interactions
- Collection and analysis of identifiable information or biospecimens.

The principal investigator will be restricted from submitting new Human Research to the HSPP until a completed “Renewal/ Closure of Human Research” form is received and the file is properly concluded.

If current subjects will be harmed by stopping research procedures (e.g. those research procedures that in the researcher’s opinion must continue to minimize an immediate or apparent hazard to a participant), immediately contact the HSPP office. Before any procedures may continue, the researcher must provide:

- a coded list of the currently enrolled subjects needing to stay on study procedures,
- what procedures must be continued, and
- a description of how the subjects will be harmed by stopping Human Research procedures.

While permission may be granted to continue research procedures due to risk to participants, no research data can be collected or used as part of the study.

To re-open the expired project, investigators must submit a new application for review and approval. This new submission will be reviewed as a new application, including the requirement to obtain signatures, secondary approvals, use of new forms, etc. Limited exceptions may be granted by the Director of the Human Subjects Protection Program.