

Time Required for IRB Reviews:

Dear Colleagues,

In an effort to improve our processes at the IRB, we have started to collect and analyze data about IRB approval times. We will use this data to improve our processes and to appropriately allocate our resources.

Approval times vary depending on the completeness of the application, the efficiency of the IRB in communicating with the investigator, the efficiency of the investigator in addressing the IRB's questions, the volume of protocols under review, and the type or level of review required.

Listed below in the table and graph are the average times for approval for January 2012. We have calculated this information in calendar days (which includes weekend days, holidays, intersession, etc.). The numbers below indicate that changes need to be made. We have already implemented new processes starting in January 2012 and have already seen improvements.

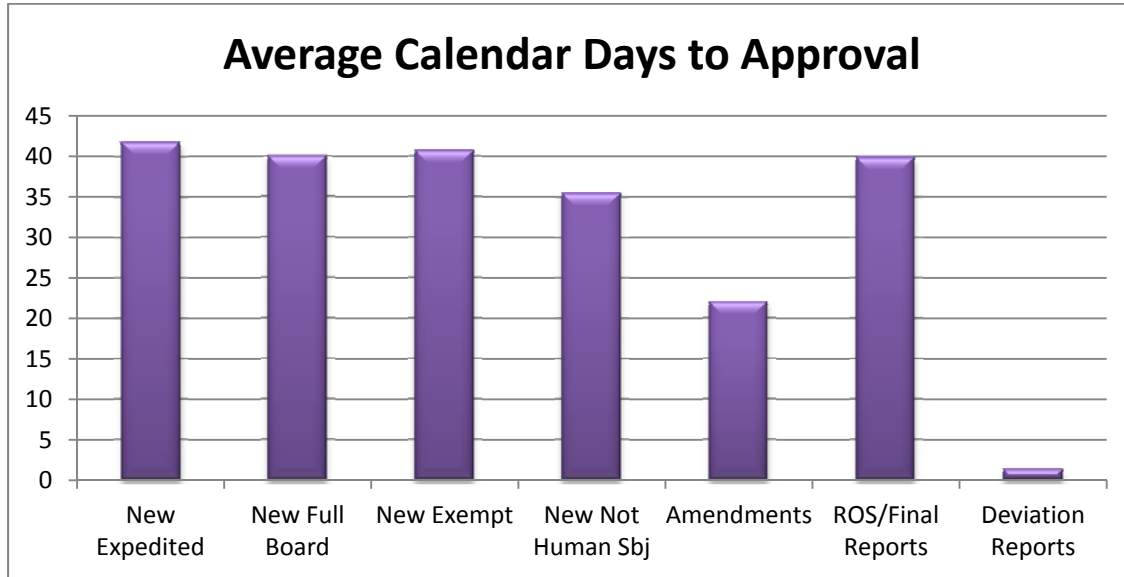
Please note that the approval times for studies that require full-board review, may be affected by the timing of full-board meetings. Full-board meetings are scheduled once a month. If study materials are not received prior to the submission deadline, they will be scheduled for the IRB meeting that occurs in the following month.

If your study has a deadline or specific time constraint, please give yourself and the IRB enough time to complete the review. Please contact the IRB if you have questions or concerns about your deadline.

Please submit your protocol to: irb@bu.edu. Please be sure to e-mail your informed consent and recruitment materials in word document format.

Please contact the IRB at irb@bu.edu or 617-358-6115 with any questions.

January 2012 Submission Report



	Newly Received	* Approved	Avg. Calendar Days
New Expedited	9	5	41.8
New Full Board	0	1	40
New Exempt	9	15	40.67
New Not Human Sbj	1	2	35.5
Totals (for new submissions)	19	23	39.5

	Newly Received	* Approved	Avg. Calendar Days
Amendments	44	31	22
ROS/Final Reports	36	18	39.89
Deviation Reports	6	3	1.33

** included in these figures are submissions approved this month irrespective of when received*