Consistent with the University of Kentucky's (UK) mission, vision, and values, the Office of the Vice President for Research (VPR) provides programs and services to facilitate research, as well as support UK faculty, staff and students in research development and submission.

The VPR has invested available resources for Research Information Services (RIS) and the Office of Research Integrity (ORI) to develop a Link Blue-secure, customized, web-based system aimed at giving the human research community a paperless experience without compromising the university's high standards for compliance with federal regulations and institutional policies for human research protections. This platform has formed into what is now called "E-IRB", use of which will be mandatory for submission of human research activity proposals falling under the purview of the UK Institutional Review Board (IRB) once the system has been finalized for full production.

This web-based system will provide users with robust reporting capabilities as well as increase the efficiency of internal transactions that require authorization (UKIT Business Procedure Manual, Q-1-6), and reduce the environmental impact of paper use.

We appreciate everyone's support in this endeavor.

Lisa A. Cassis, PhD

Vice President for Research
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