

Lifespan Office of Research

IRB Fee Policy Q&A:

1. **Q. What are “IRB Fees.”**
A. An IRB can charge review fees for commercially funded studies. The fee compensates the Lifespan IRB for costs of IRB operation and research oversight.
2. **Q. How is the Lifespan IRB Fee Schedule established?**
A. The schedule is based on a review of multiple peer institution IRB fee schedules. The fee schedule is in line with the median and average rates across peer institutions. The rates will be reviewed annually, and adjustments made as necessary.
3. **Q. What types of submissions are eligible for IRB fees?**
A. New Projects, Continuing Reviews and sponsor-initiated revisions to research when Lifespan is the reviewing IRB. When Lifespan relies on an external IRB, a one-time fee for the administrative Local Context Review will apply.
4. **Q: What types of revisions can be invoiced?**
A. Changes to the research that are initiated by the sponsor, and likely apply to all sites. Local changes to the research such as key study personnel, or any other change that may be specific to Lifespan policy, would not apply.
5. **Q. What types of “other” submissions can be invoiced?**
A. Examples may include SAE local fatality, DSMB letter not associated with a revision to the research.
6. **Q. How should the study team’s time and effort to prepare IRB submissions be budgeted?**
A. These types of costs should be included in the negotiated startup costs that is separate from IRB fees.
7. **Q: How should regulatory support (e. g. Lifespan CRC) be budgeted for in addition to IRB fees?**
A. These types of costs should be included in the negotiated startup costs that is separate from IRB fees.
8. **Q: When can an IRB submission be invoiced?**
A: Sponsors will not pay until the submission is reviewed, approved/acknowledged and they have been provided with the IRB approval documents.
9. **Q: Do sponsors identify a timeframe for invoices? E.g., 30-60 days?**
A: The timeframe is sponsor specific.