

More and more journals and funding institutions (e.g., FWF, ERC) require ethical approvals of studies involving human participants. The Internal Review Board (IRB) at the SoWi therefore introduced a shortcut procedure for 'standard laboratory experiments' to reduce administrative burden of researchers and IRB reviewers alike. Standard laboratory experiments are defined as follows:

- Participation in the experiment is voluntary and does not involve any physical risks. No physical states (e.g., saliva or blood samples) are measured.
- The experiment contains clear information about the duration, repetitions, interactions, and payments. Random procedures are clearly explained to participants and no deceptive elements are involved in the experiment.
- Anonymity regarding who is interacting with whom is maintained throughout the experiment. Participants are informed about which information is common to all experimental subjects.
- Participants are – at a minimum – remunerated with the opportunity cost of time and negative payments are ruled out by the experimental design. Payments to subjects are treated as confidential and depersonalized experimental data is kept separate from non-anonymous payments data.

If all of the above applies to your experiment, please send an e-mail with your research question and a brief project description (3–5 sentences) to Heiner Schumacher (heiner.schumacher@uibk.ac.at). In your e-mail, you should approve that the research design falls within the agreed conditions. In other cases (e.g., anonymity is removed, saliva or blood samples are taken, experiments with children) the common procedure using the standard form (available via the [econlab webpage](#)) is relevant.