



SEND APPLICATION TO:

**The Education Research Council Committee
c/o Lesley Fisher, Superintendent
Rainbow District School Board
Centre for Education
408 Wembley Drive
Sudbury, ON P3E 1P2**

(or fax to: 705-674-3167)

Checklist of Requirements

- ☐ **Fully completed application form**
- ☐ **Detailed outline of proposal**
- ☐ **Copies of instruments used or explanation of instruments not available**
- ☐ **Copies of all letters to schools, parents/guardians, etc.**
- ☐ **A police reference check of those participants who will be working in Rainbow Schools**

IMPORTANT ADVICE TO RESEARCHERS REGARDING RAINBOW DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

1. Please send application directly to Board office, not to Psychology Department.
2. Preference is given to faculty research followed by graduate and undergraduate research. Undergraduate research requests should not normally require more than about 40-50 subjects. Requests for large scale testing of subjects will likely be refused.
3. Research requests **MUST** be accompanied by evidence of ethics approval. Requests will **NOT** be considered before/without ethics approval. Consequently, student researchers are strongly advised to consider whether they will have sufficient time to complete their projects.
4. Preference will be given to projects with educational merit.
5. Permission by the Board to conduct research does not guarantee access to specific schools. Researchers are cautioned that obtaining parental consent represents a significant additional undertaking.
6. Incomplete applications (no consent letters, unclear testing materials, etc.) and unprofessional applications (messy, poorly written or presented) will be rejected.

REMEMBER: **Access to Rainbow District School Board
is a privilege, not a right.**

Deadline for submissions are October 31st and January 31st.

THE RAINBOW DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Application for Permission to Conduct Research in Schools

Position Paper Concerning Research

The Rainbow District School Board recognizes that research is desirable and necessary for the advancement of learning and knowledge and further that the schools are a logical place for a good deal of research to be conducted. However, the Board has both a legal and a moral responsibility to its charges, and must maintain control over research requests and research being done in the schools under its jurisdiction.

The Board's main concerns are centered in three areas:

- (a) Sensitivity of our Clientele:** We have a captive audience and are legally and morally responsible for the well being of our pupils. Therefore, for any proposed research, we are concerned about the suitability of the instruments used, the questions asked, the techniques involved, the expertise of the researcher(s), and the sensitivity of our pupils and parents.
- (b) Time Involved:** Teachers have a heavy enough workload as it is. We do not want them unduly burdened by extra time demands imposed by research.
- (c) Benefit to the Board:** The Board wants to share any benefits derived from research conducted within its jurisdiction. Furthermore, the researcher, operating from a different frame of reference and point of view, may not see the potential benefit that Board personnel might. Therefore, the Board wants access to research data and findings.

The Board wishes to be cooperative, helpful, and supportive of research in its schools, while keeping in mind that the pupil, the education of the pupil, and parental concerns must take precedence over other considerations.

Procedure for obtaining approval to conduct research in Rainbow schools

1. Researcher fills out correct application form in full.
2. Educational Research Council (E.R.C.) meets as required to consider the applications. At this time, the E.R.C. will:
 - a) approve the request;
 - b) make suggestions for revisions that would make the request acceptable;
 - c) reject the application. If the application is ejected, the objections will be outlined in writing to the applicant who then may revise the proposal and reapply for approval.

When the approval is given by the E.R.C., further information as to schools that might be suitable and other information deemed necessary or useful will be given to the applicant.

3. It should be noted that E.R.C.'s approval of the project is in no way binding upon the subjects or parties concerned. It is the responsibility of the researcher to obtain the required consent of all parties and individuals involved in the proposed project.
4. After the research is completed, a summary must be given to the Board. As well, the entire research report should be available if requested by the Board.
5. The Board has final veto power.