Guidelines for Chair’s Action

In general all research applications are submitted to all members of the Committee and considered at a formal meeting of the Committee. All research involving children (those under 18), those unable to give informed consent, minority groups, vulnerable categories, pregnant women or women in labour and persons with a physical or mental disability, must be referred to a Research Ethics Committee (local or SREC). Chair’s action cannot be taken on any research involving children or vulnerable participants, but must be considered by a full Committee.

In the following cases, the Chair of Senate Research Ethics Committee may consider taking Chair’s Action to approve an application:

1. If they include addendums to previously approved research proposals;
2. An extension of a research study;
3. The approval of a previously tabled research proposal where minor amendments were requested;
4. Where a strict tight funding deadline has to be met.

For information about when sub-committees to Senate Research Ethics Committee may consider Chair’s action, please see local policies and procedures.