Department of Teacher Education
Application for Access to Conduct Research on the Teacher Preparation Programs and Their Participants
(Revised 9 September 2012)

The Department of Teacher Education encourages study of its programs, particularly by its students and faculty. At the same time, the Department reasonably wishes to be aware of all research conducted on Department activity, and to manage its potential effects on the programs and participants. The Department also wishes to model appropriate policies and processes for gaining institutional access for the purposes of research.

All persons contemplating research on programs of the Department of Teacher Education should make early proposals to the Department (Chair). Research activity should not begin until the proposal is approved by the student's committee and the Department and must be accompanied by IRB approval. Applications are accepted between August 15 and May 1 only, as the committee is not convened in the summer months. The application process will take less than two months and every effort is made to turn around proposals quickly and before the committee adjourns for the summer on May 15.

The proposal should include the following components:

1. The intending researcher's name, organizational affiliation, and position (for example, “assistant professor” or “doctoral candidate”)
2. An abstract of the project (to be included on the Department of Teacher Education website)
3. A list of 3 or less key words (for categorizing the project on the TE website)
4. The purpose and focus of the research, and its intended audience.
5. The program participants needed as subjects of the research, and the procedures for recruiting them.
6. The data collection procedures.
7. The human subjects considerations, and the manner in which they will be handled.
8. The report(s) to be provided to the Department or its members.
10. The potential implications for the teacher preparation program.
11. Evidence of discussions about the nature, operation, and potential impact of the research with faculty members related to the program of study (e.g., studies about the effectiveness of the literacy program should be discussed with the English/Language Arts subject area leader or course leader).

In reviewing these proposals, the program committee in the Department will weigh the following considerations:

1. The potential value of the research to the Department or its programs and their participants and to the field more broadly.
2 The potential risks to programs and participants.
3 The reasonability of the burdens to be placed on the subjects.
4 The compatibility of the research with Departmental program evaluation activities.
5 The total effect and burden of all research on the program at a given time.

Survey requests from institutions outside of MSU will be responded to by the chair of the Teacher Preparation Committee. The chair will evaluate whether the survey is of benefit to MSU students, faculty, the program, and/or the research community to determine the following questions:

Does the MSU program receive information or data from the effort?
Does MSU gain access to information?
Is this high quality research that is likely to advance the field?

Priority will be given to internal work with attempts to be helpful to external requests.

Undergraduate and graduate students who are targeted by participation requests will be informed that there is a demand for survey results by many people (stakeholders including researchers, the public, other institutions). With the exception of MDE program surveys that are requirement for the program, most surveys requests are optional and should be treated accordingly.