



VCS Application to Conduct Research

Research Criteria for Approval

1. Research topic must be appropriate for public K-12 educational setting and aligned with Volusia County Schools strategic plan goals and focus areas
2. Research Design
 - a. Purpose and research questions are relevant, appropriate, and aligned
 - b. Research participants are appropriately defined
 - c. Research instruments are valid and reliable; support the purpose of the study; and, appropriate for K-12 educational setting; free of bias
 - d. Research methods support the purpose of the study and are well-developed and articulated
 - e. Issues regarding district and participant confidentiality are sufficiently addressed throughout the research process and subsequent publication
3. Research findings expected to support education in Volusia County Schools
 - a. Research is significant to education and aligned with Volusia County Schools strategic plan goals and focus areas
 - b. The potential benefits to participants and Volusia County Schools outweigh the nature and degree of interruption
 - c. Potential risks to participants are minimal and clearly communicated through consent and assent forms
4. VCS Application Requirements
 - a. All required sections are complete and supporting documentation provided
 - b. Obtained unconditional Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval
 - c. Dissertation/Thesis student-researchers must provide a letter from the graduate advisor or chair
 - d. All research instruments and relevant documents submitted with initial application (i.e., surveys, interview protocols, assessments, etc.