

Awareness Communication: Research Ethics and Integrity

Academic Year 2025 – 2026

Date: Tuesday, February 03, 2026

To: All KFUPM Faculty, Researchers, and Students

cc: KFUPM President, Vice President for Research and Innovation, Vice President for Academic Affairs, Deans, Department Chairmen, Center Directors

The Deanship of Research would like to share awareness to maintain the research ethics and integrity across the full research and innovation process.

Responsible Research Conduct

Members of the KFUPM research community are all responsible for sustaining the highest ethical research standards on behalf of the University in the planning, conducting, and reporting of research. It reflects carrying out research with honesty, integrity, and respect for all participants. Researchers are expected to protect human and animal subjects, follow the bylaws and the University guidelines, and disclose any conflicts of interest. It also includes fair authorship, avoidance of plagiarism, accountability of reported/published work, open sharing of data when possible, and proper mentorship.

As outlined by the Deanship of Research, forms of research misconduct include, but are not limited to, :

- Fabrication, falsification, plagiarism, or misrepresentation in research
- Unsafe, negligent, or non-compliant deviations from standard research practices
- Failing to prevent harm to humans or the environment
- Unauthorized use, disclosure, or damage to research-related property
- Non-disclosure of conflicts of interest affecting research or related activities
- Facilitating misconduct through collusion or concealment of others' unethical actions
- Unethical authorship attribution practices

KFUPM members are expected, and highly encouraged, to report any suspected research misconduct, whether observed firsthand or based on reasonable belief of its occurrence. All reported research ethics and integrity non-compliance issues are first investigated by the Deanship of Research, and then can be forwarded to the University Research Ethics Committee for review and deliberations.

For more details, you can visit Deanship of Research website ([click here](#)); and for any further inquiries please email: DR@kfupm.edu.sa.

Institutional Review Board (IRB) Approval

Research involving human participants requires prior approval from the KFUPM Institutional Review Board (IRB) before beginning any data collection. The key requirements:

- All research with human participants must receive IRB approval in advance.
- Researchers are responsible for safeguarding participant rights, obtaining informed consent, ensuring confidentiality, and minimizing risks.
- Any amendments to an approved IRB protocol must be resubmitted for review and approval.
- Non-compliance with IRB requirements may affect funding eligibility, publication acceptance, and the credibility of research outcomes.
- Faculty and researchers are encouraged to consult the IRB office for guidance on proposal preparation and compliance requirements.

📄 To apply: IRB Application Link: <https://forms.gle/ujp1uHg8ezF39Giw6>

✉ For questions: IRB@kfupm.edu.sa

The University very much appreciates the efforts and research contributions and anticipates cooperation on the subject from all concerned. Thank you.

For more information, please feel free to reach out DR@kfupm.edu.sa.