

## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** November 23, 2020  
**TO:** Brett D Jones, Jesse L Wilkins, Sachiel Mondesir  
**FROM:** Virginia Tech Institutional Review Board (FWA00000572, expires October 29, 2024)  
**PROTOCOL TITLE:** The Role of Math in Black Girls' STEM Career Decision  
**IRB NUMBER:** 20-960

Based on the submitted project description and items listed in the Special Instructions section found on Page 2, the Virginia Tech Human Research Protection Program (HRPP) has determined that the proposed activity is not research involving human subjects as defined by HHS and FDA regulations.

Further review and approval by the Virginia Tech Human Research Protection Program (HRPP) is not required because this is not human research. This determination applies only to the activities described in the submitted project description and does not apply should any changes be made. If changes are made you must immediately submit an Amendment to the HRPP for a new determination. Your amendment must include a description of the changes and you must upload all revised documents. At that time, the HRPP will review the submission activities to confirm the original "Not Human Subjects Research" decision or to advise if a new application must be made.

If there are additional undisclosed components that you feel merit a change in this initial determination, please contact our office for a consultation.

Please be aware that receiving a "Not Human Subjects Research" Determination is not the same as IRB review and approval of the activity. You are NOT to use IRB consent forms or templates for these activities. If you have any questions, please contact the Virginia Tech HRPP office at 540-231-3732 or [irb@vt.edu](mailto:irb@vt.edu).

## PROTOCOL INFORMATION:

Determined As: **Not Human Subjects Research**  
Protocol Determination Date: **November 23, 2020**

## ASSOCIATED FUNDING:

The table on the following page indicates whether grant proposals are related to this protocol, and which of the listed proposals, if any, have been compared to this protocol, if required.

**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

This activity does not meet the definition of human subjects research as defined within the Federal Policy for the Protections of Human Subjects. The primary goal is to investigate the role that identification with mathematics in high school has on STEM choice with Black female students. The activity involves analyzing previously collected, de-identified data from the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) HSLs 2009. This activity meets the federal definition of research, but does not meet the federal definition of human subjects research, since data analyzed are previously collected, de-identified data, and will not involve interacting, intervening, or observing individuals.

Date*	OSP Number	Sponsor	Grant Comparison Conducted?

\* Date this proposal number was compared, assessed as not requiring comparison, or comparison information was revised.

If this protocol is to cover any other grant proposals, please contact the HRPP office ([irb@vt.edu](mailto:irb@vt.edu)) immediately.