

Did you know...

The ethical duty of confidentiality refers to the obligation of an individual or organization to safeguard entrusted information. The ethical duty of confidentiality includes obligations to protect information from unauthorized access, use, disclosure, modification, loss or theft. Fulfilling the ethical duty of confidentiality is essential to the trust relationship between researcher and participant, and to the integrity of the research project. (Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans (TCPS2-2018), Chapter 5 – Privacy and Confidentiality, page 58).

The Brandon University Research Ethics Committee (BUREC) requires a confidentiality agreement with “other persons involved in data collection” beyond the Principal Investigator or Co-Investigator. This may include (but is not an exhaustive list), a research assistant, student, translator, or transcriber. When submitting an ethics application, the researcher is required to list the “other persons involved in the data collection”, and also include the confidentiality agreement template as an appendix to the application. A common question received is whether the BUREC has a template available that can be used by the researcher as a starting point when drafting a confidentiality agreement for their project. BUREC is pleased to announce that such a template is now available. Please note that this template is meant only to offer suggested format and content, and does not represent the one and only template that should be used.

The “Confidentiality Agreement – Research Assistant – Template” can be found on the BUREC webpage under “Policies, Standard Operating Procedures and Other Resources”:

<https://www.brandonu.ca/research/committees/burec/policies/>

BUREC Policies and Standard Operating Procedures, application and report forms, and other resource information can be found on the BUREC webpage at www.brandonu.ca/burec.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact BUREC at burec@brandonu.ca.