Research Participant Payments

Certain study participants are eligible for compensation for taking part in IRB approved studies. Some members of the UT community are prohibited from receiving compensation for study participation.

It is preferable that studies conducted on campus use cash as a participant reward. Compensation in the form of gift cards should only be used when participants will be taking part in a study from a location that is not on campus.

Both cash and gift card compensation require the submission and approval of a Participant Study Cash Advance form which require the IRB compensation page and PI signature.

If you would like to submit a request for a cash advance, please complete a Participant Study Cash Advance form and email to Laura Meitz: lmeitz@austin.utexas.edu.

Paying participants that are employee’s of UT:

Participants who are UT employees may now be compensated with either cash or gift cards. Compensation in the form of gift cards should only be used when participants will be taking part in a study from a location that is not on campus. Participants that are UT employees need to sign an “Individual Receipt Form” and should not sign the Multiple Participant Receipt Form.

TangoCard:

UT Austin allows for paying research participants, including UT employees, via TangoCard, an electronic gift card service provider. Participants receive an email notifying them that they have an electronic gift card to claim in the amount designated by the PI / study coordinator. Read more about compensating participants with TangoCard here.

Additional Resources:

Cash Advance Request Flow Chart
Participant Compensation Flow Chart
Multiple Participant Receipt Form*UT employees should not sign this form
Individual Participant Receipt Form

HBP Part 9.1.7 Advances for Research Subjects and Study Participants