

Participate eligibility policy – <https://participate.mqmentalhealth.org>

1. All study submissions to the Participate website must comply with the eligibility criteria set out below.
2. Compliance will be assessed by a member of the MQ Research Team upon study submission, with reference to the CEO and Research Committee as necessary. The decision of the MQ Research Committee is final.
3. Researchers who are submitting a study may be required to supply further information relevant to the eligibility criteria. Failure to do so may result in a study being deemed ineligible.
4. Researchers should note that Participate is a UK-focused study recruitment platform, which means we market the site to prospective participants primarily through UK channels. While some international studies may be accepted onto the site, this is for the purposes of recruiting UK participants.
5. Researchers should note that the minimum age for participation in studies featured on the site is 16.
6. Researchers should note that there is no limit imposed on how many studies in which a single individual can participate.
7. MQ reserves the right to restrict the number of studies featured on the site from the same institution and/or targeting the same recruitment population.
8. Researchers are referred to the [terms and conditions](#).
9. **For a study to be eligible for inclusion on the Participate site it must:**
 - a) Be relevant to a mental health issue(s).
 - b) Have documented ethical approval from a UK Health Research Authority registered committee or a university ethics committee (or an international equivalent).
 - c) Be run by a UK based academic institution or NHS trust (except for international studies where UK participants are required – see point 4).
 - d) Be conducted by a researcher who is at post-doctoral level or above, or be conducted as part of a project with a named Principal Investigator.
 - e) Be funded from a non-commercial source.
 - f) Provide a registry number (clinical and drug trials only)
 - g) Be reviewed by the MQ CEO (clinical and drug trials only)
10. **A study is not eligible if it:**
 - a) Does not disclose its funding source.
 - b) Does not have ethical approval from an HRA-registered committee or university ethics committee.
 - c) Is being run by a private individual or company
 - d) Is being run for commercial gain
 - e) Is an academic study funded or commissioned from a commercial source or industry group.
 - f) Is being run by an undergraduate or postgraduate student.
11. All study submissions to the Participate website will be required to supply the following information:
 - A short lay title for the study to be shown on the website
 - The study type (in person/ online/survey/interview)
 - Conditions under study
 - Participant eligibility requirements (including minimum and maximum age)
 - Participant time requirement
 - Recruitment target and end date

- Any financial incentives/expenses/travel costs
- Evidence of ethical approval
- Funding source and study sponsor