

YOUth add-on study protocol

YOUth fosters interdisciplinary collaboration and team science in research on child development by enabling joint data collection. We have developed the **YOUth Participant Platform (YPP)**, which allows additional *online* data collection among YOUth participants and their parent(s)/caretaker(s) who have indicated that they are willing to participate in extra studies in between measurement waves.

YOUth now welcomes add-on studies through the YPP in the form of online questionnaires, online tasks, and online mini games that measure predictors and outcomes of brain- and behavioral development of babies, children and adolescents.

To apply for an add-on study, researchers need to first [contact the YOUth Logistics Manager](#) to discuss your proposal. If the Logistics Manager concludes that the add-on study is feasible, the next step is to fill out [this form](#). Based on the information provided in the form, the proposed add-on study will be evaluated by the YOUth Management Team (MT). If the MT considers the proposed project to meet all criteria, Work Package 1 of the Consortium on Individual Development (CID WP1) will review the provided information about the proposed project. If they evaluate the proposed study positively, the project will be accepted 'in principle' by the MT. However, formal acceptance is conditional on approval by the Utrecht University Faculty of Social Sciences Faculty Ethical Review Board (FERB). The YOUth Logistics Manager will send an e-mail to let the researcher know if the proposal has been accepted, and if so, what follow-up actions are required.

YPP add-on studies will be submitted to the FERB as an amendment to the general YPP protocol. The amendment must be written in consultation and in collaboration with the [YOUth Ethical Review Policy Advisor](#). The amendment will be submitted to the FERB by the same YOUth Ethical Review Policy Advisor. Responsibility for mid-term and annual reports of add-on studies lies with YOUth, but input for the reports must be provided by the Principal Investigator of the add-on study. The study files, including backups of the digital Informed Consent forms will be stored and archived by YOUth.

The application must meet several terms and conditions:

1. The add-on study must fit within the YOUTH framework protocol as approved by the Medical Ethical Research Committee (MERC NedMec). The latest protocol version can be obtained from the [YOUTH Ethical Review Policy Advisor](#), or see the cohort profile paper - [The YOUTH study: Rationale, design, and study procedures](#).
2. The add-on study must fit within the YPP research protocol as approved by the Utrecht University Faculty of Social Science Faculty Ethical Review Board (FERB). The latest protocol version can be obtained from the [YOUTH Ethical Review Policy Advisor](#).
3. The add-on study must provide its own (digital) information letter and consent form.
4. The study must provide its own (digital) debrief letter, if applicable.
5. The add-on study must be hosted on the YPP, for a pre-defined period and a pre-defined participant group.
6. The materials for the add-on study, including questionnaires, tasks, and games must be provided by the add-on study applicant in accepted format. Questionnaires must be programmed in Qualtrics; other types of measurements must be discussed with YPP developers before a formal proposal is submitted. Additional programming costs may apply.
7. The compensation for study participation for participants (€0.10 per minute or €6 per hour) will be billed to the add-on study applicant based on subsequent calculation (a maximum can be set). Compensation should be *rounded up* to the nearest €0.50 (e.g. 22 minutes = €2.20 to €2.50, or 47 minutes = €4.70 to €5.00). A contract regarding the compensation fee needs to be signed before the study will be activated.
8. Data collected through the YPP will be saved, stored, and archived by YOUTH; add-on study applicants can obtain access to the add-on study data through the regular [YOUTH data access procedure](#) following the [YOUTH Data Access Protocol](#). This is because data collected through the YPP constitutes data from YOUTH participants, and data collected from YOUTH participants must be stored and managed according to the YOUTH Data Management Plan and Data Access Protocol. Another reason is practical in nature: no other data than gender and month of birth

are stored in the YPP. Therefore, the add-on study researchers will need to request additional data anyway from the participants who completed the add-on study to be able to conduct analyses.

9. The collected data will also be made available to third parties, also following the YOUth Data Access Protocol. Add-on study applicants can negotiate an embargo period on access to the add-on study data with the YOUth Management Team.
10. The add-on study must employ [YOUth's Standard Operating Procedures](#) (SOPs) when applicable (e.g. SOP on incidental findings).
11. The add-on study (including information letter and consent form, and debrief letter) must be approved as an amendment to the YPP research protocol by the FERB. The latest protocol version can be obtained from the [YOUth Ethical Review Policy Advisor](#).

Below, you will find the FERB list of question types that should in principle be **avoided**. However, for question types a-i and o, YOUth may consider submitting well-founded proposals to the FERB. YOUth will not consider proposals with question types j- n and p-u. Please note that some data is already available from most participants, including ethnic origin (question type f).

- a. Inquiries into their sexual behavior or orientation;
- b. Inquiries into drug use (also alcohol, smoking, soft drugs);
- c. Assessment of delinquency;
- d. Inquiries relating to religious or philosophical belief;
- e. Inquiries relating to political opinions;
- f. Inquiries into ethnic origin;
- g. Inquiries into trade Union membership;
- h. Inquiries into violent experiences;
- i. Inquiries into personal health;
- j. Inquiries into criminal convictions and offences;
- k. Shocking images/videos;
- l. Deception (information letter does not state real study objective);
- m. Physical pain (electrical/ thermal shocks, noise);
- n. Following orders behaviorally (by force, or outside the context of the lab with possible harmful consequences for the participant or his/her social environment);

- o. A new technique for data collection;
- p. Photo data;
- q. Video data;
- r. Biological material (buccal, blood, hair);
- s. Genetic data;
- t. Biometric data (fingerprint, iris or retinal scan, voice recognition and face scan);
- u. Directly identifying data (name, address, date of birth or a combination of those items).