

Using the AOSW Listserv to Recruit Participants for Research Studies

AOSW allows members to solicit participants for approved research projects by advertising on the AOSW Listserv. The listserv has the potential to reach (over 1,000) oncology social workers in all parts of the country. Our membership includes oncology social workers in many different settings and types of practice.

Before posting an advertisement to the AOSW Listserv, the researcher must submit the study for review to the Research Director. The first step is to obtain a copy of the application form. You can contact the Research Director directly through email, or obtain a copy on the AOSW website under the Research section ([click here](#)). The application asks for a description of the proposed study, the membership status of the Principal Investigator, how the study furthers AOSW goals, and how the results will be disseminated to AOSW members. Copies of IRB approval, any surveys or interview guides, the CV of the applicant and recruitment announcements must be attached.

After the application (with attachments) is sent to the Research Director, it will be circulated to the Research Committee members for approval. When approved, the proposal then goes to the AOSW Executive Committee. If approved by both committees, the researcher will be notified and put in touch with the Communications Director to arrange for the Listserv announcement to be posted.

The researcher with an approved proposal is also allowed to post one original announcement and no more than one follow-up or reminder message. Because AOSW is committed to protect membership from unlimited emails, no additional reminders are permitted. The response rate varies widely, from depending on the nature of the study. Surveys on the AOSW listserv generally have a response rate between 5% and 35%, (~50 – 350).

AOSW RESEARCH COMMITTEE

RESEARCH APPLICATION FORM

1. Project Title_____

2. Principal Investigator_____

AOSW Member? ___Yes ___No (If not, name of a study co-investigator who is an

AOSW member _____) (Please attach cv of investigator.)

3. Study purpose, hypotheses and/or study questions. (In stating the purpose, show how this advances the AOSW Strategic Plan.)

4. Study Methodology (Include how you plan to use the AOSW Listserv, the study design, how you plan to analyze the data.) (Please attach study instrument)

5. Has the study been approved by an IRB? (Please attach letter and consent form)

___Yes Date of approval_____

___No (explain)

6. After the study is complete, how will you share the results with the AOSW membership?