

REC: Social, Behavioural and Education Research (REC: SBE)

MEETING DATES: 2026

NOTE: Please consult your Faculty or Department Ethics Screening Committee coordinator for internal submission and review dates to prepare your submission for a REC meeting.

REC AGENDA CLOSING DATE FOR MEDIUM AND HIGH-RISK PROJECTS	REC REVIEW MEETING DATES FOR MEDIUM AND HIGH-RISK PROJECTS
29 January	19 February
05 March	26 March
02 April	30 April
07 May	28 May
04 June	25 June
02 July	23 July
06 August	27 August
03 September	23 September
01 October	29 October
29 October (final DESC Submissions from DESC)	26 November (final REC meeting)

Important notes:

- 1) Research Ethics applications may require initial review by a Faculty or Department Ethics Screening Committee (FESC/DESC) before it is submitted to the REC. DESC review times may vary. It is the researcher's responsibility to contact their relevant DESC/FESC for information about department specific deadlines and review turnaround times: [DESC process and DESC contact details](#).
- 2) Medium and High-risk applications must be submitted to the REC office by the agenda closing date. Late submissions will stand over to the next scheduled meeting.
- 3) Please allow enough time for the DESC or REC review process. Researchers may not commence with recruitment and data collection until ethics clearance is confirmed by a DESC (for low-risk projects) or the REC (for medium or high-risk projects). The REC (and by extension the DESC) cannot grant ethics clearance retrospectively.
- 4) Kindly note that the **REC does not convene for review activities in December (2026) and January (2027)**. Applications submitted after the **final submission deadline (29 October 2026)** will stand over to the first meeting of the REC: SBE convened in the last week of February 2026.
- 5) For general enquiries and advice about the REC process, please contact RECSBE Office at: applyethics@sun.ac.za / 021 808 9185