The Board recognizes that research can have a valuable role in fostering a culture of innovative education in the District. To that end, the Board directs the President/Superintendent to establish appropriate procedures that may encourage such activities in a manner mindful of the District Mission (BP 1200) and that are respectful to the students, faculty, and staff of the college community.

To assist in this task, the Board acknowledges the variance in research methods, purposes, and outcomes. It thus defines the following categories of research projects to assist in the development of comprehensive procedures:

1. “Internal research” represents projects undertaken for the primary purpose of improving outcomes for students in the District via review of policies, procedures, or practices or investigation of potential adjustments to the above. While this research may be disseminated via external presentations, publications, or other mediums, the goal for such projects must be the development of actionable recommendations for District operations.

2. “Academic research” represents projects undertaken for the primary purpose of the author(s) contributing to the field of knowledge in a given academic area (typically through dissemination via publications or submitted assignments). While this research may provide incidental benefits to the District, there is no obligation for such projects to yield actionable recommendations.

See Administrative Procedure 3251