Participant Rules

Registering for our subject pool database does not commit you to taking part in any experiments; however, it allows GaEL researchers to invite you to take part in experiments. You will receive invitations to experiments via email. Only people who have signed up for an experimental session may participate in that session.

Before the Experiment

Please bring a form of identity (your University of Glasgow student/staff card, driving license, passport or other recognized photo ID) to all experimental sessions. Without it, you will not be allowed to take part and will not receive any renumeration.

Please arrive at least 5 minutes before the start of the session you signed up for. Once you have confirmed your participation, it is very important to participate in the experiment on time, as failing to do so may endanger the conduction of the experimental session you signed up for.

Participants who repeatedly fail to show up for experiments may not be invited for further experiments, and/or may be removed from the subject pool database and disqualified from future participation.

If you cannot make the start time for a session for any reason, please ensure that you deregister online at least 24 hours before the start of the experiment. If you fall ill within 24 hours before the experiment or are unable to attend due to exceptional circumstances, please notify us at asbs-gael@glasgow.ac.uk as soon as possible so we can arrange a replacement participant.

If more participants arrive on time than are required or the experiment requires a specific number of participants (e.g., some experiments require groups of four participants), the experimenter will select participants to be included. Non-selected participants will be sent away and will receive a show-up fee of £5.

If you arrive late and the session has already started, do not attempt to enter the laboratory or knock on the door. Doing so will disrupt the session. Late participants are not entitled to a show-up fee.

During the Experiment

In each session, each participant will receive a show-up fee of £5, which is the minimal payment. The total average payment, however, will be significantly higher. The exact total amount you will earn depends on the duration of the experiment. In addition, the payment usually depends on your own decisions and sometimes also on other factors, e.g., the decisions of other participants or luck.

When in the laboratory, always obey the instructions of the experimenters and laboratory staff. Failure to do so may lead to you being asked to leave the laboratory and you might be removed from the subject pool as well as disqualified from future participation.

While in the session, unless you are otherwise instructed, please remain silent and do not communicate with other participants. If you have a question, raise your hand and wait for an experimenter to come to you.

After the Experiment

The monetary renumeration will be paid to the participants via their bank accounts. After a completion of an experiment, GaEL Lab Officer will share the necessary payment information with the UofG Finance Department, which shall process the payments within 30 days given no unforeseen delays.

General

Participants in our subject pool must be 18 years of age or older.

Upon signing up to the subject pool, you will be asked to input your banking information in MyCampus if you are a UofG student or provide it directly to us if you are not a UofG student. This is done for purposes of paying out experimental earnings. It is your responsibility to immediately inform us in case your banking information changes.

Please record your personal data accurately in the database. If you notice an error, contact us on asbs-gael@glasgow.ac.uk. Participants with inaccurate personal data may be removed from the database.

Participants may only maintain one identity (i.e., account) in the subject pool database. Participants who maintain multiple identities may be removed from the database and disqualified from future participation.

You may remove your details from the subject pool database and your banking information if you provided it directly to us at any time. To do so, contact asbs-gael@glasgow.ac.uk.

If you do not sign in to your GaEL subject pool account for two years, we shall delete your details from the database together with your banking information if it was provided directly to us.

If the renumeration for the experiment will not be in monetary form but, e.g., via vouchers, the value of it has to correspond to what the participants would on average earn if the payment was done in a monetary form. In case an experiment uses such type of renumeration, this will be communicated to participants already in the experimental invitation.

Payments will be made to participants gross, it is the individuals responsibility to deal with any tax or government benefit implications.

Participants should consider whether the payments they receive are reportable to HMRC, and/or to DWP if they claim benefits. There is some useful guidance on the Low Income Tax Reform Group on the following website,

https://www.litrg.org.uk/working/self-employment/trading-allowance

These rules may be updated from time to time. We will notify you of major changes.

Last updated on 2.5.2025