**Genomics Application Procedure**

In order to access the Autism Speaks Genomics Program (including MSSNG), the Researcher must apply for and receive approval for access to the program in accordance with the following procedures.

**Step 1: Completion and Submission of Researcher Application and GPAA**. Submit the completed Researcher Application and signed GPAA via the Autism Speaks Genomics Application System (available at <https://science.grants.autismspeaks.org/genetics/login.php>).

**Step 2: Review by the Coordinating Center (Autism Speaks).** The Coordinating Center will review the Researcher Application to confirm that the application is complete and the GPAA has been properly completed. The application will be assessed to ensure the Research Project is feasible given the AS Genomics ProgramResources available, that the Research Project has scientific validity, and that the scope is relevant to ASDs or related conditions. The Research Team should include an individual that has expertise with ASD and/or related neurodevelopmental conditions on their application

**Step 3: Review by the DACO (Data Access Compliance Office; Centre of Genomics and Policy; McGill University, https://www.genomicsandpolicy.org/).** The Researcher Application and GPAA will then be submitted by the Coordinating Center to the independent DACO for review. This committee is comprised of a minimum of five (5) members:  one autism research expert, one legal/ethical expert, one expert on the legal/ethical aspects of pediatric research, one bioinformatics/privacy expert, and one member of the autism community, in each case appointed by the DACO.  Additionally, AS may appoint one Consultant representative. The DACO will have the discretion to approve or deny a Researcher Application based on ethical, scientific, programmatic or other relevant considerations.

**Step 4: Notification of Decision.** The DACO will submit its decision to the Coordinating Center as to whether a Researcher Application is approved, conditionally approved, incomplete or denied. The Coordinating Center will forward the decision letter to the Researcher who may have the opportunity to provide updates to their application as requested by the DACO