Research participation

If you are interested in participating in paid research studies in the CLPS Dept., you can create a participant account in the online study management system we use, Sona. If you already have an account but cannot see paid studies, log in you your Sona account, go to My Profile, click the Change Courses button, and add 'Not Applicable – Not in any course' to your course list.

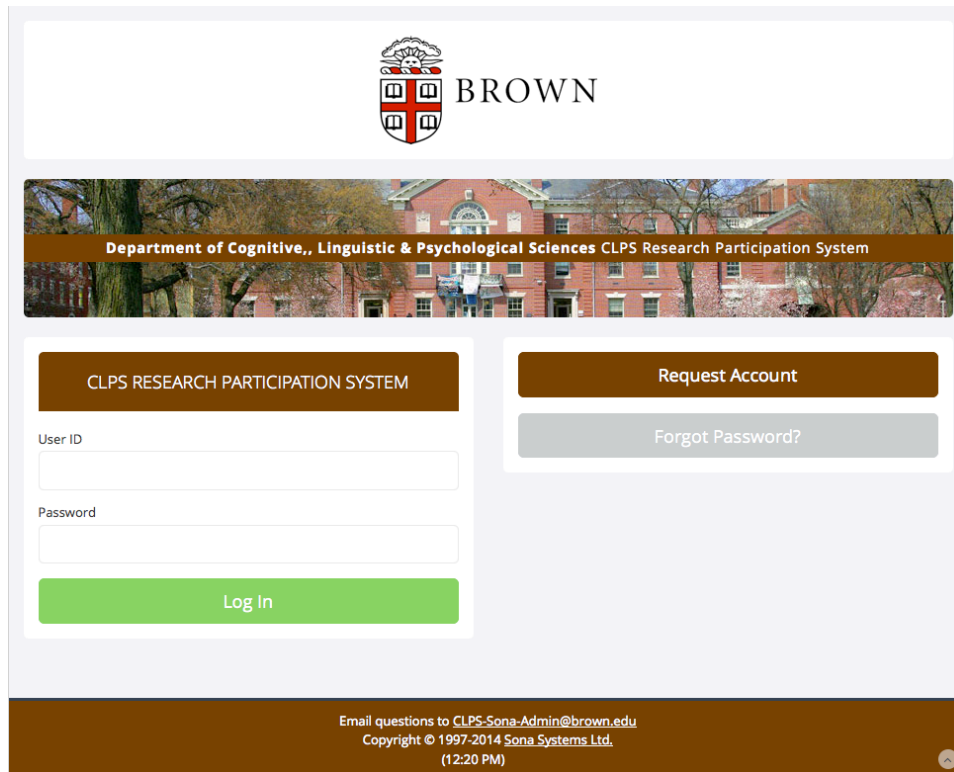To create an account, please go to http://brown-clps.sona-systems.com/, which looks like this:

fig 1

All messages from the Sona participation system will be sent to the email address you specify; it does not need to be a Brown email address. At the bottom of the account-information box is a menu of courses; select 'Not Applicable – Not in any course.' (During the fall and spring semesters there will be real courses listed here for students to participate in the CLPS Dept subject pool for course credit.) When you have entered all of your information, click the Request Account button only once.

Once Sona has set up your account, it will send you email with login instructions including a password. When you login, you will be asked to acknowledge the human subject's rights information, and then you will see a screen like this:
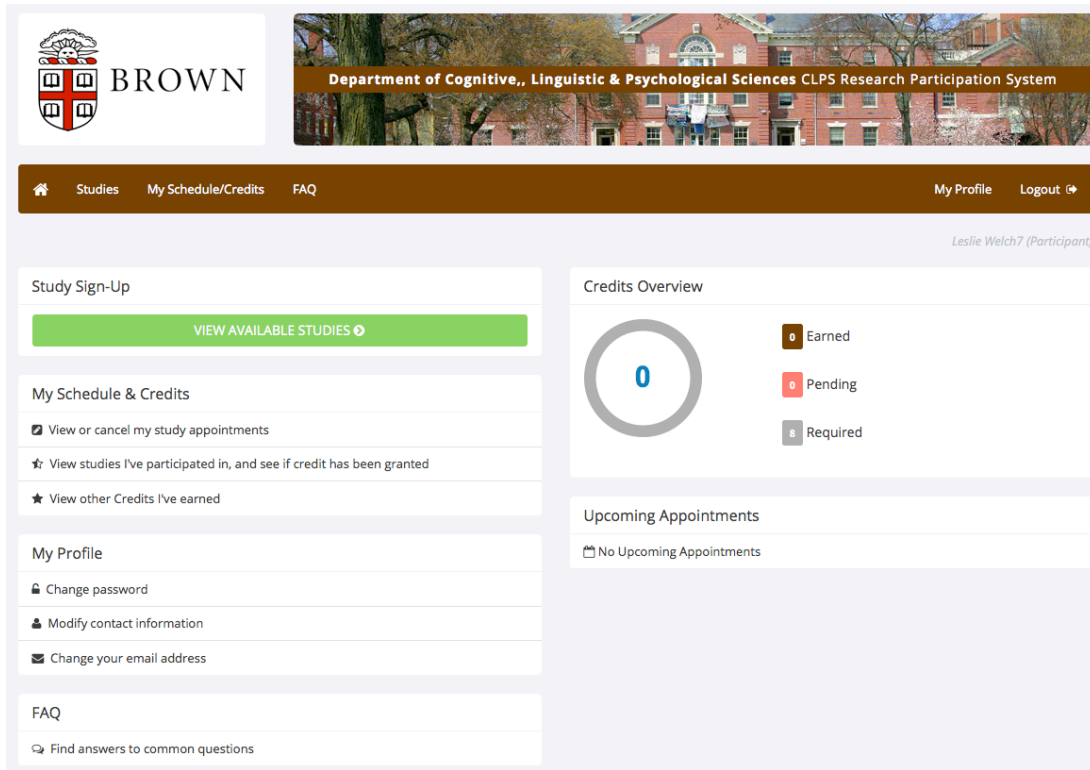
fig 2

There are links along the top (e.g. Studies) that are available from any page. There are also links in the body of the main page that provide a little more information (fig 2). There is a FAQ available that I will add to as new questions come up. There is also a logout button on the upper right.

HOW TO: Change your password or email address
Click on 'My Profile' either at the top or in the body of the main page. Type in the changes you want to make and click the 'Update' button at the bottom.

HOW TO: Sign up for studies
Click on the green button labeled 'VIEW AVAILABLE STUDIES' on the home page (fig. 2) or 'Studies' at the top of any page.

fig 3

Study names and a brief description along with any requirements (e.g. normal or corrected-to-normal vision) by the label 'Eligibility' (fig 3). Only studies with available time slots will be visible. Click on either 'Timeslots available' or study name (e.g. Guessing Game) to see more information about the study. At the bottom of the study description page there is a green button labeled 'View Time Slots for This Study.' You will be sent an email to confirm your sign-up and another to remind you the day before your time slot. If you discover that you cannot keep your appointment, please login to Sona and cancel it. If the time is past when Sona accepts cancelations, please contact the researcher directly to say you cannot make your appointment.

HOW TO: View your current study schedule and your credits awarded
Click on 'My Schedule/ Credits' at the top or 'My Schedule & Credits' on the home page. The screen shot below shows what information is provided (fig 4). **IF YOU CANNOT KEEP AN APPOINTMENT YOU HAVE SIGNED UP FOR**, **PLEASE CANCEL IT**. If you do not cancel your time slots, you waste the researchers' time, and you prevent other students from finding time slots they can use. If you simply do not show up more than 3 times, you will receive an irate warning email that further no-shows will result increasingly irate email warnings.

fig 4

Check the FAQ (home page, fig 1) if you have more questions. If you do not find an answer to your question, direct your query to CLPS-Sona-Admin@brown.edu.