

Consent For A Minor To Act As A Human Participant Parent/Legal Guardian permission form

[This is a template for the long form for obtaining informed consent/permission from a parent or guardian for a child’s participation in research. Insert your information in the bracket areas as indicated and remove the directions from the template in each section].

Project Title:

Principal Investigator:

Participant's Name:

What is the study about? [This section should include a statement that the study involves research, the purpose of the study, and how their child will be involved.]

Why are you asking my child? [The reason for selecting their child; inclusion/exclusion criteria]

What will you ask my child to do if I agree to let him or her be in the study? [The procedures to be used and identification of any procedures which are experimental, the expected duration (time) of the child’s participation, and any anticipated follow-up should be discussed. Any procedure which is likely to cause stress, pain (physical, psychological, or emotional), or any other unpleasant reaction should be described so that the parent/guardian understands fully to what they are consenting.]

Is there any audio/video recording of my child? [This section should describe any plans to use audio/video recording if it is applicable to the project proposed (section should be omitted if there will be no audio/video recording). It should include the statement “Because your child’s voice will be potentially identifiable by anyone who hears the tape, confidentiality for things said on the tape cannot be guaranteed although the researcher will try to limit access to the tape as described below.”]

What are the dangers to my child? [If there are no risks to the child in this study, include the following statement: “The Institutional Review Board at Hanover College has determined that participation in this study poses less than minimal risk to participants.” Describe the risks and how the risk will be minimized. Research involving more than minimal risk must also include an explanation as to whether compensation, medical, psychological or other types of treatments are available if injury or a stressful situation occurs and at whose expense.]

If you have any concerns about your child’s rights, how they are being treated or if you have [questions about this project or benefits or risks associated with being in this study can be answered by [name of principal investigator] who may be contacted at (333) 333-3333 (you can also include your email address if you like). ]

Are there any benefits to my child as a result of participation in this research study? [Parents should be informed about direct or indirect potential benefits to their children or the absence of benefits. Be sure that your language does not guarantee any benefits (use the word “may”).

Payment and incentives are not considered “benefits” to a participant and should not be discussed within this section. If there are no direct benefits, state “There are no direct benefits to participants in this study.”]

Are there any benefits to society as a result of my child taking part in this research? [Describe any benefits to society that may result from this study. Be sure that your language does not guarantee any benefits (use the word “may”).]

Will my child get paid for being in the study? Will it cost me anything for my child to be in this study? [Costs and payments/incentives should be described explicitly, including conditions under which payments will not be given if that is the case. Describe how payments will be made if the participant elects to discontinue participation part way through the study. If there are no costs or payments involved, you may state, “There are no costs to you or payments to you or your child as a result of participation in this study.”]

How will my child’s information be kept confidential? [Describe how information will be kept confidential. For example: stored in a locked file cabinet, password protection, encryption, not identifying participants by name when data are disseminated, anonymous data collection procedures. Include a statement that reads, "all information obtained in this study is strictly confidential unless disclosure is required by law." If applicable, the researcher must add a description of any legal duty to report abuse that might supersede these confidentiality promises. For Internet Research, include this wording: “Absolute confidentiality of data provided through the Internet cannot be guaranteed due to the limited protections of Internet access. Please be sure to close your browser when finished so no one will be able to see what you have been doing." Alternatively, add security statement from commercial survey tool used for the study.]

What if my child wants to leave the study or I want him/her to leave the study?

“You have the right to refuse to allow your child to participate or to withdraw him or her at any time, without penalty. If your child does withdraw, it will not affect you or your child in any way. If you or your child chooses to withdraw, you may request that his/her data which has been collected be destroyed when possible. What about new information/changes in the study? “If significant new information relating to the study becomes available which may relate to your willingness allow your child to continue to participate, this information will be provided to you when possible.”

Voluntary Consent by Participant: [By signing this consent form, you are agreeing that you have read it or it has been read to you, you fully understand the contents of this document and consent to your child taking part in this study. All of your questions concerning this study have been answered. By signing this form, you are agreeing that you are the legal parent or guardian of the child who wishes to participate in this study described to you by XXX].

Date: Participant's Parent/Legal Guardian’s Signature

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