

# RESEARCH PARTICIPANT CONSENT FORM

## Exploring Special Education Teacher's Perception of Preference Assessments

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### **Key Information**

Please take time to review this information carefully. This is a research study. **Your participation in this study is voluntary** which means that you may choose not to participate at any time without penalty or loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled. **Your employment is not related to or influenced by your decision to (or not) in this study.**

You may ask questions to the researchers about the study whenever you would like. If you decide to take part in the study, you will be asked to sign this form, be sure you understand what you will do and any possible risks or benefits.

For this study, we hope to interview preschool teachers who work with young children with disabilities. Through this study, we hope to explore how familiar preschool teachers are with preference assessments, how often they use preference assessments, and their thoughts about using these procedures with their students with disabilities.

To be eligible for this study, participants must be a preschool teacher at a preschool in Indiana and work with at least one young child with disabilities. To help verify your eligibility for our study, you must be willing to share your Indiana school email address. We plan to enroll up to 15 preschool teachers. After consenting to participate in the study, participants will complete a demographics survey and a semi-structured interview. The first 15 participants who complete all study aspects will be eligible to receive a \$20 Starbucks giftcard. Participation in this study is not expected to exceed 2 hrs.

### **What is the purpose of this study?**

Through this study, we hope to interview preschool teachers who work with young children with disabilities. The purpose of the interview is to explore how familiar the preschool teachers are with preference assessment procedures, whether preschool teachers use these procedures, and their thoughts about using these procedures with their students with disabilities.

During the course of this study, participants will provide informed consent to participate, complete a demographic survey, and complete a semi-structured interview with a member of the research team. Participation in this study is not expected to exceed 2 hours.

You have been selected as a potential participant as you are currently (a) a preschool teacher at a high performing inclusive preschool in Indiana and (b) you work with to at least one young child with disabilities. Throughout the course of this study, we plan to enroll up to 15 preschool teachers.

### **What will I do if I choose to be in this study?**

After reviewing the consent form and providing informed consent, participants will complete a demographic survey through Qualtrics. After completing the survey, the researchers will check participant eligibility and schedule interview sessions with eligible participants. **To help verify your eligibility for our study, we will ask that you provide your Indiana school email address.** If you have a preferred email address that is not your Indiana school email address, you may provide an alternative email address to be contacted.

Participants will then complete a semi-structured interview over Zoom or another telecommunication platform. During the interview, participants will be asked questions regarding their familiarity and use with preference assessment procedures. During the interview, participants will also be provided descriptions and videos of preference assessment procedures to assess teacher perceptions of these procedures.

**During the semi-structured interview, participant responses will be video-and audio-recorded.** Video-and audio-recordings will be used to record participant's body language and verbal responses to the interview questions and videos. Audio from the interview session will be transcribed using autotranscription from the telecommunication platform. Recordings will be deleted following the completion of the study.

After completing the interview, the research team will transcribe your interview and develop an interview summary. You will be provided a Qualtrics survey to review and provide comments on the accuracy of this interview summary.

### **How long will I be in the study?**

**After providing informed consent, participation in the current study is expected to take no longer than 2 hours to complete.** Below is the anticipated breakdown for the study based on the study components.

Study Component	Expected Duration to Complete
Demographic Survey	10-20 minutes
Scheduling Interview	5-10 minutes
Virtual Semi-Structured Interviews	30 mins to 1.5 hr
Interview Summary Review	5-10 min

### **What are the possible risks or discomforts?**

The risks for participating in this study are low. Breach of confidentiality is always a risk with data, but we will take precautions to minimize this risk as described in the confidentiality section. For example, all data and videos collected throughout this study will be de-identified and stored in a Level 3-HIPAA-compliant REED folder associated with Purdue University.

### **Are there any potential benefits?**

Participation in this study may not lead to direct benefits for participants. Though, some preschool teachers may learn about preference assessment procedures from the descriptions and videos of preference assessments provided during the interview.

### **Will I receive payment or other incentive?**

Yes. The first 15 participants who complete all aspects of the study (i.e., consent form, demographic survey, and semi-structured interview) are eligible to receive a \$20 Starbucks gift card.

**Note:** According to the rules of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) payments that are made to you as a result of your participation in a study may be considered taxable income.

### **Are there costs to me for participation?**

There are no anticipated costs to participate in this research study.

### **Will information about me and my participation be kept confidential?**

All data collected throughout the study will be stored in a Level 3 HIPAA-compliant REED folder associated with Purdue University. Only research personnel will have access to the data collected.

Participants will be assigned a number and members of the research team will refer to participants by that de-identified number. At the end of the study, video- and audio-recordings will be deleted, and only de-identified data will be presented.

The projects research records may be reviewed by the study sponsor/funding agency, US Department of Education - ED, and by departments at Purdue University responsible for regulatory and research oversight.

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### **What are my rights if I take part in this study?**

You do not have to participate in this research project. If you agree to participate, you may withdraw your participation at any time without penalty.

You have the right to change your decision regarding consent at any time. If you decide to withdraw from the study, please contact David Ray Miranda at [dgmirand@purdue.edu](mailto:dgmirand@purdue.edu).

### **Who can I contact if I have questions about the study?**

If you have questions, comments or concerns about this research project, please contact David Ray Miranda through the email listed below.

David Ray Miranda  
[dgmirand@purdue.edu](mailto:dgmirand@purdue.edu)

To report anonymously via Purdue's Hotline see [www.purdue.edu/hotline](http://www.purdue.edu/hotline)

If you have questions about your rights while taking part in the study or have concerns about the treatment of research participants, please call the Human Research Protection Program at (765) 494-5942, email ([irb@purdue.edu](mailto:irb@purdue.edu)) or write to:

Human Research Protection Program - Purdue University  
Ernest C. Young Hall, Room 1032  
155 S. Grant St.  
West Lafayette, IN 47907-2114

### **Documentation of Informed Consent**

Prior to completing the demographic survey and semi-structured interview, documentation of informed consent will occur electronically through Qualtrics. The consent form will be placed within the Qualtrics survey and a downloadable copy of the consent form will be available for potential participants to download and review.

Following the consent form, participants will be provided statements related to informed consent (listed below) and will be asked to mark "yes" to indicate agreement or "no" to indicate non-agreement with the statement.

- I have had the opportunity to read the consent form and have the research study explained to me.
- I have had the opportunity to ask questions about the research study, and my questions have been answered.
- I will be offered a copy of the consent form and I will choose whether I would like to receive or not receive a copy of the consent form.

I understand that I can receive a copy of the consent form by either (a) downloading the attachment provided on this Qualtrics survey or (b) opting into receiving the consent form and providing an email in the demographics survey.

- I am prepared to participate in the research study described within the consent form.

Participants will then be asked if they consent in participating in the research study. Participants who choose to consent in this study will also be asked to type their full name and provide a signature.

Participants will then be asked if they would like a copy of the consent form emailed to them. Following the submission of the consent form, participants who opted into receiving a copy of the consent form will be emailed the consent form through the email provided in the demographics survey.