

Parent-Guardian Informed Consent Statement

Possible Selves and Self-Determination: Improving Transition Outcomes for High School Students with Learning Disabilities

KEY INFORMATION

- This project is studying the impact of a Transition Program for 10th grade students with learning disabilities on their successful transition from high school to college, technical school, or a career of their choice. The overarching goal of the study is to support research that contributes to the improvement of transition outcomes of secondary students with disabilities. This proposal addresses an area of critical need and importance in transition/secondary education: interventions that promote self-identity and self-determination (SD) and how these critical areas of adolescent development improve academic and transition outcomes.
- Your child's participation in this research project is completely voluntary.
- Your child's participation will take about 60 minutes each week of school and during regularly scheduled transition class time. No additional class is required.
- Your child will participate in one of three randomly assigned interventions: (a) Track 1; (b) Track 2; or (c) Track 3. More detailed information on the procedures can be found below.
- All of the interventions used in Tracks 1, 2, and 3 have been taught to large number of students. No risks or discomforts have been reported by teachers, parents or students who have participated in the programs. Students and teachers report high levels of satisfaction with the programs.
- Previous evaluations for the Track 1 intervention have shown that students are able to identify significantly more goals for the future as persons and learners than students who did not receive the Track 1 intervention. Studies conducted on Track 2 program components showed promise in the areas of higher-order reasoning and accessibility. In addition, in rigorous studies of the Track 3 intervention, students learned important skills in how to reach goals, overcome barriers to goal attainment, and advocate for themselves than students who did not receive the program.
- Your child's alternative to participating in this research study is not to participate.

INTRODUCTION

The Center for Research on Learning at the University of Kansas supports the practice of protection for human subjects participating in research. The following information is provided for you to decide whether you wish your child to participate in the present study. You may refuse to sign this form and not allow your child to participate in this study. You should be aware that even if you agree to allow your child to participate, you are free to withdraw at any time. If you do withdraw your child from this study, it will not affect your relationship with this unit, the services it may provide to you, or the University of Kansas.

PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

The purpose of this proposal is to examine the efficacy of a multicomponent transition intervention that will markedly improve key transition outcomes for high school students with

Rev 7/13



learning disabilities (LD) or at risk of LD and their ability to effectively apply skills and knowledge to successfully transition to post-secondary education or desired careers.

PROCEDURES

Your child will be randomly assigned to one of the following three programs: (a) Track 1; (b) Track 2; or (c) Track 3. Track 1 is based on goal theory and is intended to support students to think about what they want to be, to be like, and to do in life. These future possible selves can be academically and personally motivating and support transition planning and outcome attainment. Track 2 is an evidence-based instructional program created to support instruction and student learning through the organization of curriculum content in an understandable and easy-to-learn manner. The organizational structures and tools in this program promote accessibility and higher-order reasoning. Track 3 is a program designed to guide students through a personal goal identification process while strengthening student problem-solving skills. Teachers model and practice skills with students that foster self-determined behaviors.

We plan to use video or audiotapes of some activities to support evaluation of transition program. You have the option of having taping of your child stopped at any time. Your child will not be videotaped at your request and these recordings are not required for your child's participation in the study procedures. In addition, we will observe teachers and students in classrooms, conduct surveys with teachers and students, conduct focus group interviews with teachers, administer assessments to students and teachers, and obtain demographic data from teacher and student records.

RISKS

There are no burdens, inconveniences, pain, discomforts and risks associated with participation in the study.

BENEFITS

We expect that 10th grade students with learning disabilities will be able to transition from high school environments to either post-secondary education or engagement in a self-determined career. We expect that parents/guardians and society at large will benefit from the inclusion of students with disabilities in society as productive, independent citizens.

PAYMENT TO PARTICIPANTS

Participants will not be paid for participation in this study.

PARTICIPANT CONFIDENTIALITY

Your child's name will not be associated in any publication or presentation with the information collected about your child or with the research findings from this study. Instead, the researcher(s) will use a study number or a pseudonym rather than your child's name. Your child's identifiable information will not be shared unless (a) it is required by law or university policy, or (b) you give written permission.



Information about your child's demographics may be disclosed from school records but the information will be coded and your child's name will not be disclosed. The information will be used to analyze mediators and moderators during data analysis. Only project research staff will have knowledge of the anonymous data set. At the request of the parent or guardian, a copy of all records disclosed for the study will be provided to the parent/guardian.

Permission is granted on this date to use and disclose your child's information remains in effect for five years after the conclusion of the grant. By signing this form, you give permission for the use and disclosure of your child's information, excluding your child's name, for purposes of this study for the stated time period.

PRIVATE INFORMATION (DATA) FUTURE RESEARCH USE

Your child's identifiable information will not be used or distributed for future research studies even if your identifiable information is removed.

REFUSAL TO SIGN CONSENT AND AUTHORIZATION

You are not required to sign this Consent and Authorization form and you may refuse to do so without affecting your right to any services you are receiving or may receive from the University of Kansas or to participate in any programs or events of the University of Kansas. However, if you refuse to sign, your child cannot participate in this study.

CANCELLING THIS CONSENT AND AUTHORIZATION

You may withdraw your consent to allow participation of your child in this study at any time. You also have the right to cancel your permission to use and disclose further information collected about your child, in writing, at any time, by sending your written request to:

Michael Hock, Ph.D., The University of Kansas Center for Research on Learning, 1122 West Campus Road, JRP Hall, Rm 720, Lawrence, KS 66045, mhock@ku.edu.

If you cancel permission to use your child's information, the researchers will stop collecting additional information about your child. However, the research team may use and disclose information that was gathered before they received your cancellation, as described above.

QUESTIONS ABOUT PARTICIPATION

Questions about procedures should be directed to the researcher(s) listed at the end of this consent form.



AUTHORIZATION TO VIDEO/AUDIO RECORD STUDENTS IN THE TRANSITION CLASSROOM

I grant permission for my child to be video or audio recorded while in his or her transition classroom during the study. All video or audio taped sessions will be transcribed by researchers at the University of Kansas. Access to the recordings will be to project researchers only. The recordings will be help in a secure location at the University of Kansas until they are destroyed five years after the study ends.

Parent/Guardian Initials

PARTICIPANT CERTIFICATION:

I have read this Consent and Authorization form. I have had the opportunity to ask, and I have received answers to, any questions I had regarding the study. I understand that if I have any additional questions about my child's rights as a research participant, I may call (785) 864-7429, write to the Human Research Protection Program (HRPP), University of Kansas, 2385 Irving Hill Road, Lawrence, Kansas 66045-7568, or email irb@ku.edu.

I agree to allow my child to take part in this study as a research participant. By my signature I affirm that I am at least 18 years old and that I have received a copy of this Consent and Authorization form.

Type/Print Participant's Name

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

[If signed by a personal representative, a description of such representative's authority to act for the individual must also be provided, e.g. parent/guardian.]

Researcher Contact Information

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