

Parental Permission to Take Part in a Human Research Study

Title of research study: Measuring the effectiveness of a code camp on middle school students

Investigator: Dr. Barbara Stewart

Key Information:

The following focused information is being presented to assist you in understanding the key elements of this study, as well as the basic reasons why you may or may not wish to consider regarding your child taking part. This section is only a summary; more detailed information, including how to contact the research team for additional information or questions, follows within the remainder of this document under the “Detailed Information” heading.

What should I know about a research study?

- Someone will explain this research study to you and your child.
- Taking part in the research is voluntary; whether or not you decide to provide permission for your child to take part is up to you.
- In most cases, your child will also be asked for his/her assent to take part.
- You can choose not to provide permission for your child to take part.
- You can agree to provide permission and later change your mind.
- Your decision will not be held against you or your child.
- You and your child can ask all the questions you want before you decide, and can ask questions at any time during the study.

We invite you to take part in a research study about a science, technology, engineering, coding and math camp because your child is enrolled in the DesignYou! Code Camp. This research is being funded by the Texas Workforce Commission.

In general, your child’s participation in the research involves completing a survey after the camp about their attitudes toward science, technology, engineering, coding, and math.

There are no known risks to your child in taking part in the study. You will not receive compensation for participation.

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Detailed Information:

The following is more detailed information about this study, in addition to the information listed above.

Why is this research being done?

The purpose of this research is to explore the effectiveness of a STEM code camp program on Texas middle school children in increasing math, science, engineering, technology, and other career competencies.

How long will the research last?

We expect that your child will be in this research study for less than 30 minutes.

How many people will be studied?

We expect to enroll about 150 people per year not exceeding 500 students in this research study.

What happens if I say yes, I want to provide permission for my child to be in this research?

On the last day of the camp, participants will log onto a computer and/or tablet. Students will be asked to click on the link to the survey and fill out all questions. Students are allowed to skip questions if they make them feel uncomfortable.

What happens if I do not want my child to be in this research?

You can choose not to provide permission for your child to take part in the research and it will not be held against you or your child. Choosing not to take part will involve no penalty or loss of benefit to which your child is otherwise entitled.

A decision to provide permission or not, or to withdraw your child from the research will have no effect on their participation in the DesignYou Code Camp.

Your child's alternative to taking part in this research study is not to take part.

What happens if I say yes, but I change my mind later?

You can withdraw your permission (and/or your child may withdraw his/her assent) and leave the research at any time and it will not be held against you or your child.

If you withdraw your permission (and/or your child may withdraw his/her assent), already collected data that still includes your name or other personal information will be removed from the study record.

Is there any way being in this study could be bad for my child?

We do not expect any risks related to the research activities. If you choose to provide permission for your child to take part and he/she undergoes a negative event you feel is related to the study, please contact Dr. Barbara Stewart at 713-743-4119.

Will I or my child receive anything for being in this study?

You nor your child will receive compensation or any direct benefit for participation.

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Will being in this study help my child in any way?

There are no known benefits to your child from his/her taking part in this research. However, possible benefits to others include understanding how STEM camps can increase interest in science, technology, engineering, coding, and math in middle school students.

What happens to the information collected for the research?

Efforts will be made to keep your child's personal information private, to people who have a need to review this information. Each child's name will be paired with a code number, which will appear on all written study materials. The list pairing the child's name to the assigned code number will be kept separate from these materials. We cannot promise complete secrecy. Organizations that may inspect and copy your information include the Institutional Review Board (IRB) and other representatives of this organization, as well as collaborating institutions and federal agencies that oversee our. The sponsor of the research Texas Workforce Commission may also review research records upon request.

We may share and/or publish the results of this research. However, unless otherwise detailed in this document, we will keep your name and other identifying information confidential.

Who can I talk to?

If you have questions, concerns, or complaints, or think the research has hurt your child, you should talk to the research team at 713-743-4119 or bstewart@central.uh.edu.

This research has been reviewed and approved by the University of Houston Institutional Review Board (IRB). You may also talk to them at (713) 743-9204 or cphs@central.uh.edu if:

- Your questions, concerns, or complaints are not being answered by the research team.
- You cannot reach the research team.
- You want to talk to someone besides the research team.
- You have questions about your child's rights as a research subject.
- You want to get information or provide input about this research.