



## The School Belonging Study

Research Assent Form for Children Under 18 Years Old

**Study Title:** Associations Between Participation in Free School Meal Programs and Sense of Belonging

**Head of Study:** Rhiannon L. Smith, Ph.D. and Student Researcher: Lucie Lopez

You are being asked to be in a research study.

We the researchers are doing this study to learn about how kids feel about participation in free/reduced school meal programs and how much kids feel like they belong in school.

If you say yes to being in the study, you will be asked to answer questions about yourself. Answering the questions will take about 15 minutes.

You don't have to be in the study if you don't want to be. You can say yes or no and it's ok.

If you say yes to being in the study, you can feel good knowing that you are helping science. It is possible that answering the questions may make some people feel uncomfortable. You do not have to answer any questions that make you feel uncomfortable. Even if you say yes to being in the study, you can change your mind at any time. There will be no negative consequences for you at school or otherwise if you say no to being in the study or decide to leave the study.

Your answers to the questions will be kept private. Only the researchers will see your answers. You will not be asked to give your name, so the researchers will not know who gave the answers.

If you have questions about the study or if you think you've been hurt by being in the study, you can speak to your parents, or the researchers at email:

[rhiannon.smith@uconn.edu](mailto:rhiannon.smith@uconn.edu) or [lucie.lopez@uconn.edu](mailto:lucie.lopez@uconn.edu)



If you want to speak to someone (who isn't with the research team) about the study or about your rights in the study, you can speak with the University of Connecticut Institutional Review Board (IRB) at [irb@uconn.edu](mailto:irb@uconn.edu) or 860-486-8802.

If you click the 'I agree to be in this study' button, it means you want to be in this study.

☐ I agree to be in this study.

☐ I do not agree to be in this study.