

Attachment 1

Parental Consent Form

The Upward Bound Research Study

The U. S. Department of Education is studying the Upward Bound program to learn how the program helps students succeed in high school and prepare for college. Three research companies—Abt Associates, the Urban Institute, and Berkeley Policy Associates—were hired to do this study. The study will include more than 3,500 students across the country.

Right now more students want to be in Upward Bound than there are spaces available. So, students will be chosen by lottery to get into this program. The U. S. Department of Education is asking students entering the lottery to fill out a brief survey. Students who go through the lottery and do not get into Upward Bound may still be part of this study. These students can still participate in other programs or services. We will ask students in the study to fill out another survey two years from now. We are also asking your permission to collect some school records on your child.

What it Means to Participate

To enter the lottery to be admitted to Upward Bound, you should first complete the form below. On this form, you can indicate whether you give permission for your child to participate in this study. If you give permission, your child will complete a survey as well as the Upward Bound application. Then, the study staff will put your child's name in the lottery with other applicants. This lottery picks who will get into the program and who will not. If your child is not picked to get into Upward Bound, he or she can still try to get into other programs or services. Whether your child is in the study or not he or she still has to go through the lottery to get into Upward Bound. However, we really would like you to have your child be in the research study.

We need students to participate in this study because it will help identify ways to improve Upward Bound and similar programs. However, your child's participation is voluntary. Whether your child is part of the study won't affect whether he or she is eligible for any program or service. If you give permission, your child will be asked to fill out two brief surveys, one before the lottery takes place, and another in about two years. While completing the survey is important, there might be some survey questions your child does not want to answer. **Your child does not have to answer any question he or she does not want to.** Also, the study will ask for some of your child's school records in about two years and before your child turns 18 years old. When your child is 18, we will ask for your child's permission for any additional data collection if needed. We are asking permission for your child's Social Security number, so that we may more easily obtain your child's school records.

Privacy

Protecting your child's privacy is very important to us. The U. S. Department of Education and the companies doing the study will follow strict rules to protect your child's privacy. Your child's name, and the name of your child's school, will not appear in any reports produced for this study. Your child's answers and records will be kept private from Upward Bound and school staff, employers, friends, and family. Your child's name and Social Security number will be replaced with a different I.D. number for the purpose of this study. Any information on your child entered into a database will be stored on a secure computer network. Paper copies of your child's survey responses will also be stored securely. We will not provide information that identifies your child or your child's school to anyone outside the study team, except as required by law.

As with all data collection, there is a very small chance that someone will see your child's survey answers or school records without permission. The U.S. Department of Education and the study team have many procedures in place to protect the privacy of the data collected on your child, so we do not

