

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON CONSENT FORM
Understanding the Impact of Free Access to Computers and the Internet in Public Libraries
Local Community Business/Organization Interview

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**Please note that we cannot guarantee the confidentiality of information sent via e-mail*

Investigators' statement

We are asking you to be in a research study. The purpose of this consent form is to give you the information you will need to help you decide whether or not to be in the study. Please read the form carefully. You may ask questions about the purpose of the research, what we would ask you to do, the possible risks and benefits, your rights as a volunteer, and anything else about the research or this form that is not clear. When all your questions have been answered, you can decide if you want to be in the study or not. This process is called 'informed consent.'

PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

We want to better understand how people use free access to computers and the Internet in their public libraries for improving their educational, English literacy, and information technology job skills. We would like to interview local community business staff about their experiences using or working with people who use the Library's public access computing services

PROCEDURES

If you choose to be in this study, I would like to interview you about your experiences with using the library computers and the Internet. The interview will last about 30 minutes and will focus on how you use the free access to the library and the Internet. For example, I will ask you "Do you use the library's free computer services?" "What for?" "Have you referred customers to the library's free access to the computers and the Internet?" and "How have people benefited from using computer and Internet services at the Library?"

During the interview, you may refuse to answer any question. The interview will be audio recorded and transcribed. The audio recording of your voice will be destroyed within 6 weeks of being recorded. Only members of the research team listed above will have access to this potentially sensitive information.

