



UT Austin IRB Approved  
Protocol Number:  
Approved:

**Title of the Project:** Deaf Postsecondary Access & Inclusion Survey  
**Principal Investigators:** Jeffrey Levi Palmer, PhD & Carrie Lou Bloom, PhD, National Deaf Center on Postsecondary Outcomes, University of Texas, Austin  
**Study Sponsor:** U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs, Grant #H326D210002

## Consent to Participate in Research

### Invitation to be Part of a Research Study

You are invited to be part of a research study. This consent form will help you in choosing whether or not to participate in the study. Feel free to ask if anything is not clear in this consent document.

### What is the study about and why are we doing it?

The purpose of the study is to learn more about the access and inclusion experiences of deaf college students. We use information gathered to support the National Deaf Center's mission which is to close the substantial gaps in education and employment that exist for deaf people in the United States and its territories.

### What will happen if you take part in this study?

If you agree to take part in this study, you will be asked to take a brief online survey. You can expect to:

- Agree to participate in the study
- Answer questions about your experience
- Answer questions about yourself and your identities

### How long will this study take and how many people will be in the study?

Participation in this study will take 20 minutes and include 400 participants.

### What risks and discomforts might you experience from being in this study?

There are no foreseeable risks to participating in this study. You may experience some discomfort thinking about the obstacles and barriers that exist at your current institution.

### How could you benefit from this study?

Participants may become aware of our services and connect with us for support in getting accommodations at their institutions. Participants may learn about accommodation options previously unknown to them.

### What data will we collect from you?

As part of this study we will collect information about your experience as a deaf college student and demographics via an online survey tool.

### **How will we protect your information?**

Information that can identify you, such as the name of the institution you are attending, will be stored separately from the data collected as part of the project and not shared with anyone. We will only share institution-level results if we have at least 10 responses from your institution.

We plan to publish results of this study. To protect your privacy, we will not include any information that could directly identify you. The data that we will collect about you will not be shared with any other researchers.

### **What will happen to the information we collect about you after the study is over?**

Your name and other information that can directly identify you will be deleted from the research data collected as part of the project.

### **How will we compensate you for being part of the study?**

You will not receive any type of payment for your participation.

### **Your Participation in this Study is Voluntary**

It is totally up to you to decide to be in this research study. Participating in this study is voluntary. Your decision to participate will not affect your relationship with The University of Texas at Austin or the National Deaf Center.

You will not lose any benefits or rights you already had if you decide not to participate. Even if you decide to be part of the study now, you may change your mind and stop at any time. You do not have to answer any questions you do not want to answer.

### **Contact Information for the Study Team and Questions about the Research**

If you have any questions about this research, you may contact:

Jeffrey Levi Palmer, PhD  
512-436-0144  
jeffrey@nationaldeafcenter.org

or

Carrie Lou Bloom  
512-436-0144  
carrielou@nationaldeafcenter.org

### **Contact Information for Questions about Your Rights as a Research Participant**

If you have questions about your rights as a research participant, or wish to obtain information, ask questions, or discuss any concerns about this study with someone other than the researcher(s), please contact the following:

The University of Texas at Austin  
Institutional Review Board  
Phone: 512-232-1543  
Email: [irb@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:irb@austin.utexas.edu)

Please reference the protocol number found at the top of the document.

### **Your Consent**

By clicking the button AGREE below, you are agreeing to be in this study and affirm you are over the age of 18, are deaf or hard of hearing, and are currently attending a postsecondary institution. Please press DISGAREE, if you are do not met these criteria or close your browser.

If at any time you wish to stop participating, simply close your browser window.