

**Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University  
Parental Permission and Assent**

**Project Title:** Governor's School for Agriculture

**Investigators:** Dr. Curt Friedel, Assistant Professor (540-231-8177, [cfriedel@vt.edu](mailto:cfriedel@vt.edu))

**I. Purpose of Research**

The purpose of the study will be to evaluate the overall effectiveness of the Governor's School for Agriculture (GSA) in teaching agricultural concepts to these students, and the students learning of agriculture and leadership.

**II. Procedures**

Students participating in the GSA will be asked to share all assignments turned in to the GSA for the purpose of evaluating the program. There will not be any assignments or extra effort required beyond normal participation in the GSA.

**III. Risks**

There is no more than minimal risk when participating in this study.

**IV. Benefits**

There are no direct benefits to the student or parent. The indirect benefits relate to how the student's academic work will be used in this research as a possible means to continually improve the curriculum of the GSA. There has been no promise or guarantee of benefits that have been made to encourage you to participate.

**V. Extent of Anonymity and Confidentiality**

Protecting the student's identity is a top priority of this study. By participating in this study, your information will be kept strictly confidential. Any information that potentially could identify you or others will be coded to insure confidentiality. At no time will information be released that allows a student to be identified. At no time will the researchers release the results of the study to anyone other than individuals working on the project without your written consent. Only the research team will have access to your data. It is possible that the Institutional Review Board (IRB) may view this study's collected data for auditing purposes. The IRB is responsible for the oversight of the protection of human subjects involved in research.

**VI. Compensation**

There is no compensation for participating in this research.

**VII. Freedom to withdraw**

The student is free to withdraw from the study at any time without penalty.

**VIII. Participant's responsibilities**

The student voluntarily agrees to participate in this study and will allow completed assignments be evaluated after the GSA program has ended this summer to.

**IX. Parent's Permission**

I have read and understand the Informed Consent and the conditions of this project. I have had all of my questions answered. I hereby acknowledge the above and approve of my child participation.

\_\_\_\_\_ YES    \_\_\_\_\_ NO

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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**Student Assent to Participate**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, agree to be in a study that examines my participation in the Governor's School for Agriculture. I agree to have my completed assignments to be used to improve future classes of the Governor's School. I can decide to stop being in this study at any time without getting in trouble.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Witness: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University**  
**Informed Consent for Governor's School Participants Over the Age of 18 Years**

**Project Title:** Governor's School for Agriculture

Use this form instead of previous form if student is, or will be 18 years old while attending Governor's School.

**Investigators:** Dr. Curt Friedel, Assistant Professor (540-231-8177, [cfriedel@vt.edu](mailto:cfriedel@vt.edu))

**I. Purpose of Research**

The purpose of the study will be to evaluate the overall effectiveness of the Governor's School for Agriculture (GSA) in teaching agricultural concepts to these students, and the students learning of agriculture and leadership.

**II. Procedures**

You will be asked to share all assignments turned in to the GSA for the purpose of evaluating the program. There will not be any assignments or extra effort required beyond normal participation in the GSA.

**III. Risks**

There is no more than minimal risk when participating in this study.

**IV. Benefits**

There are no direct benefits to you for your participation. The indirect benefits relate to how the student's academic work will be used in this research as a possible means to continually improve the curriculum of the GSA. There has been no promise or guarantee of benefits that have been made to encourage you to participate.

**V. Extent of Anonymity and Confidentiality**

Protecting your identity is a top priority of this study. By participating in this study, your information will be kept strictly confidential. Any information that potentially could identify you or others will be coded to ensure confidentiality. At no time will information be released that allows a student to be identified. At no time will the researchers release the results of the study to anyone other than individuals working on the project without your written consent. Only the research team will have access to your data. It is possible that the Institutional Review Board (IRB) may view this study's collected data for auditing purposes. The IRB is responsible for the oversight of the protection of human subjects involved in research.

**VI. Compensation**

There is no compensation for participating in this research.

**VII. Freedom to withdraw**

You are free to withdraw from the study at any time without penalty.

**VIII. Participant's responsibilities**

I voluntarily agree to participate in this study and will allow completed assignments be evaluated after the GSA program has ended this summer.

**IX. Participant's Permission**

I have read and understand the Informed Consent and the conditions of this project. I have had all of my questions answered. I hereby acknowledge the above and give my voluntary consent:

\_\_\_\_\_ YES    \_\_\_\_\_ NO

\_\_\_\_\_  
Participant Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date