

**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)

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, assessments, and reflections completed, for 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 and learning experiences, 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. Should you have any questions or concerns about the study's conduct or your rights as a research participant, or need to report a research-related injury or event, you may contact the Virginia Tech Institutional Review Board at irb@vt.edu or (540) 231-3732.

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. I hereby acknowledge the above and approve of my child participation. By typing or drawing my signature below, I acknowledge that it is my intent to electronically sign this document and agree to the use of electronic records for the purposes provided herein.

Parent Signature

Date

_____ YES _____ NO

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, assessments, and reflections 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. By typing or drawing my signature below, I acknowledge that it is my intent to electronically sign this document and agree to the use of electronic records for the purposes provided herein.

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

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

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

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, assessments, and reflections completed while participating in 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. Should you have any questions or concerns about the study's conduct or your rights as a research participant, or need to report a research-related injury or event, you may contact the Virginia Tech Institutional Review Board at irb@vt.edu or (540) 231-3732.

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, assessments, and reflections 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. By typing or drawing my signature below, I acknowledge that it is my intent to electronically sign this document and agree to the use of electronic records for the purposes provided herein.

_____ YES _____ NO

Participant Signature

Date