

Consent and Authorization

Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Literacy Study

University of Kansas

Center for Research on Learning, Division of Adult Studies

The Center for Research on Learning, Division of Adult Studies at the University of Kansas (KU) supports the practice of protection for human subjects participating in research. The information below will help you decide if you want to take part in the study. Even if you agree to take part and sign this consent, you can stop at any time. If you do chose to leave the study, it will not change the services you receive through VR. Any information about you will not be shared with anyone outside of this project in any form that could identify you. The researchers will use a number instead of your name.

What the project is about:

VR is looking at ways to improve services to all of their clients. This project is trying to find out if the extra effort to improve a person's reading and work skills is worthwhile.

What it means for you to take part:

To start with, you will be taking some tests to see how you read. These tests will take about 2 to 2 1/2 hours to complete and will be done when you begin the project and again 5-6 months later. You will receive \$20.00 the first time you take these tests and \$50.00 the second time you take them 6-8 months later.

Every 6 months, you will also be asked to fill out surveys that will be mailed to you. You do not have to complete the surveys but if you do, you will be paid \$10.00 for each. You may also be asked in the future to be interviewed by a researcher from KU about your life and your experiences with VR. You do not have to agree to be interviewed if you are asked, but if you do you will be paid \$20.00 for each interview. (If you are paid, researchers may ask for your Social Security Number in order to comply with federal and state tax regulations. This information will be for payment purposes only and will be kept private and confidential.)

If you choose, you will also attend work skills classes. The details of your individual needs and case will be discussed with your VR counselor.

You do not have to be a part of this study if you do not want to be. And, if at any time you choose to not be a part of a class you may do so without fear of future unfairness or loss of any services.

Information to be collected:

To complete this study, researchers will collect information from you and about you. This information will be obtained from: the reading tests you complete for the project, the surveys and interviews you choose to complete, your application for VR services, your CASAS reading test scores, and results from the Learning Needs Screening Tool.

Again, any information about you will **NOT** be shared with anyone outside of this project in any form that could identify you. The information from your application for VR services and the CASAS and Learning Needs Screen Tool results that are provided by VR to KU researchers will be identified by a number and not your name. Any survey or interview information will also not be identified with your name. All information collected will be kept in a secure and locked location.

You may withdraw this consent to be in this study at any time. You can also cancel your permission to use information collected about you, in writing, at any time, by sending your written request to: Dr. Daryl Mellard, JR Pearson Hall, 1122 West Campus Rd., Room 521, Lawrence, KS 66045. If you cancel permission to use your information, researchers will stop collecting information about you. But information collected before this time may be used.

The findings from this study will be available to you at the end of the project if you would like them. Please contact the project coordinator at (785) 864-7080 to request these research findings.

By signing this form I am saying that:

- **I am at least 18 years old**
- **I have read the information above or had it explained to me and have had my questions answered.**
- **I understand that if I have any questions about this project I can ask my VR counselor, call the project coordinator (785-864-7085) or contact the KU Human Subjects Committee Lawrence at (785) 864-7429 or email David Hann at dhann@ku.edu.**

With my signature I, give permission for the collection and use of the information detailed above for the purposes of this study until the end of the project's research activities and confirm that I have received a copy of this consent form to keep.

Name (please print): _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

IF PARTICIPANT IS UNDER THE AGE OF 18

I agree to allow _____ to be in this study.
(please print participant's name)

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian _____

Date: _____