# SAMPLE ASSENT FORM (13-17) FOR ANONYMOUS SURVEY

## (STUDY TITLE)

We are asking you to participate in a research project being conducted by (*name*), a (*faculty member, staff member, graduate student, undergraduate student*) in the Department of (*name*) at the University of Maine. *If the principal investigator is a student, also name the faculty sponsor, their title, and their department.* The purpose of the research is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

### What Will You Be Asked to Do?

If you want to participate, you will be asked to take an anonymous survey. It should take you about X minutes to participate.

### Risks

*Note that there is always some risk, at minimum the participant’s time and inconvenience. Listed below are examples.*

- Other than your time and inconvenience, there are no risks to you participating in this study.

***Or***

- You might be uncomfortable answering some of the questions. You can skip any questions at any time for any reason*. Provide referral resources if questions are very sensitive, e.g., depression, suicide, etc. Referral resources may include the child’s school guidance counselors, National Hotlines, etc. Either include the resources within the consent, or reference to resource information (i.e. see referral handout).*

### Benefits

***Two*** *benefit statements are required – benefit to participant (if any) and potential benefit of the research*. *Listed below are examples.* ***Note: Compensation is* not *a benefit.***

(*Most surveys do not have a benefit to participants.*)

- While this study will not have a direct benefit to you, this research may help us learn more about…

- You could learn better ways to cope with everyday stress. In addition, this research may help us learn more about…

### Compensation

*If you are not offering compensation, leave this section out.*

*List (1) the type and amount of compensation, (2) what qualifies participants for the compensation, and (3) when/how compensation is awarded.*

*Below are examples:*

***Note:******See Item #8 on checklist for additional guidance if compensation exceeds $75****.*

- You will receive $X for participating in this study. You must submit the survey in order to receive this compensation, though you may skip the occasional question. You will receive your compensation in the form of a Visa gift card via email within five (5) days of submitting the survey.

- You will receive extra class credit for participating in the survey. You must submit the survey in order to receive this extra credit, though you may skip the occasional question. If you choose not to participate in this study, alternative ways of earning this credit will be available. *Mention here what those alternatives are.*

*To ensure that the survey remains anonymous the participant must be sent to a form separate from the survey responses to enter their contact information to receive the compensation.*

### Confidentiality

We ask that you do not write your name on the survey. There will be no way for anyone to know your responses in the survey. The researchers will keep the anonymous data indefinitely on a password-protected computer. Any personal information you give to be awarded the *compensation/extra credit* will not be connected to your survey answers.

### Voluntary

You do not have to participate in this study and no one will be upset if you choose not to participate. If you want to take part in this study, you can skip any questions and stop whenever you want. *Explain whether stopping will alter compensation to be received, e.g., “… stop at any time, but you must reach the end of the survey to enter the raffle; “While you may skip the occasional question, you must submit the survey to receive compensation.”*

### Contact Information

If you want to know about this study, you can contact me at (*phone, e-mail*). You can also contact my faculty advisor at (*phone, e-mail*). If you have any questions about being a research participant, you can contact the Office of Research Compliance, University of Maine, 207-581-2657 (or e-mail [umric@maine.edu](mailto:umric@maine.edu)).

### Assent Statement

*It may be appropriate to ask for oral assent in studies where the risk is minimal i.e. educational research surveys. In these cases, researchers should document that they have received oral assent in a way they find appropriate. If oral assent is appropriate for your study, continue with the following section:*

Would you like to be in my project?

***Or***

*If documented assent from the minor participant is appropriate for your study, continue with the following section:*

I agree to participate in this study.

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Your Name (Printed) Date