

Accessing Choices in Education (ACE)

Parent Permission Form

Principal Investigators: Shannon Lasserre-Cortez

Dear Parent or Guardian,

The Yerington Paiute Tribe (YPT) Education Department is working with RMC Research Corporation (RMC) to conduct an evaluation of the implementation and impact of *Accessing Choices in Education* (ACE) program in improving educational opportunities and achievement among tribal youth during the 2021/22 school year. As part of the evaluation, we are inviting you to allow your student(s) to complete student surveys and possibly participate in a focus group.

More information about the study and opportunities for youth participation are below. Please read carefully and complete the questions at the end of the form to indicate in which aspects of the research you agree to allow your student(s) to participate.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Shannon Lasserre-Cortez, Ph.D.

Principal Investigator

RMC Research Corporation

CONSENT FORM

This consent form explains the *Accessing Choices in Education* (ACE) program evaluation. Before you decide to allow your child to be part of this study, you need to know why the research is being done, what it will involve, and the risks and benefits. You may ask the study staff to explain anything in this form or to give you more information. Please take time to read this form carefully. If you agree to allow your child to take part in this evaluation, please complete the form below.

Disclosure of financial interests: The Yerington Paiute Tribe (YPT) Education Department, the sponsor of this research study, is providing funds to RMC to conduct this evaluation.

Purpose of the evaluation: The evaluation is designed to document the implementation and impact of the ACE program during the 2021/22 school year. Results from the evaluation will be used to provide YPT more information about ACE, its implementation, and its effectiveness. Evaluation findings will be summarized in a report to YPT that includes information about implementation and outcomes.

What you will be asked to do in the study:

We are inviting your child(ren) to participate in an online student survey and possibly a focus group in the fall and spring of the 2021/2022 school year. The survey and focus groups gather information about student experiences related to ACE program activities or events as well as student outcome data in terms of what was learned and skills gained as a result of these activities and events. Student satisfaction with ACE and feelings toward school as a result of ACE will also be measured. Students will not be asked to complete any other evaluation activities.

Who is participating:

RMC expects that all 5th - 12th grade Native American students attending Yerington Intermediate School and Yerington High School, and their parents/guardians will participate in the study.

Time required:

Each survey will take approximately 20 minutes to complete. The focus group will take approximately 45 minutes to complete.

Length of participation:

The research study will take place from August 2021 through July 2022.

Voluntary participation and withdrawal:

Student participation is voluntary, and they may choose to stop participating at any time during the activities. If a student(s) decides to participate in this survey and/or focus group and then change their mind, they can stop participating in the activity. Students may also skip any question on the survey and/or in the focus group. There is no penalty if they do not participate or if they decide to withdraw from the survey and/or focus group. Once the student completes a survey and/or focus group, their answers will be incorporated into the findings.

What you should know about the evaluation:

This project is **not** an evaluation of educators or YPT Department of Education. There are no right or wrong answers.

Risks:

Participation in the evaluation poses minimal risk beyond the physical or psychological harm that is normally encountered in the daily lives of healthy persons.

Benefits:

The ACE program intends to benefit students by expanding their educational choices to meet their needs and aspirations. The study results may support implementation and use of ACE resources in YPT schools.

Incentives:

As a thank you, survey participants will have the satisfaction of helping current and future students access educational opportunities and reach their academic goals.

Confidentiality:

We want your student(s) to feel free to respond truthfully, so we will make every effort to keep the information they share with us confidential. Strict rules for data collection are enforced. Other than the research team, no one will see responses to the questions. **No individual information about your student(s) will be reported or shared with anyone. No names will be used in any reports. No questions of a personal nature will be asked. Results will only be reported for all participants. No data collected for this study will be used or distributed for future research studies.**

Exclusion: There are no exclusion criteria for this study.

New Information:

The parent or guardian and student will be notified in a timely manner if important new findings become known that may affect your student(s) willingness to continue in the evaluation.

For questions about the study or to report a problem:

If at any time before, during, or after the study you or your student(s) have questions, please contact Dr. Shannon Lasserre-Cortez, Principal Investigator at RMC Research Corporation, at (800) 762-5001 or email at shannon.lasserrecortez@rmcres.com and she will be happy to answer any questions you have. If you or your student(s) have any questions regarding your rights as a participant in the study, you may contact Solutions IRB (the organization that oversees the protection of study participants) at 1-855-226-4472 or email participants@solutionsirb.com.

Statement of Consent: By selecting, "Yes, I would like to participate in each data collection activity," I confirm the following:

- I have read this entire consent form.
- All my questions have been answered to my satisfaction.

- I understand that my child(ren) can leave the study at any time without giving a reason and without penalty, but after they have completed each data collection activity, their responses will become part of the findings.
- I agree to the collection, use, sharing, and analysis of personal information and study information collected as part of this study by the sponsor and other authorized persons and regulatory agencies as described in this form.
- I will be given a copy of this signed and dated consent form to keep.
- I understand I am not giving up any legal rights that I would otherwise have if my child(ren) were not in this study.

Authorization: Please make your selection for each study activity. Once you have made your selection, please type your name and email address when requested.

Surveys

- No, I do not want my child to participate in the survey.
- Yes, I would like my child to participate in the survey.

Focus Group

- No, I do not want my child to participate in a focus group.
- Yes, I would like my child to participate in a focus group.

Results of the research: If you would like, you will be notified upon publication of any related academic manuscripts or research results by providing your email address. Your email address will only be used for this purpose. If possible, a link will be provided for accessing the articles. Please note that some publications may require a fee for accessing articles.

- No, I do not want to receive information about results of the research.
- Yes, I would like to receive information about results of the research.

Please type or print your name and email address below. This name will only be used by the study team to track consent for participation, provide incentives, and share a copy of the consent form and results of research if you indicated interest.

Student Name: _____

Parent Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Email: _____

Date: _____