

Informed Consent
National College Health Assessment
Spring Semester 2009

The National College Health Assessment survey is a research project used to track student health outcomes, protective behaviors, risk behaviors, and perceived norms. The survey should take 25-30 minutes to complete. The survey contains items related to health behaviors such as substance abuse and sexual activity.

The National College Health Assessment will help to: generate incidence rates for a variety of health issues; plan programs; prioritize student needs; allocate resources' design programs and strategies for intervention; identify protective and risk factors to academic performance; and measure progress on the national health objectives.

You have been randomly selected to participate. The survey is confidential. You have been assigned an ID number in order for a secure Internet server to manage your online survey input. This number is imbedded in your URL address. Only the American College Health Association will hold the code linking your email to your unique ID number. Data transmission is encrypted and firewall securities are in place.

The data forwarded to the University of Maryland, College Park, will **never** have any of your personal information, such as your name, student number, or email address. While the survey period is in process, the American College Health Association will be able to link your email address and your ID number, but this link will be destroyed as soon as the survey period is over.

You must be 18 years of age to participate.

There are no foreseeable personal risks associated with participation. You may feel uncomfortable with some of the questions related to substance abuse or sexual health. You are free to withdraw from participation in the survey at any time.

Participation is voluntary. Refusal to participate will involve no penalty or loss of benefits to which you are entitled. You may discontinue participation at any time without penalty or loss of benefits.

Contact Kelly Kesler, at the University Health Center for questions about the research or research subject's rights. Kelly Kesler's email address is: kkesler@health.umd.edu and her phone number is 301.314.8129.

If you have questions about your rights as a research subject, please contact the Institutional Review Board Office, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland 20742. The email is: irb@deans.umd.edu and the phone number is 301-405-4212.