



## ***INFORMED CONSENT***

### ***TEMPLATE AND INSTRUCTIONS***

The following page contains a template for creating appropriate informed consent documents for your research studies at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College (ABAC).

#### Instructions

1. Download and save this template file to your computer.
2. Edit the document on the next page as appropriate for your study replacing all bracketed, highlighted areas with information that is pertinent to your specific study.
3. Review and modify all non-bracketed/highlighted text to ensure that it is also appropriate for your study.
4. Delete this instructions page, and save your edited document to your local computer/disk.
5. Submit the final version of your consent document with your IRB application.
6. For online surveys, include the completed consent document with the survey instructions, and make your first survey question a Yes/No: "By indicating Yes below, you are indicating that you have read the description of the study, are over the age of 18, and that you agree to the terms as described."

#### Additional Notes

1. The Code of Federal Regulations for human participant's research provides guidance on the required elements of informed consent. For further information, see <http://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/humansubjects/guidance/45cfr46.html#46.116> and click on the 2018 requirements. This template document was created to provide a general structure for researchers to address these elements.

Further modifications to the template pertaining to your particular project are needed. Please check your constructed consent form against the Federal Code above.

2. Obtaining informed consent is a crucial part of conducting research with human participants ethically. Therefore, this document is an integral part of the review of research applications. Please construct it carefully and provide all information needed to would-be participants.
3. This form is for written adult consent only; templates for minor assent and for obtaining consent for research conducted via internet are available on request,
4. Contact Mr. Scott Pierce, Director of Sponsored Programs and IRB Chair, at 229-391-4983 or [scott.pierce@abac.edu](mailto:scott.pierce@abac.edu) or the IRB at [IRB@stallions.abac.edu](mailto:IRB@stallions.abac.edu).

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## INFORMED CONSENT

*(Sample: please substitute your project information where appropriate)*

I, \_\_\_\_\_, agree to participate in the research {Name of Research Project}, which is being conducted by {name(s) of Researchers}, who can be reached at {Researcher's telephone number and/or email}. I understand that my participation is voluntary; I can withdraw my consent at any time. If I withdraw my consent, my data will not be used as part of the study and will be destroyed.

The following points have been explained to me:

1. The purpose of this study is {purpose}.
2. The procedures are as follows: you will be asked to {procedures}.
3. Your name will not be connected to your data. Therefore, the information gathered will be confidential.
4. You will be asked to sign two identical consent forms. You must return one form to the investigator before the study begins, and you may keep the other consent form for your records.
5. You may find that some questions are invasive or personal. If you become uncomfortable answering any questions, you may cease participation at that time.
6. This research project is being conducted because of its potential benefits, either to individuals or to humans in general. The expected benefits of this study include {any anticipated benefits, either to individuals or to humans in general}.
7. You are not likely to experience physical, psychological, social, or legal risks beyond those ordinarily encountered in daily life or during the performance of routine examinations or tests by participating in this study.
8. Your individual responses will be confidential and will not be released in any individually identifiable form without your prior consent unless required by law.
9. The investigator will answer any further questions about the research should you have them now or in the future (see above contact information).
10. In addition to the above, further information, including a full explanation of the purpose of this research, will be provided at the completion of the research project on request.
11. By signing and returning this form, you are acknowledging that you are 18 years of age or older.

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Signature of Investigator

Date

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Signature of Participant

Date

Research at ABAC involving human participants is carried out under the oversight of the Institutional Review Board. Address questions or problems regarding these activities to Mr. Scott Pierce, Director of Sponsored Programs and IRB Chair, at 229-391-4983 or [scott.pierce@abac.edu](mailto:scott.pierce@abac.edu), or the IRB at [IRB@stallions.abac.edu](mailto:IRB@stallions.abac.edu).

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