

Behavior Practice Coach Consent Form for Participation in a Research Study



Principal Investigators: Brandi Simonsen, Ph.D. and Jen Freeman, Ph.D.

Study Title: The Effects of Vermont Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (VTPBiS) Classroom Behavior Practice Coach Model on Teachers' Classroom Practices

Introduction

You are invited to participate in a research study to evaluate the VTPBiS Classroom Behavior Practice Coaching Model. You are being invited because you are applying to become a VTPBiS Classroom Behavior Practice Coach.

Why is this study being done?

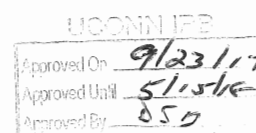
This study is being conducted to learn more about coaching supports for in-service teachers in classroom management. So far, research has taught us that typical in-service training approaches may not be the most effective ways to help teachers learn or refine their skills.

What are the study procedures? What will I be asked to do?

First, members of the VTPBiS Team will review your application materials and determine whether you meet and/or exceed readiness requirements to become a Classroom Behavior Practice Coach. Please note that if you are not selected, you will not continue to participate in this study.

If you are selected as a VTPBiS Classroom Behavior Practice Coach, you will attend planned training events. The focus of this project is to gather data on your experiences of these training events and the effects of supports you provide to teachers in the school(s) you coach. Specifically, we will ask for you to engage in the following **data collection activities**.

- **Coaching Process Data.** We will ask you to share copies of the *Coaches' Classroom Systems Self-Assessments* and *Coaching Action Plan and School-wide Action Plan* developed during the VTPBiS Classroom Behavior Practice Coach training sequence.
- **Measures of Social Validity.** At the end of each major "chunk" of training (e.g., at the end of an in-person training activity), we will ask you to complete measures of social validity (focusing on acceptability and usability). These are brief measures (~10 min) that will be completed during scheduled training time.
- **School-Wide Behavior Indicators.** We will ask you to work with your administrator to assist us with gathering school-wide behavior indicators for the years prior to and after (through 2020) the VTPBiS Classroom Behavior Practice Coaching project. School-wide behavior indicators may include:
 - Climate surveys administered by the school
 - Office discipline referral or behavior incident data (overall rates and rates in classroom settings)
 - Measures of SWPBIS implementation fidelity (e.g., Tiered Fidelity Inventory, Schoolwide Evaluation Tool, Benchmarks of Quality)
- **Teachers' Implementation of Empirically-Supported Classroom Practices.** As part of your action plan for the VTPBiS Classroom Behavior Practice Coaching Model, you will develop an evaluation plan for assessing teachers' implementation of classroom practices. We ask that you



provide us de-identified copies of these assessment data, which we will summarize by school (not by teacher). Examples of data collected may include: direct observations of teachers' classroom management performed by you or another school-based observer, teacher completed self-assessments, and related measures of teachers' implementation.

- ***Students' Classroom Behavior.*** Similarly, if you collect any data about students' classroom behavior, we ask that you provide us de-identified copies of these assessment data, which we will summarize by school (not by teacher or student). Examples of data collected may include: direct observations of student behavior linked to teachers' classroom management performed by you or another school-based observer, teacher completed self-assessments or observations of student's classroom behavior, and related measures of student behavior.

In addition, we will ask for your **assistance in recruiting teachers** to be observed, so that we can conduct more standardized direct observations of their implementation of classroom practices. Specifically, we will ask that you send out an email (using the approved language we provide) to all teachers in your building, and direct teachers to contact us with questions about this project.

What other options are there?

You always have the option not to participate in the VTPBiS Classroom Behavior Practice Coaching Model.

What are the risks or inconveniences of the study?

Although the risks associated with participation in this study are minimal, you may experience low levels of anxiety or stress during this study due to being asked to complete data collection activities. Keep in mind that you can decide to stop participating at any time without penalty. Also, your decision to participate will not affect your employment. The data collected for this study will only be used for research. Summary data may be shared with project staff, and school-wide summary data may be shared with school administrators at the end of the project, but they will not contain any identifiers.

What are the benefits of the study?

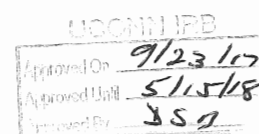
You may not benefit directly from this study; however, we hope that you will improve your capacity to support teachers' implementation of classroom practices. In addition, we anticipate that your involvement will help others in two ways. First, we hope that your data collection activities may assist you in adjusting supports for staff in your buildings, who you are coaching to increase their use of effective classroom management practices. Second, we believe that the results from this study will contribute to the literature on coaching and other supports for teachers' classroom management.

Will I receive payment for participation? Are there costs to participate?

You will not be financially compensated for participation, and there are no costs to participate.

How will my personal information be protected?

Access to all raw data will be limited to the primary data collectors and investigators. Code numbers will be assigned and used for all schools/participants on all documents once they leave school grounds. Hard copy raw data will be stored inside a locked file cabinet inside a locked office in the Department of Educational Psychology at the University of Connecticut. Electronic data will be maintained on password protected computers and in private Filelocker folders, accessed only by the researchers. A code sheet of identifying codes will be stored separately from the rest of the data, and maintained and accessed only by the researchers. All raw and electronic data will be securely stored for 3 years. Data stripped of identifiers will be stored for 5 years or as long as data



are being analyzed and published. We will do our best to protect the confidentiality of the information we gather from you but we cannot guarantee 100% confidentiality. Also, UConn employees are mandated reporters. If, during the course of this research study, a UConn employee suspects that a minor (under the age of 18) has been abused, neglected, or placed at imminent risk of serious harm, it will be reported directly to the Department of Children and Families (DCF) or a law enforcement agency.

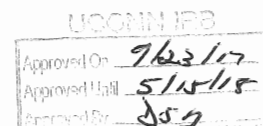
You should also know that the UConn Institutional Review Board (IRB) and the Office of Research Compliance may inspect study records as part of its auditing program, but these reviews will only focus on the researchers and not on your responses or involvement. The IRB is a group of people who review research studies to protect the rights and welfare of research participants.

Can I stop being in the study and what are my rights?

You do not have to be in this study if you do not want to. If you agree to be in the study, but later change your mind, you may drop out at any time. There are no penalties or consequences of any kind if you decide that you do not want to participate. You will be notified of all significant new findings during the course of the study that may affect your willingness to continue.

Who do I contact if I have questions about the study?

Take as long as you like before you make a decision. We will be happy to answer any question you have about this study. If you have further questions about this project or if you have a research-related problem, you may contact the principal investigator, Brandi Simonsen at brandi.simonsen@uconn.edu or 860-486-2763, or the co-principal investigator, Jen Freeman at jennifer.freeman@uconn.edu or 860-486-6855. If you have any questions concerning your rights as a research subject, you may contact the University of Connecticut Institutional Review Board (IRB) at 860-486-8802.



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Documentation of Consent:

I have read this form and decided that I will participate in the project described above. Its general purposes, the particulars of involvement, and possible hazards and inconveniences have been explained to my satisfaction. I understand that I can withdraw at any time. My signature also indicates that I have received a copy of this consent form.

Participant Signature:

Print Name:

Date:

Signature of Person
Obtaining Consent

Print Name:

Date:

Please include a copy of this page with your application materials to become a VTPBiS Behavior Practices Coach.

UCONN IPD

Approved On	9/23/13
Approved Until	5/15/14
Approved By	DSJ