

School Social Work Research Study

You are invited to take part in a research study about school social work leadership and multidisciplinary collaboration.

The researcher is inviting school social workers in the midwestern United States to participate in the study.

At the end of this email you will find a link to participate in this study. The survey will be available until September 15, 2020. This form is part of a process called “informed consent” to allow you to understand this study before deciding whether to take part.

This study is being conducted by a researcher named Megan Pendley, who is a doctoral student at Walden University. You might already know the researcher as a School Social Worker with Bellevue Public Schools, but this study is separate from that role.

Background Information:

The purpose of this study is to examine the relationship between school social work leadership qualities and interdisciplinary collaboration in the educational setting. Specifically, this study intends to explore school social worker leadership self-efficacy, or perception of capabilities, and their perception of school-based collaboration.

Procedures:

If you agree to be in this study, you will be asked to:

- **Complete a one-time electronic survey through a provided anonymous link. The survey contains two groups of Likert scale questions with a total of 71 questions. The survey will take approximately 10-12 minutes to complete.**
- **Provide non-identifying demographic information including gender, age, the highest level of education, years of experience, location of social work practice (state), primary cultural background, and length of experience in leadership positions.**

Here are some sample questions:

- **As a leader, I can inspire followers to go beyond their self-interests for the greater good.**

- **As a leader, I can motivate myself to perform at levels that inspire others to excellence.**
- **I utilize other (non-social work) professionals for their particular expertise.**
- **I view part of my professional role as supporting the role of others with whom I work.**

Voluntary Nature of the Study:

This study is voluntary. You are free to accept or turn down the invitation. There will be no consequences if you decide not to be in the study. If you decide to be in the study now, you can still change your mind later. You may stop at any time.

Risks and Benefits of Being in the Study:

There is minimal risk involved in this study, but there is the possibility of minor discomforts that can be encountered in daily life such as fatigue and stress. Being in this study would not pose a risk to your safety or wellbeing.

This study hopes to gain an understanding of the contributions of school social workers and highlight the significance of their knowledge and skillset that lend to leadership in schools. Furthermore, this research would contribute to informing school and community leaders regarding school social work practice and potential barriers to effective school-based interdisciplinary collaboration

This information may become valuable to supporting school social work practice, affirming that school social workers are essential to student success while recognizing their significant contributions made to the educational setting. It is the ultimate goal, however, to build on research to develop school-based collaborative care policies, systems, data-based decision-making protocols, and best practices.

Payment:

There is no payment for participation in this study.

Privacy:

Reports coming out of this study will not share the identities of individual participants. Details that might identify participants, such as the location of the study, also will not be shared. Even the researcher will not know who you are. The researcher will not use your personal information for any purpose outside of this research project. Data will be kept secure in password-protected databases only accessible by the researcher. No identifying

information will be requested or linked to survey responses. Data will be kept for at least 5 years, as required by the university.

Contacts and Questions:

You may ask any questions you have now. Or if you have questions later, you may contact the researcher via phone at 402-290-4042 or email at megan.pendley@waldenu.edu. If you want to talk privately about your rights as a participant, you can call the Research Participant Advocate at my university at 612-312-1210. Walden University's approval number for this study is 08-26-20-0873973 and it expires on August 25, 2021.

Please print or save this consent form for your records.

Obtaining Your Consent

If you feel you understand the study well enough to decide, please indicate your consent by clicking on the link to begin the survey.

[START SURVEY](#)