



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Summer 2019

Dear Former Connecticut High School Student,

**Your voice matters! We need your help!** The Connecticut State Department of Education would like to learn about post high school activities (education/training/work). We are asking every person who received special education services from a public school district in Connecticut and who graduated or left school during the 2017-2018 school year. We will use this information to help improve special education and transition services for current and future students.

**The survey is quick, easy, private, and important!** It will about 10-15 minutes for you to complete the survey about your post high school activities. Your answers will be confidential; no one will know your name or know your responses. You are not required to respond, but ***your answers will help other students like you!***

**We want to hear from you!** Please complete the short survey and return to us in the enclosed postage-paid return envelope. If you would prefer to complete the survey online, please visit: [REDACTED].

If you need help completing the survey, there is an instructional video that goes through each question of the survey, which can be found at <http://s.uconn.edu/psos>. Someone who knows you well can also help you complete the survey or complete the survey for you (such as a parent, guardian, family member, or other adult). **Please complete the survey in the next two weeks.**

The back of this page has more details about the survey and your rights as a participant.

Thank you in advance for your help with this important project. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact: Alycia M. Trakas at 860-713-6932 or Dr. Allison Lombardi at 860-486-2213.

Sincerely,

Alycia M. Trakas  
Education Consultant  
Connecticut State Department of Education  
Bureau of Special Education

Allison Lombardi, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor  
Neag School of Education  
University of Connecticut

To learn more about resources you can access after high school and options for both students and parents, go to:

<http://www.connect-ability.com>  
<http://www.cpacinc.org>

## Participation in the CT Post Secondary Outcomes Survey

State of Connecticut Department of Education | University of Connecticut

**Survey Coordinator:** Allison Lombardi, PhD

**Title:** 2019 Survey of Graduates or Exiters of Connecticut High Schools

### **Invitation to Participate**

This is a survey of people who received special education services in Connecticut and left high school for any reason in 2017 or 2018.

### **Purpose**

We hope to learn about your work, education, or training since you left high school to help improve special education for students still in school. The CT State Department of Education must collect this data for the state to report to the Federal government. Your response will be confidential and not linked to your name.

### **Description of Procedures**

There is a short survey in this envelope. Please complete the survey and mail it back to Dr. Allison Lombardi at the University of Connecticut in the pre-paid business reply envelope we have provided. If you would prefer to complete the survey online, please visit [REDACTED]. If you need help completing the survey, there is an instructional video that goes through each question of the survey, which can be found at <http://s.uconn.edu/psos>. Someone who knows you well can also help you complete the survey or complete the survey for you (such as a parent, guardian, family member, or other adult). It should take about 10-15 minutes to complete the survey.

### **Risks and Inconveniences**

We believe there are no known risks associated with this survey. A possible downside may be the time it takes to complete the survey.

### **Benefits**

We hope that your participation in the survey may help to improve special education and transition services in Connecticut school districts. Your responses will help other students like you!

### **Confidentiality**

Your survey has a code at the top. This allows us to track responses. **We will keep all completed surveys strictly confidential and secured in locked files.** All analysis and reporting of data will be done at the group level. No one except the researcher will know who filled out the survey. Your responses will never be linked to your name. The UConn Institutional Review Board (IRB) and the Office of Research Compliance may inspect survey records as part of its auditing program. The IRB is a group of people who review research studies to protect the rights and welfare of research participants.

### **Voluntary Participation**

It is voluntary for you to complete this survey, but your responses will help other students like you!

### **Questions**

If you have questions about this survey, you may contact Allison Lombardi at (860) 486-2213. If you have any questions concerning your rights as a person in this study, you may contact the University of Connecticut Institutional Review Board (IRB) at (860) 486-8802.