

**Evaluating the Effectiveness and Long-Term Impact of a Tobacco & Nicotine Education Program
2019-20**

UAB IRB Protocol #: IRB-300004652

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Your child's school is working with the University Of Alabama School Of Medicine in a research study about student knowledge and use of tobacco and nicotine products. The research involves conducting a survey with the students about their tobacco and nicotine product knowledge and their personal use via smoking or vaping. The survey is administered after they have had annual smoking and vaping education lessons during the school year. The survey results will help provide better tobacco and nicotine education programs for our youth.

Survey Content. The education programs are 35 – 60 minute presentations and activities given to students in grades 5 – 12. These programs will be presented and studied for 7 years (2019/2020 – 2025/2026) to determine if they appear to be effective in decreasing the rate of tobacco and nicotine product use among 5th – 12th grade students. This survey asks about:

- personal use of tobacco and nicotine products (cigarettes, cigars, dip, chewing tobacco, pipe tobacco, vaping and “JUUL” type devices), age at first use of tobacco, and frequency of use
- knowledge of key tobacco and nicotine education components including information about advertising, use misperceptions, short-term effects of use, reasons for use, and financial implications of tobacco and nicotine product use.

Attached is additional information about the survey administration. You will also find information on how to decline to allow your child to participate. If you don't want your child to participate, the teacher will take up their school-issued electronic device during the survey, and other students will be aware they are not participating.

If you have any questions about the survey administration, please contact Dr. Bill Coleman or Ms. Paula Clawson at (256) 551-4609 or paulaclawson@uabmc.edu.