

Dear Parent or Guardian,

As you may know, the charter school you applied to is participating in a study of student achievement growth in regular public and charter schools in Colorado. This study is being conducted by University of Virginia (UVA) researchers in collaboration with the Colorado Department of Education (CDE). This letter has been approved by the principal or administrator at the charter school and the Institutional Review Boards (research review boards) of the CDE and UVA.

As part of the study:

- 1) The charter school will release your name, address, email address, child's name, child's birth date, and child's lottery outcome (offered or not offered enrollment) to the UVA researchers.
- 2) A neutral third party ("Data Manager") will link files containing the above information to enrollment and test data files maintained by the CDE. The Data Manager will treat all of these data as confidential and will sign a non-disclosure agreement with both the CDE and UVA researchers. For the purpose of statistical analysis, the UVA researchers will receive files containing your child's Grade 3 Colorado Student Assessment Program (CSAP) test scores but no personally identifying information. In this way, your child will be included in the study simply by taking the CSAP tests that he or she will be required to take in third grade in 2015 (if enrolled in a public school).

You have a right to opt out of this study by completing and signing the attached form and returning it to the Registrar or Enrollment Coordinator at the charter school you applied to.

If you do not return the opt-out form, we will retain your contact information and your child's information and give this information to the Data Manager who will combine it with test data files from the CDE.

Returning the opt-out form will *not* affect your child's chances of winning the lottery and being offered admission to the charter school. Nor will it affect the way your child is viewed or treated once he or she enters the charter school or any other school.

Sincerely,

David W. Grissmer, Ph.D.  
Principal Investigator  
University of Virginia

Thomas G. White, Ph.D.  
Co-Principal Investigator  
University of Virginia

Jennifer C. Larson  
Project Coordinator  
Denver, Colorado

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**Regular Public and Charter School Study: Student Achievement Growth in Colorado Schools  
Study Opt-Out Form**

My full name (first, middle, last) is \_\_\_\_\_  
(please print)

My child's full name is (first, middle, last) is \_\_\_\_\_  
(please print)

I do not want: 1) the charter school to release my name and child's name, birth date, and lottery outcome to the UVA researchers and 2) the Colorado Department of Education to release my child's CSAP scores to a Data Manager who will provide anonymous data to the researchers.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(signature) (date)

To return this form to the charter school's Registrar or Enrollment Coordinator, you can: 1) scan and email it, 2) fax it, or 3) mail it to the school.