

## Informed Consent

**GEORGIA SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE OF BEHAVIORAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCES  
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY**

We are Sara Johnson, M.S. (Psy.D. student), and Jeff Klibert, Ph.D. (associate professor) at Georgia Southern University in the Psychology Department. The purpose of this study is to identify pathways by which veterinary students can thrive in the midst of stress as they prepare to begin their professional careers.

**Procedures to be followed:** Only individuals who are currently enrolled in a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) academic program at Auburn University can participate and receive compensation for their participation in this study. This study is survey-based. You will be asked to respond to a number of items asking about your health, experiences, and behaviors. Some of the questions are personal in nature. Specifically, we will be asking you about stressors, personal coping skills, and at-risk behaviors (i.e., self-harm). However, to the best of our knowledge, the things you will be doing have no more risk of harm than what you would expect to experience on a normal day. It is not expected that participants will be harmed by taking the online survey. If you experience discomfort, you have the right to withdraw at any time without loss of benefits.

There is no guarantee that you will get any benefit from taking part in this study. However, some people have obtained a deeper understanding of themselves, others, and the world they live in by participating in psychological research. We cannot and do not guarantee that you will receive any benefits from this study.

Today's survey will take approximately 30 minutes to complete.

This study is completely anonymous. Your identity will be protected to the fullest extent of the law. The researchers will not be able to attach your responses to any identifiable features of your person. All of your information is confidential. Moreover, all of your information will be held in a safe and secure environment. All data will be stored on a password protected data file and only the research team will have access to the data. Finally, because data will be collected through the internet there are always some risks concerning security. However, we have taken stringent steps to ensure that all your responses will be collected and maintained through the most secure means possible.

Participants have the right to ask questions and have those questions answered. If you have questions about this study, please contact the primary researcher named below. For questions concerning your rights as a research participant, contact Georgia Southern University Office of Research Services and Sponsored Programs at 912-478-5465.

You will receive compensation in the form of a \$10 electronic Amazon gift card for your time. Delivery of compensation will occur through email. At the conclusion of this survey, you will be provided with a separate Google Forms link to submit your contact information in order to receive this compensation.

If you decide to take part in the study, it should be because you really want to volunteer. You will not lose any benefits or rights you would normally have if you choose not to volunteer. Furthermore, if you decide to take part in the study you still have the right to decide at any time that you no longer want to continue. You may also skip any question that causes discomfort or distress. Please print off a copy of this consent form to keep for your records. This project has been reviewed and approved by the GSU Institutional Review Board under tracking number H22151.

**In review, in order to take the survey and receive compensation you must:**