

Statement to 12th Grade Students from the Researchers



ISCY
International Study
of City Youth

What is the International Study of City Youth?

The International Study of City Youth (ISCY) is a major international research project, involving high school students in cities around the world, including Barcelona, Melbourne, Montreal, and Bordeaux.

The study will help answer questions like:

- What subjects and courses do high school students choose in different countries?
- How do these choices influence what happens to them when they leave school?
- Do students have different outcomes and opportunities, depending on where they live?
- What do students think about school and society, and how does this influence their choices?

How do I participate in ISCY?

Your school was selected to represent the Sacramento area in the study. Some of you may have participated in the first phase of the study two years ago when you were in 10th grade. This year we are surveying 12th graders, including those who took part in the first phase two years ago, to get more concrete information about their future plans

Your teacher will organise a time for you to complete a 40-minute online Student Survey. The survey will be completed in your normal class time at school. It asks about your background, views and future plans.

As part of the survey, we will ask you for your contact details. The ISCY research team will then contact you again a couple of times over the next two years, to ask you about how things are going, what you are doing, and any changes in your plans for further study and work. This will involve completing a brief survey (less than 10 minutes) either online or over the phone.

All information and answers you provide are entirely confidential. When the data is reported, your answers will be combined with those of other students, and no information that could identify you as an individual will be released. All contact details for students will be destroyed upon completion of the project.

Do I have to participate?

Your participation in the study is voluntary, and you are also free to withdraw from the study at any time. If you are not willing to participate, your teacher will make other arrangements for you while the rest of your class are completing the Student Survey and the Skills Test.

How can I find out more?

For further information, visit the project website, www.iscy.org. The website includes information about the other students and schools participating in the project around the world.

If you have any queries or concerns about the study, please contact Professor Russell W. Rumberger at the University of California, Santa Barbara by phone (805-450-7233) or email (russ@education.ucsb.edu).

We hope you will share our interest in finding out about students' views and choices around the world.

We look forward to talking to you in future about your plans, progress and ideas.