



**Adolescent Brain Cognitive Development**  
*Teen Brains. Today's Science. Brighter Future.*

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## **ABCD STUDY FACT SHEET**

**Project Purpose:** The **A**dolescent **B**rain **C**ognitive **D**evelopment (ABCD) project is the largest long-term research study yet undertaken of adolescent brain and cognitive development. The study will examine factors such as physical activity, weight, growth, sleep, sports injuries, and substance use, and their influence on brain development. In doing so, it will yield critical insights into the foundational aspects of adolescence that shape life trajectories.

**Research Team:** A team of top scientists in the fields of adolescent development and neuroscience has joined together to conduct the study. Research investigators include experts in child development, brain imaging, statistics, data analysis, epidemiology, medicine, education, neurology, psychiatry, psychology, environmental sciences, and medical ethics from universities and research sites across the country, including The University of Michigan. Funding for the project is from the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

**Target Population:** The study will include children from all races, ethnicities, and family education and income levels, living in rural, urban, and suburban environments. The study will enroll over 10,000 healthy children, and follow them from age 9-10 through their teens and into early adulthood. The initiative will engage parents, schools, and community to ensure that a wide variety of perspectives is represented in the study.

**Incentives:** A small honorarium will be provided for cooperating schools, as well as support and incentives for students who will participate in the study. Speakers and resource material are available for families and schools on topics related to the research project.

**Permissions:** All project procedures, protocols, and activities have been reviewed and approved by a university Institutional Review Board (IRB) to ensure that regulations regarding the ethical conduct of research with human participants are observed. Among these requirements are details on obtaining consent, the provision of payments to participants, and the security and confidentiality of all data collected.

**Data reported:** All data collected are completely confidential. No information about individual students, teachers, or schools is reported. The large dataset created by the study, without identifying information about individual participants, will be shared with the scientific community to maximize and extend the impact of this scientific investment.

**Timeframe:** The project is in early stages of implementation. School and family contacts are currently underway to seek a wide range of participants.

**Questions:** More information is available at [abcdstudy.org](http://abcdstudy.org). You can also contact Mary Heitzeg, the Michigan Lead Investigator ([mheitzeg@med.umich.edu](mailto:mheitzeg@med.umich.edu)), or the University of Michigan Institute for Social Research at 800-734-615-3149.