



2017 MIYHS INFORMATION SHEET

MIYHS Contact Information

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What are the benefits of participating in the MIYHS?

- Access to a wide range of data on youth behaviors, risk factors and protective factors
- This data allows for evaluation of the impact national, state, and local efforts have in preventing certain risk behaviors and to improving school health education policies and programs
- Access to local, public health district, and state data that show how student health-risk behaviors change over time, and how they affect the success of Maine youth in attaining the Maine Learning Results

What is required of participating schools?

In order to assure a successful survey, schools must be prepared to:

- Mail (via new Electronic Delivery Methodology and/or US Postal Service) consent letters to parents **at least 2 weeks but no more than 6 weeks** before the survey administration. (The consent letter may be included with other school mailings during this timeframe, but must be sent via the outlined mailing methods; there are no exceptions to this rule.)
- Complete an online training review. Pick up survey materials at a designated location within your local area in January 2017.
- Survey all eligible students.
- Administer the survey between **February 6th and 18th, 2017**. (**NOTE:** If this timeframe conflicts with other initiatives, an alternative date can be selected so long as it falls prior to April school vacation.)
- Drop completed surveys off at a regional drop-off site or mail/return the surveys to Pan Atlantic Research.

How does the Kindergarten/Grade 3 (K/3) parent survey work?

A sample of schools has been drawn for the K/3 survey. If your school has been selected for the K/3 survey, we ask that selected schools provide Pan Atlantic Research with a complete list of the kindergarten and 3rd grade students in an electronic format (one that is compatible with Excel) containing the following information: student name, student ID number, parent name(s), address, and telephone number. Please note that FERPA allows schools to release "directory" information such as what we are requesting without prior consent. We understand that this will not include information on students whose parents have already requested that you not release this directory information. **Please be assured that any and all identifying information will be kept confidential and will be destroyed after use.**

Height, weight, and oral-health screenings will be conducted by your school nurse for your kindergarten and 3rd grade students. Training will be provided. The height, weight, and oral-health screening measurements will be sent back to Pan Atlantic Research. These students will not be asked to complete a survey. Instead, Pan Atlantic Research will be conducting a mail survey with parents of the kindergarten and 3rd grade students in participating schools. If the mail survey is not returned, Pan Atlantic Research will follow up with parents via telephone.

How does the 5th and 6th grade (5/6) survey work?

A sample of schools has been drawn for the 5/6 survey. There are two components to the grade 5/6 survey. The first component is a height and weight measurement, which will be conducted by your school nurse for **5th grade students only**. Training will be provided. **Please be assured that any and all identifying information will be kept confidential and will be destroyed after use.** The second component is the student survey, which will be completed by all 5th and/or 6th grade students in the schools selected as part of the 5/6 survey sample, and for any other 'volunteer' schools wishing to participate in the 5/6 module.

How does the 7-12 grade survey work?

All schools with any grades 7 through 12 are invited and encouraged to participate in the MIYHS. Please ensure that **all** students, including vocational and alternative education students, participate in the survey.