

**Name of Study:** Computer Adaptive Testing of Adaptive Behavior in Children and Youth with Autism Spectrum Disorders

**Institution:** Boston University

**Location:** Online survey; no geographic limitation within the United States

**Eligibility Criteria:** Parents/guardians of children who are diagnosed with an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and are 3-21 years old in the United States.

We are especially interested in hearing from parents of:

- Teenagers with an ASD, ages 13-17 years.
- Young adults with an ASD, ages 18-21, who are transitioning to adulthood & independent living.
- Children and youth with ASD who use alternative methods of communication and/or are non-verbal.

**Principal Investigator:** Dr. Wendy Coster

**Contact Information:** [asdcats@bu.edu](mailto:asdcats@bu.edu) or 617-353-7492/617-353-8949; 617-353-2702

**Study Website:** <http://www.bu.edu/kidsincontext/>

Dear Parents,

The adaptive behavior of children, teenagers, and young adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is measured in a lot of different ways. Some assessments of adaptive behavior take a long time for parents to complete, only ask questions about specific behaviors associated with ASD, or are targeted to children in one age group. This makes it hard to track your child's progress and development over time.

The purpose of this project is to develop an efficient and comprehensive assessment of adaptive behavior of children and youth with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) ages 3-21 years.

Adaptive behavior is the performance of everyday activities that help children and youth be active members in their family, school, & community. These activities include self care (bathing & dressing), getting around, taking care of personal belongings, making friends, communicating needs and feelings, and managing health & wellness.

You will complete a series of questionnaires and the PEDI adaptive behavior survey on-line, at a time and location that is most convenient for you. Questions will be about your child's past and current abilities and level of functioning. We find most parents complete the survey in about 45 minutes. However, if time is short, you can leave and return to complete the survey within 14 days. This project also involves the collection of data for a national repository. Parents who complete the full on-line survey will receive a \$25 gift card to Amazon.com, and be entered into a drawing to win an i-Pod touch! Three parents will be selected at random to receive an i-Pod touch. Parents of children 5 years or older will also have an opportunity to enter to win a Flip Video SlideHD by completing one additional survey.

If you are interested in learning more about this project, email us at [asdcats@bu.edu](mailto:asdcats@bu.edu), or visit <http://www.bu.edu/kidsincontext/>

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