



NLTS2 Update

Spring 2005
Youth Newsletter



The National Longitudinal Transition Study-2 (NLTS2) is an exciting study being conducted for the U.S. Department of Education. It includes more than 11,000 youth nationwide who were ages 13 through 16 when the study began in the 2000-2001 school year. We are following the progress and life experiences of these youth by collecting information from youth, parents, and schools at various points over 9 years. We are in the fourth year of this study, and this is the second time we are speaking with youth. Thank you to the thousands of youth, parents, and teachers who have taken the time to be part of this important study by filling out a questionnaire or answering questions during telephone interviews. We greatly appreciate your time and help.

Parent and youth interviews will begin this spring and end in the fall. Parents will be asked to update us on the recent experiences of their sons and daughters. We also will contact youth directly who are able to complete a telephone interview or a mail questionnaire about their experiences.

Who is conducting this study?

SRI International and RTI, two large and respected research organizations that have been conducting research for many years, are conducting this study for the U.S. Department of Education.

Why should I be in NLTS2?

It is very important that NLTS2 represent young people with all kinds of backgrounds, abilities, and school programs. On the basis of your unique experiences, along with those of others nationwide, we will be able to recommend improvements to programs and policies that help youth have successful school and early adult experiences.

Wasn't I interviewed 2 years ago?

We hope to talk with you again to learn about how things have changed for you over time. By interviewing families and youth periodically, we will be able to understand better how life changes for youth as they go from high school to adult life.

Do I have a choice?

Of course you have a choice! Your participation is completely voluntary, but we strongly encourage you to take part. As a thank-you for completing a telephone interview or written questionnaire, you will receive a \$20 check.

Some interesting Web sites you might want to check out for information about:

- **Applying and going to college:** www.heath.gwu.edu
- **Getting a job:** www.nyec.org
- **Leadership opportunities:** www.emerging-leaders.com
- **Other resources:** www.nichcy.org

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