

# Housing Insecurity among Montgomery College Students

## Informed Consent Form – Online Survey

We are conducting a study to investigate to what extent housing insecurity is a challenge for Montgomery College Students. Our objective is to create understanding of the size and scope of the problem, and how it affects student's views on their future housing needs. Your participation is hence critical for getting a handle on the problem. In this study, you will be asked about your experiences with housing (in)security as a student and how it affects your academic performance. Your participation should take 5-10 minutes.

The risks of participating in the online survey may include feelings of guilt or embarrassment during a discussion of topics. Your participation in this study is completely voluntary and you may withdraw at any time without negative consequences. At the end of the survey, there is a request whether you are interested in participating in a follow-up study that looks more on how your future ideas about housing and home are informed by your past experiences. This follow-up interview is strictly voluntary, and there are no consequences whatsoever if you decline the request for the follow-up interview.

Please note these health, wellness, social and homeless services provided by the college and County:

### Montgomery College Student Health and Wellness

<https://www.montgomerycollege.edu/life-at-mc/student-health-and-wellness/index.html>

### Community Social Services

<https://www.montgomerycollege.edu/documents/life-at-mc/student-health-and-wellness/montgomery-county-community-resource-guide.pdf>

### Community Homeless Services

[https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/Homelessness/Resources/Files/Documents/HomelessResourceGuides/FINAL-English-Homeless%20Services%20Resource%20Brochure-4%20Panel-1\\_2020.pdf](https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/Homelessness/Resources/Files/Documents/HomelessResourceGuides/FINAL-English-Homeless%20Services%20Resource%20Brochure-4%20Panel-1_2020.pdf)

All information will be managed in a strictly confidential manner. We will not ask for your name, or address. We will also use encryption tools (as recommended by Montgomery College's Office of Information Technology (OIT)) to ensure that any personal, financial, and academic data cannot be accessed by anyone except the research team. We will also design the online survey in such a way that it will not collect and/or store IP addresses to further enhance confidentiality.

Please feel free to contact Caroline van den Berg (202-650-9495; [cvandenb@montgomerycollege.edu](mailto:cvandenb@montgomerycollege.edu)) or Dr. Maria Sprehn (240-567-7484; [maria.sprehn@montgomerycollege.edu](mailto:maria.sprehn@montgomerycollege.edu)) if you have any questions about the study. Or, for other questions, contact [MC's Institutional Review Board](#) (240-567-5000; [irb@montgomerycollege.edu](mailto:irb@montgomerycollege.edu)).

I understand the study described above and I have downloaded a copy of the description as outlined above. I am 18 years of age or older, a "for credit" student at Montgomery College and a Montgomery County resident, and I agree to participate.