Informed Consent Form

The Impact of Federal Policy of Student Financial Aid Eligibility on the Decision to Enroll at a Small Urban Community College

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**Dissertation Chair:** Dr. Sheila Gregory  
**University IRB Chair:** Dr. Paul Musey

**Introduction:** I am a doctoral student at Clark Atlanta University conducting a qualitative methodology study in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Education in Higher Education Leadership. You are being asked to participate in this research to discover how Federal Student Aid policy impacted your decision to enroll in college. Please carefully read this document and ask any questions you may have before agreeing to take part in this study.

**Purpose:** The purpose of this phenomenological study will be to discover how Federal Student Aid policy impacts the decision to enroll for first-year freshmen college students at a small Community College. 100 first-year freshmen enrolled during the Fall 2018 semester will be asked to participate in the study.

**Procedures:** If you agree to participate in the study, you will complete a survey to determine how federal student aid eligibility policy, family financial support, pre-college GPA and educational attainment effect the decision to enroll in college. Surveys will be open for two weeks to ensure an adequate amount of time you to participate in the study.

**Risks and Benefits:** There is minimal risk to you. Participation in this study will automatically enter you into a drawing to win a $25 gift card. With your participation, the researcher hopes to gain information about your experiences regarding how Financial Aid policy effected your decision to enroll.

**Voluntary Participation and Withdrawal:** Being part of this study is voluntary. You may decline participation, refuse to answer any questions, or end the interview at any time without any consequence to you. Participation will not be shared with the school administration or other personnel. Your participation or choice not to participate is voluntary.

**Confidentiality:** Steps will be taken to protect you; identifiable information from the transcript will be removed, electronic documents will be stored in an encrypted file on a password-protected computer. There are no monetary benefits to you if you choose to participate in study. You will have the opportunity to obtain an electronic copy of the dissertation upon completion.

**Contact Persons:** If you have any questions about this research and its conduct, contact any of the following:  
**Researcher:** LaMario Primas- lamario.primas@students.cau.edu  
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