**Topic Approval Form (Ed.S. and EDLD Ed.D. Tier I)**

Please provide requested information below. Secure the approval and signature of the Ed.S./EDLD Ed.D. Tier I Content Specialist on this form no later than the final two weeks of the semester prior to EDUR 8434, not including summer. **Approved form is required for registration in EDUR 8434** (contact Graduate Academic Services Center (GASC) for assistance with enrollment into this permission-only course). Approved form must also be submitted to EDUR 8434 instructor during first week of class.

Note: If significant changes are made to the research study or approved form is more than one semester old, a new Topic Approval Form will need to be completed and signed by the Content Specialist and then submitted to GASC.

Candidate’s Name: [Redacted]

Candidate’s Eagle ID: [Redacted]

Candidate’s Program: Ed.S. School Psychology

Candidate’s Concentration (if applicable):

What is the purpose of your study?

The purpose of this study will be to examine school psychologists' perceptions of bullying of lesbian, bisexual, gay, transgender, questioning, and plus (LGBTQ+) students within the school. Moreover, this study aims to investigate if there are correlations between school psychologists' perceptions of student support offered by school personnel and frequencies of bullying experienced by LGBTQ+ students.

This research study will be modeled after a study on teachers' perceptions of bullying of LGBTQ students, conducted by Kolbert et. al. (2015).

What literature informs your study (theorists, theories, topics, search terms, etc.)?


- The researchers in this study surveyed middle and high school teachers employed in various school districts in a single county located in southwestern Pennsylvania. The results indicated a positive relationship between teachers' perceptions of support offered by school staff towards all students and their reports of the frequency of bullying and victimization of LGBTQ students.

What are your research questions or hypotheses?

1. How do school psychologists perceive the level of support provided by school staff/personnel to LGBTQ+ students?

2. How do school psychologists' perceptions of school staff/personnel support reflect/relate to the reported bullying of LGBTQ+ students?
Who will be the participants in your study?
The participants in this study will include school psychologists who are currently practicing in the state of Georgia and are current members of the Georgia Association of School Psychologists (GASP).

What is the location of your study? Have you sought permission for the study?
This study will be conducted solely in the state of Georgia and data will be collected via an online questionnaire. Permission for this study is currently being from the Georgia Association of School Psychologists Executive Board.

What is your study timeline; when do you plan to collect data?

What kind of data do you plan to collect?
I plan to use Qualtrics, an online survey data collection method, to collect quantitative data. I will seek permission from Kolbert et. al. (2015) to use their questionnaire that assesses teachers' perceptions of bullying of LGBTQ students. With approval, the survey would be modified to be used with school psychologists.

Signatures:

[Signature]
Candidate

[Signature]
Ed.S./EDLD Ed.D. Tier I Content Specialist

[Signature]
Date

[Signature]
Date

Although all candidates must sign this form, the following statement applies only to those candidates seeking a certification upgrade: By signing this form, the Ed.S. Candidate acknowledges responsibility for completing research in identified PSC certification field in order to meet the requirements for certification upgrade. Failure to complete all research activities in identified PSC certification field may result in Ed.S. candidate's inability to obtain a certification upgrade.