

Recruitment Email/Letter

Hello,

My name is Joyce Koo and I am a doctoral candidate in the Teaching and Learning, Policy and Leadership program at the University of Maryland, College Park. I am inviting you to participate in my dissertation study titled: “International Chinese Undergraduate STEM-Major Women Students' Experiences of Belonging on Campus,” as I believe you may have valuable insights on this topic. Your participation in the research will be of great importance to the literature on international Chinese undergraduate STEM-majoring women students' sense of belonging.

To participate in this study, you must

- **be a woman and be an undergraduate Chinese international student (holding a F-1 or J-1 visa) from China who has basic to intermediate English level proficiency;**
- **have enrolled at the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD) during the year 2021 or later, have completed at least one semester at UMD, and is taking in-person classes this semester at UMD;**
- **be a STEM major; and**
- **be 18 years of age or older at the time of this study.**

If you are interested in participating in this study, please complete the pre-screening survey (8-10 minutes) through this link [here](#) to provide some background information and determine your eligibility.

Upon confirming your interest in participation and eligibility, I'll send you information regarding the next steps of the study, which includes (1) two one-on-one interviews with you during the semester(s) and/or year and (2) one to two focus group sessions during the semester(s) and/or year. The interviews and focus group sessions, each of which will be 60-90 minute Zoom or in-person sessions, will be audio and video recorded upon your consent; audio recording will be required for participation. You will receive two \$25 e-gift cards, one after your participation in all activities related to the first interview and focus group has been completed and one after your participation in all the study activities, including the second interview and, if conducted, the second focus group, has been completed.

After you are determined to be eligible, you will also receive additional information on the study purpose, procedures, confidentiality, and have the opportunity to provide your informed consent to participate in the study. I'm happy to answer any questions and/or concerns you may have before you make the final decision to participate in the study and can be reached at joyceck@umd.edu.

Thank you for your time,

Joyce Koo

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