This questionnaire is part of the National Research Council’s 2006 Assessment of Research Doctoral Programs. The National Research Council (NRC) is the operating arm of the National Academy of Sciences, an institution that conducts studies on issues relevant to questions of importance to educational, scientific and technological policy. Its reports are highly respected and have important impact on national and institutional policymakers.

This is the first NRC assessment of doctoral programs in over ten years. The study is an effort to gather data about doctoral programs nationwide and provide data that will be helpful to students, faculty, administrators and those who make educational policy.

For the first time, the assessment is including a survey of doctoral students. By completing this questionnaire, you provide information that will: (1) bring a student perspective to the study; (2) permit a statistical description of the advanced doctoral students in your field, and (3) help the NRC identify the multiple dimensions of successful graduate programs.

Further information about the assessment may be found at www7.nationalacademies.org/resdoc/ index.html. This site also has a list of Frequently Asked Questions and contains an Email link for submitting questions you might have about the study or the questionnaire.

As a graduate student, this is an important opportunity for you to be heard on issues related to graduate education, both in your program and in general. If you and your fellow students respond at a high rate, the results will provide important information about and to your program that will help facilitate change in graduate education at the program level.

Your responses to this online questionnaire will be entered directly into our database and treated as completely confidential by the NRC. Your individual answers will not be shared with faculty or administrators of your doctoral program. Any data, including race/ethnicity and gender, that is not currently available to the public will only be used in aggregated form that cannot be used to discern the identity of any survey participant in any report or presentation concerning the survey or in the public use file that will be made available to the public at the conclusion of this study. The link between your name and the data you provide will be removed prior to the publication of the public use file. In the case of questions with an open-ended response, comments will be reported only in an anonymous form that does not disclose the identity of the respondent.

Your participation is voluntary. You may refuse to answer any question or discontinue participation at any point. There is no personal risk to you in responding to this questionnaire since your identity will be known only to the National Research Council and Mathematica Policy Research. No information concerning respondents will be given to your institution. If you have any questions related to the study or this questionnaire, please send an email to NRC-Assessment@mathematica-mpr.com

Please click here to indicate your informed consent to participate in this study