
Alliances for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (AGEP) Student Participants' Survey

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Your response is part of a study on the impact of the AGEP Program being conducted under OMB _____ (_____ 2009) and NSF's grant number HRD-0823766. Submission of the requested information is voluntary. The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 30 minutes, including the time for reviewing instructions. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to Suzanne Plimpton, Division of Administrative Services (IRM/DAS), National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Room 295N, Arlington, VA 22230.

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Introduction

Starting in 1998 and continuing in stages, NSF began funding what are now 24 alliances of universities and colleges to promote inter-institutional cooperation in increasing underrepresented minority participation in Ph.D. programs in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). The program also seeks to encourage those who have earned Ph.D.s in STEM disciplines to continue into the professoriate. The university where you are pursuing your degree is a participant in one of the funded Alliances, called Alliances for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (AGEP). Now, NSF is seeking to understand how AGEP Alliances are influencing the STEM doctoral pathway. You may not even know that *you* are an AGEP student, but your university has given us your name as one of the hundreds of students who received something (stipend, tutoring, mentoring, orientation, new courses, study space, equipment, etc.) funded by AGEP.

The questions that follow ask about you and your educational experiences. Your responses will help us learn what has worked and what has not worked with the AGEP program. The answers will also help other students and make AGEP and similar programs stronger in the future.

Undergraduate Education

- 1) From which college or university did you receive your bachelor's (i.e., undergraduate) degree? If applicable, please specify campus. Please do not use acronyms.

- 2) In what state is this institution located?

State

- 3) In what year did you receive your bachelor's degree from this institution?

before 2002

2002

2003

2004

2005

2006

2007

2008

2009

4) What was your undergraduate major? If you were a dual-degree graduate, please mark both majors. Please do not include minors.

- Applied Mathematics
- Biochemistry
- Biology
- Biomedical Engineering
- Cellular Molecular Biology
- Chemical Physics
- Chemistry
- Civil Engineering
- Clinical Laboratory Science
- Computer Engineering
- Computer Information Systems
- Computer Science
- Computer Technology
- Electrical Engineering
- Environmental Science
- Geological Sciences
- Industrial Engineering
- Information Technology
- Mathematics
- Mechanical Engineering
- Metallurgical and Materials Engineering
- Natural and Tropical Resources
- Physics
- Other, please specify:

5) What was your overall **undergraduate** grade point average (GPA)?

- 4.0
- 3.9
- 3.8
- 3.7
- 3.6
- 3.5
- 3.4
- 3.3
- 3.2
- 3.1
- 3.0
- 2.9
- 2.8
- 2.7
- 2.6
- 2.5 or below

6) What was your main long-range career goal during your **last year** as an undergraduate?

- College or university professor
- Elementary or secondary school teacher
- Administrator or manager in the private sector
- Administrator or manager in the public sector
- Researcher in the private sector
- Researcher in the public sector
- Private sector employee, not in administration, management, or research
- Public sector employee, not in administration, management, or research
- Professional in a clinic, agency or hospital
- Self-employed or private practice
- I was undecided
- Other, please specify:

Your Current Graduate School

7) What is the name of the college or university that you are currently attending?

8) In what state is this institution located? If applicable, please specify campus.
Please do not use acronyms.

State

9) In what department are you enrolled?

10) Are you attending full-time or part-time?

- Full-time
 Part-time

11) In what year did you begin your current graduate program?

- before 2002
 2002
 2003
 2004
 2005
 2006
 2007
 2008
 2009

12) Are you working toward a Master's degree?

- Yes, and I plan on continuing in my education to get a doctorate
 Yes, and I **do not** plan on continuing in my education to get a doctorate (skip to item 15)
 No (skip to item 14)

13) If you plan to get a doctorate, from what institution?

- Same institution where I am currently enrolled (skip to item 15)
 Another institution (skip to Item 15)

14) Have you already received a Master's degree from this program?

- Yes
 No, I received a Master's degree from another program
 No, I have not received a Master's degree

15) In what year do you expect to graduate with your final degree from this program?

- 2009
- 2010
- 2011
- 2012
- 2013
- 2014
- 2015
- 2016 or later

16) What is the highest degree that this program offers?

- Master's
- Doctorate
- I don't know

17) What is your overall **graduate** grade point average (GPA)?

- 4.0
- 3.9
- 3.8
- 3.7
- 3.6
- 3.5
- 3.4
- 3.3
- 3.2
- 3.1
- 3.0
- 2.9
- 2.8
- 2.7
- 2.6
- 2.5 or below
- I have not yet received any grades
- My graduate program does not give grades

18) What are your current sources for financial support for your graduate studies?
Please mark all that apply.

- AGEP sponsored fellowship
- Tuition waiver, fee remission, grant, fellowship, scholarship
- Teaching assistantship
- Research assistantship
- Other campus employment
- Off-campus employment
- Personal or family savings
- Loans
- Other, please explain:

19) Have you considered leaving your current graduate program at any time since entering graduate school?

- No (skip to item 22)
- Yes, I am currently considering leaving the program
- Yes, I have seriously considered leaving the program in the past

20) What is the **primary** reason that you have considered leaving the graduate program?

- End of funding (Tuition waiver, fee remission, grant, fellowship, scholarship)
- Inadequate funding
- Lack of role model
- Lack of mentor
- Inadequate non-financial support from faculty
- Unsupportive atmosphere in the graduate program
- Pregnancy/childbirth
- Family obligations
- Difficulty with coursework and/or other requirements of the program
- Loss of interest in the field
- Expect a poor job market for positions requiring a graduate degree
- Appeal of a job offer
- Appeal of another graduate program or graduate school
- Other, please explain:

21) What is the **primary** reason that you have decided to stay in the graduate program?

Previous Graduate School Experience

22) Have you completed graduate level coursework in another program or institution?

- Yes, and I completed a Master's Degree
- Yes, and I completed a Doctorate
- Yes, but I did not complete a degree
- No (skip to item 27)

23) In what field have you previously completed graduate level coursework?

24) If you completed a degree, in what year was the degree granted?

- Before 2002
- 2002
- 2003
- 2004
- 2005
- 2006
- 2007
- 2008
- 2009

25) At what institution did you complete this degree?

26) In what state is this institution located?

State

Alliances for Graduate Education and the Professoriate

The following questions are about your participation in the Alliances for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (AGEP) and ask whether AGEP has a) helped you to feel successful during graduate school and b) affected your thoughts about a career in academia.

27) Please indicate in which of the following activities you have been involved to help you feel more successful during graduate school.

On the left hand side, for each item that you participated in, indicate whether it was an AGEP sponsored activity, an activity sponsored by another program, or whether you did not participate in it.

AGEP sponsored	Other organization sponsored	Participated, but not sure who sponsored it.	Did not participate		Participated as an undergraduate student	Participated as a graduate student
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- | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Received a fellowship | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Received a stipend for conducting research | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Received a stipend to travel to a conference | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Received a stipend for purposes other than research and/or travel | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Attended a workshop involving several campuses | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Attended professional development activities involving several campuses | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Membership in a community of underrepresented minority students who are pursuing a graduate degree | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Relationship with an appointed mentor | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Relationship with a faculty advocate | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Participation in a student monitoring program | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Participation in a student grade-tracking program | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other, please explain: | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

-
- 28)** Did you apply to be a part of AGEP or were you automatically enrolled?
- I applied
 - I was automatically enrolled
 - I am not part of AGEP
- 29)** Please rate your level of knowledge about AGEP on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 indicates that you are very knowledgeable and 5 indicates not knowledgeable at all.
- 1. Very knowledgeable
 - 2.
 - 3. Moderately knowledgeable
 - 4.
 - 5. Not knowledgeable at all
- 30)** Was AGEP present in your undergraduate institution?
- Yes
 - No (skip to item 34)
 - I don't know (skip to item 34)
- 31)** Do you feel that AGEP played a role in helping you go to graduate school while you were an undergraduate? Please rate AGEP on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 indicates that it played a strong role and 5 indicates no role at all.
- 1. Strong role
 - 2.
 - 3. Moderate role
 - 4.
 - 5. No role
 - I don't know
- 32)** Are there ways in which AGEP could have been more beneficial to you to help you go to graduate school?
- Yes
 - No (skip to item 34)
- 33)** In what way could AGEP have been more beneficial to you to help you go to graduate school?
-

34) Very valuable Somewhat valuable Not valuable Did not participate

...for participating in AGEP activities and programs in which you have participated. How valuable are they to you?

- Membership in a community of underrepresented minority students who are pursuing a graduate degree.
 - Greater exposure to career opportunities and perspectives
 - Fellowship
 - Stipend
 - Workshops for students involving several campuses
 - Formal relationship with faculty
 - Student research assistantship with faculty
 - Student monitoring program
 - Student grade-tracking program
 - Other, please explain:
-

35) Do you feel that AGEP plays a role in helping you be successful in graduate school? Please rate AGEP on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 indicates that it played a strong role and 5 indicates no role at all.

- 1. Strong Role
- 2.
- 3. Moderate role
- 4.
- 5. No Role
- I don't know

36) Are there ways in which AGEP could be more helpful to you to be more successful in graduate school?

- Yes
- No (skip to item 38)

I don't know (skip to item 38)

37) In what way could AGEP be more helpful to you as a graduate student?

38) Please rate the level of encouragement you have received from AGEP to pursue a career as a professor, where 1 indicates strongly encouraged and 5 indicates not encouraged at all.

1. Strongly encouraged
 2.
 3. Moderately encouraged
 4.
 5. Not encouraged at all

Other Preparation for Graduate School

We would like to know what informed your decision about attending the graduate school in which you are currently enrolled.

39) Did you visit the graduate school before applying?

- Yes, as a part of a sponsored event
 Yes, but not as a part of a sponsored event
 No

40) What other sources helped you to decide to apply to your graduate school?
Please mark all that apply.

- A representative from the graduate program who visited my campus
 Graduate school fair
 Sponsored events by clubs or organizations on my undergraduate campus
 Resources provided by my undergraduate department
 Faculty and/or other people with knowledge about graduate school
 Other, please explain:

41) In general, how well prepared do you believe you were for graduate school compared to other graduate students in your program? Please rate your preparedness on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 indicates much better prepared and 5 indicates much less well prepared.

-
- 1. Much better prepared
 - 2. Somewhat better prepared
 - 3. As well prepared
 - 4. Somewhat less prepared
 - 5. Much less well prepared

42) Is there any aspect of your **undergraduate education** that you feel could have been strengthened to better prepare you for graduate school?

43) What was your combined verbal reasoning and quantitative reasoning GRE score?

- I did not take the GRE
- 1600
- 1500 to 1590
- 1400 to 1490
- 1300 to 1390
- 1200 to 1290
- 1100 to 1190
- 1000 to 1090
- below 1000
- I don't know

44) What was your score on your GRE subject test?

- I did not take the GRE subject test
- 1600
- 1500 to 1590
- 1400 to 1490
- 1300 to 1390
- 1200 to 1290
- 1100 to 1190
- 1000 to 1090
- below 1000
- I don't know

Current Employment

45) Are you currently employed?

- Yes, full time
- Yes, part time

-
- No (looking for work) (skip to item 53)
 - No (not looking for work) (skip to item 53)

46) Do you work on or off campus? Please select all that apply.

- On campus employment
- Off campus employment

47) What is the nature of your employment? Please select all that apply.

- Teaching
- Laboratory work
- Non-laboratory research
- Other, please provide:

48) Do you work in a science, technology, engineering, and/or mathematics field?

- Yes
- No (skip to item 51)

49) Which of the following best describes the field in which you work?

- Biological Sciences (skip to item 51)
- Biotechnology (skip to item 51)
- Chemical Sciences (skip to item 51)
- Computer Sciences (skip to item 51)
- Engineering
- Materials Science (skip to item 51)
- Mathematics (skip to item 51)
- Nanotechnology (skip to item 51)
- Networking and Information Technology (skip to item 51)
- Pharmacy (skip to item 51)
- Physics (skip to item 51)
- Other, please provide:

50) For those who responded “engineering, “ please specify the particular area within engineering in which you work.

- Aeronautical
- Agricultural
- Automation
- Chemical
- Civil
- Electrical
- Environmental
- Geological
- Hydraulic
- Industrial/Manufacturing
- Information Tech/Software
- Materials
- Mechanical
- Naval
- Nuclear
- Petroleum
- Solar
- Systems
- Telecommunications/Network
- Other, please specify:

51) How long have you worked at this job?

- less than 1 year
- 1 to less than 2 years
- 2 to less than 3 years
- 3 to less than 4 years
- 4 to less than 5 years
- 5 years or more

52) Compared to staff in positions similar to yours, how well prepared do you believe you are for your current job? Please rate your preparedness on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 indicates much better prepared and 5 indicates much less well prepared.

- 1. Much better prepared (skip to item 54)
- 2. Somewhat better prepared (skip to item 54)
- 3. Equally prepared (skip to item 54)
- 4. Somewhat less prepared (skip to item 54)
- 5. Much less well prepared (skip to item 54)

53) If you are not currently employed, have you ever been employed while in this graduate program?

- Yes, in a science, technology, engineering and/or math field
- Yes, but not in a science, technology, engineering and/or math field
- Yes, both inside and outside of a science, technology, engineering and/or math field
- No

Long Term Employment Plans and Preparation

54) What is your current long-range career goal? Please prioritize your response by entering "1" next to your primary goal, "2" next to your secondary goal, etc.

- College or university professor in a research-focused institution
- College or university professor in a teaching-focused 4-year institution
- College or university professor in a 2-year college
- Elementary or secondary school teacher
- Administrator or manager in the private sector
- Administrator or manager in the public sector
- Researcher in the private sector
- Researcher in the public sector
- Private sector employee, not in administration, management, or research
- Public sector employee, not in administration, management, or research
- Professional in a clinic, agency or hospital
- Self-employed or private practice
- I am undecided
- Other, please specify:

55) We are interested in your level of interest in seeking employment at an Historically Black College or University, a Tribal College, or at a university that serves substantial numbers of Hispanic students. Please rate your interest on a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 indicates very interested and 5 indicates not interested at all.

- 1. Very interested
- 2.
- 3. Neutral
- 4.
- 5. Not interested at all
- I am undecided

Listed below are different aspects of graduate education. For the following questions, please indicate the features that you feel will be most important to help you become successful in your future career.

56) Please indicate the **one** aspect of your **graduate** education that you feel will be **most** important in preparing for your future career.

- Participation in AGEP (skip to item 58)
- Participation in other campus organizations or clubs (skip to item 58)
- Faculty content knowledge (skip to item 58)
- Faculty teaching style (skip to item 58)
- Faculty mentoring (skip to item 58)
- Research opportunities (skip to item 58)
- Meeting professionals and students at research conferences (skip to item 58)
- Presenting my research in public (on or off campus) (skip to item 58)
- Teaching assistantship (skip to item 58)
- Research assistantship (skip to item 58)
- Tuition support (skip to item 58)
- Other financial support (skip to item 58)
- None of the above, but there was something else
- None of the above (skip to item 60)

57) You indicated that something other than the aspects of graduate education listed above was important for your career goals. Please tell us a little about what this aspect is.

58) Please indicate a **second** aspect of your **graduate** education that you feel will be important in preparing you for your future career.

- Faculty content knowledge (skip to item 60)
- Faculty teaching style (skip to item 60)
- Faculty mentoring (skip to item 60)
- Research opportunities (skip to item 60)
- Meeting professionals and students at research conferences (skip to item 60)
- Presenting my research in public (on or off campus) (skip to item 60)
- Teaching assistantship (skip to item 60)
- Research assistantship (skip to item 60)
- Tuition support (skip to item 60)
- Other financial support (skip to item 60)
- Participation in AGEP (skip to item 60)
- Participation in other campus organizations or clubs (skip to item 60)
- None of the above, but there was something else
- None of the above (skip to item 60)

59) You indicated that something other than the aspects of graduate education listed above was important for your career goals. Please tell us what this aspect is.

60) Is there any aspect of your graduate education that you feel could be strengthened to better prepare you for your future career?

- Yes
- No (skip to item 62)

61) Please explain how your graduate program might better prepare you for your future career.

Demographics

62) In what year were you born?

- 1992
- 1991
- 1990
- 1989
- 1988
- 1987
- 1986
- 1985
- 1984
- 1983
- 1982
- 1981
- 1980
- 1979
- 1978
- 1977
- 1976
- 1975
- 1974
- 1973
- 1972
- prior to 1972
- Do not wish to provide

63) What is your ethnicity? **Please select one.**

- Hispanic or Latino
- Not Hispanic or Latino

64) What is your race? (Note: race is different from ethnicity. For example, although your ethnicity might be “Latino”, in discussion of your race you could be an Asian Latino, Black Latino, Mixed race, or White Latino). **Please select all that apply.**

- American Indian or Alaskan Native
- Asian
- Black or African American
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- White

65) What is your sex?

- Female
- Male
- Do not wish to provide

66) What is your citizenship? **Please check one.**

- U.S. Citizen
- Permanent Resident
- Other status
- Do not wish to provide

67) In what country were you born?

68) What was the primary language spoken at home while you were growing up?

- English
- Spanish
- Chinese (Cantonese/Mandarin)
- Vietnamese
- Korean
- Arabic
- Do not wish to provide
- Other, please specify:

The next questions ask about difficulties you may have doing certain activities because of a HEALTH PROBLEM.

69) Do you have difficulty seeing, even if wearing glasses?

- No- no difficulty
- Yes- some difficulty
- Yes- a lot of difficulty
- Cannot do at all

70) Do you have difficulty hearing, even if using a hearing aid?

- No- no difficulty
- Yes- some difficulty
- Yes- a lot of difficulty
- Cannot do at all

71) Do you have difficulty walking or climbing steps?

-
- No- no difficulty
 - Yes- some difficulty
 - Yes- a lot of difficulty
 - Cannot do at all

72) Do you have difficulty remembering or concentrating?

- No- no difficulty
- Yes- some difficulty
- Yes- a lot of difficulty
- Cannot do at all

73) Do you have difficulty (with self-care such as) washing all over or dressing?

- No- no difficulty
- Yes- some difficulty
- Yes- a lot of difficulty
- Cannot do at all

74) Using your usual (customary) language, do you have difficulty communicating, for example understanding or being understood?

- No- no difficulty
- Yes- some difficulty
- Yes- a lot of difficulty
- Cannot do at all

The next questions ask about your familial background.

75) What is the highest level of education that your mother attained?

- Did not complete high school
- High school diploma or GED
- Some college
- Graduated from college
- Attended a graduate program
- Graduate or professional degree
- Do not wish to provide or don't know

76) What is the highest level of education that your father attained?

- Did not complete high school
- High school diploma or GED
- Some college
- Graduated from college
- Attended a graduate program
- Graduate or professional degree
- Do not wish to provide or don't know

77) What is your parents' approximate combined income?

- Under \$50,000
- \$50,000 to \$99,999
- \$100,000 to \$149,999
- \$150,000 to \$199,999
- \$200,000 or more
- Do not wish to provide or don't know

78) In what country was your mother born?

79) In what country was your father born?

80) We welcome any ideas that you may have that could help improve the AGEP program. If you have any thoughts that you care to share, please type them in the space provided below.

This is the end of the survey. Thank you for your cooperation.