



Your work is critical to the success of the U.S. scientific enterprise and will influence U.S. and global scientific markets for years to come.



EARLY CAREER DOCTORATE STUDY

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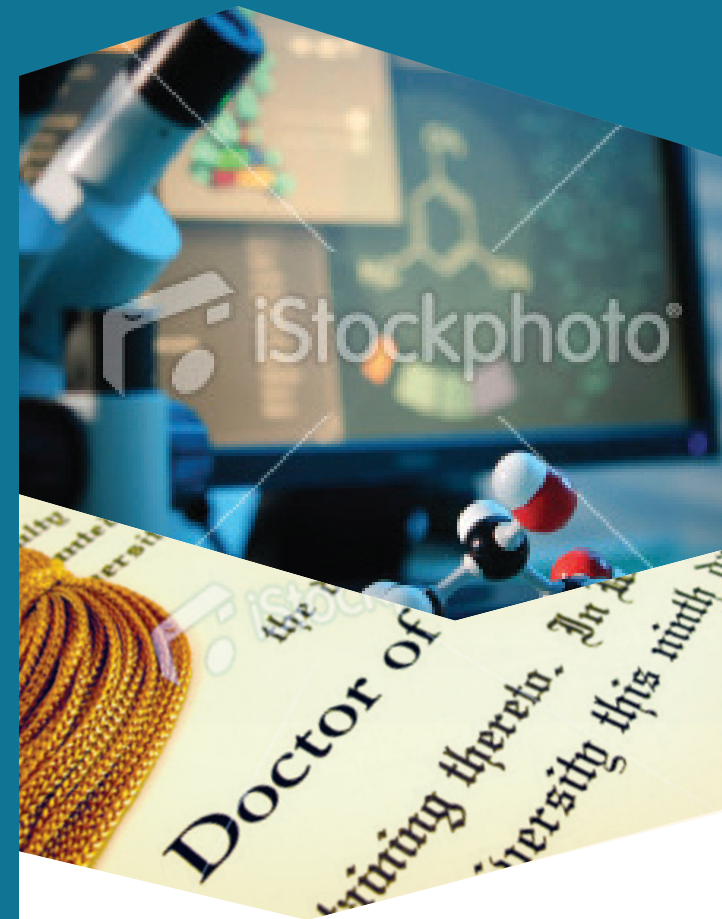
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NCSES National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics

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About the Study

The Early Career Doctorate Study is a survey of individuals like you who earned their first doctoral degree (PhD, MD, or equivalent) within the last 10 years and are currently working in one of the following settings:

- U.S. academic institution
- Federally Funded Research and Development Center (FFRDC)
- Intramural research program of the National Institutes of Health (NIH)

The work of early career doctorates is critical to the success of the U.S. scientific enterprise. You and your peers will influence U.S. and global scientific markets for years to come. Despite the importance of early career doctorates, there is no current way to track their work patterns and contributions to the U.S. economy.

To address this need, the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics (NCSES) at the National Science Foundation is starting the Early Career Doctorate Study. The Center will use this survey to provide needed data on early career doctorates, including:

- Career paths
- Research opportunities
- Career plans
- Training opportunities

What topics does the survey cover?

✓ Educational background	Your degrees—dates awarded, fields of study, and institutions Student loan burden
✓ Professional activities	Conference attendance Publications and presentations Professional service Grant experiences
✓ Employer demographics	Type of employer Type of work
✓ Professional and personal life balance	Your workload Flexibility in scheduling your work
✓ Mentoring	Work relationships Work expectations
✓ Future career	Your plans over the next 10 years

How was I selected?

Approximately 80 institutions were asked to participate in this initial phase of the study. These institutions identified their early career doctorates. Your name was randomly selected from these lists.

What does my participation involve?

The web survey takes 20–30 minutes. You will receive an e-mail with a link to the survey, your username, and password. You may complete the web survey in one session or in multiple sessions. If you exit the survey before you finish, your answers will be saved.

How is my privacy and confidentiality protected?

Protecting your privacy is a priority for NCSES and RTI (the survey contractor). The following steps ensure that your privacy and confidentiality are protected and that identifying data are never reported:

- The survey uses a secure connection (https)
- You have unique credentials (username and password)
- Only RTI survey staff have access to individual-level survey data
- All RTI survey staff have signed a confidentiality statement and an affidavit of nondisclosure
- RTI will remove all personally identifying information from data files that are sent to NCSES
- RTI will destroy any personally identifying information at the conclusion of the survey

Will this affect my employment?

Your participation in this voluntary survey will not affect your employment in any way. Your institution will not have access to your answers.

