



National Institutes of Health

SURVEY OF NEW AND EARLY STAGE INVESTIGATORS

OMB # 0925-0474

Expiration Date: 10/31/2014



CSR SURVEY OF NEW AND EARLY STAGE INVESTIGATORS

"Web surveys etc. requires this same information"

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SURVEY OF NEW AND EARLY STAGE INVESTIGATORS

Informed Consent Statement

PROCEDURES

The survey will take approximately 30-45 minutes to complete.

You do not have to do anything to prepare for the survey. We will ask questions about your overall experience with the NIH grant application process, the types of resources you utilized, and the decisions you have made regarding resubmission.

PARTICIPATION AND WITHDRAWAL

Participation in this survey is completely voluntary. There is no consequence if you decide not to complete the survey. Your participation in this survey will not affect your ability to apply for or obtain NIH grant funding in the future.

POTENTIAL RISKS

We anticipate very few risks to you from participation in this survey. There is a small chance that you may feel uncomfortable with a question and not want to respond. Please remember that you do not have to answer any questions you do not wish to answer. If you do experience negative feelings as a result of the survey and wish to discuss them with someone, you may call Dr. Susie Nemes, the Principal Investigator of this study, at 866.901.6583. Dr. Nemes is a clinical psychologist, and can provide a referral for counseling. In the extremely unlikely event of physical or other injury resulting from participation in the survey please call 911 or your doctor. Social Solutions will not provide compensation if you experience injury or other adverse effects which are not the fault of the investigators.

ANTICIPATED BENEFITS

If you decide to participate in the study, the information that you provide will be used to help CSR identify and address any issues in the application and peer review process.

PRIVACY AND CONFIDENTIALITY

To protect your identity, none of the information you provide will be associated with any statement or identified personally in any way. Instead, your survey has been assigned a unique identifier. The consent form will be kept separate from the other information we collect to make sure that the data cannot be identified. Your name and contact information will be used only to provide your honorarium following the study, and will not be linked to your survey responses. Any personal information you provide in the survey will be encrypted and stored securely by Social Solutions. If you are uncomfortable providing any information, please remember that you do not have to answer any question that you do not wish to answer.

Information transferred and stored electronically will be stored only on password-protected computers. Only specified researchers at Social Solutions will have access to this information and all researchers are trained in secure and private research protocols. All files will be destroyed 7 years after the study concludes.

At the end of the study, Social Solutions will provide de-identified raw survey data to CSR. No personal information collected through consent forms or for honorarium provision will be provided and CSR will not know the identities of survey participants.

Information provided during the study will only be disclosed to others if necessary to protect your rights and welfare or if required by law. When the results of the research are published or discussed in conferences, no information will be included that would reveal your identity.

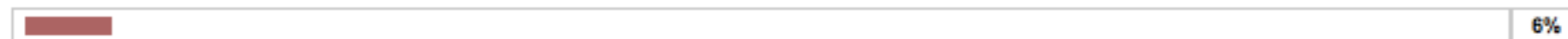
QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS

If you have any questions about this project, you may contact:

Susanna Nemes
CEO and Principal Investigator
Social Solutions International, Inc.
snemes@socialsolutions.biz
866.901.6583

Caroline Myers
Project Coordinator/Research Associate
Social Solutions International, Inc.
cmyers@socialsolutions.biz
301.385.1187

If you have any questions about your rights as a research participant, please call Karen Chen, the IRB Representative, at 703-738-6684.



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Informed Consent Agreement

CONSENT

Informed consent is documented, as approved by the Social Solutions Institutional Review Board (IRB), by your agreement with the informed consent statement below. The Social Solutions IRB is completely independent from NIH. By selecting "Agree" below, you (the participant or the participant's legally authorized representative) are agreeing with the informed consent statement. Please contact one of the individuals listed above if you have any questions, prior to selecting "Agree" or "Disagree".

Please read the statement below and show that you understand what you have read by selecting "Agree" below.

*** 1. I have read this form and understand all of the information about my involvement in the survey. By clicking below, I agree to participate.**

- Agree
- Disagree



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Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. This survey is one component of a study of the experiences of New Investigators' and Early Stage Investigators' with the NIH R01 grant application process. Your participation in this survey will assist NIH in its mission to refine and improve these processes. If you are not comfortable answering a question, please feel free to skip that question. Your consent statement and any personal information will be stored separately from your survey responses, and therefore your data will not be associated with your identity in any analysis or findings. The survey will take approximately 30 minutes to complete and you will receive a \$25 honorarium upon completion.

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First, please answer the following questions three questions. These questions are required in order to generate unique identifiers. For confidentiality reasons, we are asking for very limited information.

***2. Please enter the first two letters of your mother's first name. For instance, if your mother's name is Catherine, please enter 'CA.' If you do not know your mother's first name, please enter 'NA.'**

***3. Please enter the first two letters of your father's first name. For instance, if your father's name is Frank, please enter 'FR.' If you do not know your father's first name, please enter 'NA.'**

***4. Please enter the last two digits of your year of birth. For instance, if you were born in 1970, please enter '70.'**

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For the first set of questions, please think about your own skills and abilities, as they relate to the R01 grant application process.



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SURVEY OF NEW AND EARLY STAGE INVESTIGATORS

1. I am confident in my ability to write a successful grant application.

- Strongly Disagree Moderately Disagree Slightly Disagree Neither Agree, Nor Disagree Slightly Agree Moderately Agree Strongly Agree

2. I am confident in my ability to formulate hypotheses.

- Strongly Disagree Moderately Disagree Slightly Disagree Neither Agree, Nor Disagree Slightly Agree Moderately Agree Strongly Agree

3. I am confident in my ability to develop an effective research design.

- Strongly Disagree Moderately Disagree Slightly Disagree Neither Agree, Nor Disagree Slightly Agree Moderately Agree Strongly Agree

4. I am confident in my ability to collect and analyze data.

- Strongly Disagree Moderately Disagree Slightly Disagree Neither Agree, Nor Disagree Slightly Agree Moderately Agree Strongly Agree

5. I am confident in my ability to publish my research findings.

- Strongly Disagree Moderately Disagree Slightly Disagree Neither Agree, Nor Disagree Slightly Agree Moderately Agree Strongly Agree

6. I am confident in my ability to engage collaborators in an effort to produce high quality research.

- Strongly Disagree Moderately Disagree Slightly Disagree Neither Agree, Nor Disagree Slightly Agree Moderately Agree Strongly Agree

7. I am confident in my ability to correctly format an application for submission.

- Strongly Disagree Moderately Disagree Slightly Disagree Neither Agree, Nor Disagree Slightly Agree Moderately Agree Strongly Agree



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For the next series of questions, please think about the most recent NIH grant application you submitted.



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8. I set aside sufficient time to complete and submit this grant application.

- Strongly Disagree Moderately Disagree Slightly Disagree Neither Agree, Nor Disagree Slightly Agree Moderately Agree Strongly Agree

9. My department provided protected time for me to complete and submit this application.

- Strongly Disagree Moderately Disagree Slightly Disagree Neither Agree, Nor Disagree Slightly Agree Moderately Agree Strongly Agree

10. I was not comfortable asking for help with this grant application.

- Strongly Disagree Moderately Disagree Slightly Disagree Neither Agree, Nor Disagree Slightly Agree Moderately Agree Strongly Agree

11. When I submitted this NIH grant application, I was confident that I would receive a fair review.

- Strongly Disagree Moderately Disagree Slightly Disagree Neither Agree, Nor Disagree Slightly Agree Moderately Agree Strongly Agree

12. When I submitted this NIH grant application, I was not confident that I would receive funding.

- Strongly Disagree Moderately Disagree Slightly Disagree Neither Agree, Nor Disagree Slightly Agree Moderately Agree Strongly Agree

13. Based my experience writing and submitting this grant application, I am not likely to apply for another NIH grant in the next 1-2 years.

- Strongly Disagree Moderately Disagree Slightly Disagree Neither Agree, Nor Disagree Slightly Agree Moderately Agree Strongly Agree

14. My grant preparation and submission experience was facilitated by my institution's resources (i.e. protected time, grants management staff, assistance with budget, etc.).

- Strongly Disagree Moderately Disagree Slightly Disagree Neither Agree, Nor Disagree Slightly Agree Moderately Agree Strongly Agree



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Someone who provided an example of a successful NIH application	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Graduate Student / Post Doc to help with the application	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Your institution's sponsored project staff	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Your institution's grants management staff	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Your institution's office of research	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Specify "Other" in this field:



Other



Specify "Other" in field below:

17. Please rate the helpfulness (1=Not At All Helpful; 7=Completely Helpful) of the following training resources you utilized in preparing and submitting your NIH grant application (For any resource you DID NOT utilize, select N/A)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	N/A
Pre-Doctoral Training grant	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Post-Doctoral Training grant	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Career Development Award	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
NIH grant writing workshop	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Grant writing workshop at your institution	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other training programs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
NIH websites for applicants	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Books and articles on grant application preparation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Personal mentoring in grant preparation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Specify "Other" in field below:



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For the following set of questions, consider the last time you received a summary statement or critique for an NIH grant application that you submitted as a Principal Investigator.

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18. To what degree were the reviewers' comments understandable?

- Not at all Slightly Somewhat Neutral Moderately Mostly Completely

19. To what degree did you agree with the reviewers' comments?

- Not at all Slightly Somewhat Neutral Moderately Mostly Completely



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20. Did you ask anyone for help to interpret the reviewers' comments?

Yes

No



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21. Why not?

- I preferred to work on it independently
- I was too embarrassed to ask for help
- No one was available to help
- My institution does not provide support for this activity
- I did not feel I could trust anyone with my reviewer comments
- I did not have time to ask someone else to read them before resubmission
- I did not need help interpreting reviewer comments
- I was uncomfortable sharing the reviewer comments
- I do not have a close relationship with anyone in my department or institution
- I did not know who to ask for help
- I did not want to impose or inconvenience anyone
- Other (please specify)



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22. Whom did you consult?

- Colleague with NIH grant experience
- Colleague without NIH grant experience
- Mentor/Coach
- NIH Program Officer
- Scientific Review Officer
- Family Member or Friend
- Collaborator
- Paid Consultant
- Supervisor
- Someone who shared a funded application with you
- Your institution's sponsored project staff
- Your institution's grants management staff
- Your institution's office of research



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23. Why didn't you contact your NIH Program Officer for help in interpreting reviewer comments?

- I did not have time
- I had other assistance interpreting my summary statement
- I was not aware that I could contact my Program Officer
- I did not know the name of my Program Officer
- I did not know how to reach my Program Officer
- I was encouraged not to contact my Program Officer
- I was too embarrassed to discuss my review with my Program Officer
- I was afraid of the reaction I would get from my Program Officer
- My Program Officer was unavailable when I attempted to reach him/her
- I felt that it would not be helpful to contact my Program Officer
- I did not want to impose upon or inconvenience my Program Officer
- I decided not to revise and resubmit my application
- Other (please specify)





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24. Did you access the NIH Applicant Guidance: Next Steps link (http://grants.nih.gov/grants/next_steps.htm) that was included in your summary statement?

Yes

No



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25. To what degree was it helpful?

- Not at all helpful Mostly not helpful Only slightly helpful Neutral Somewhat helpful Very helpful Extremely helpful

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26. Were you aware of this page on the NIH website?

- Yes
- No



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27. Was your application assigned a numerical overall impact/priority score?

- Yes
- No

28. Have you received a Notice of Award letter indicating that your application has been funded?

- Yes
- No



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For the next set of questions, consider the last time that you received a summary statement and critiques and had to make a decision about resubmission.



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29. Did you revise and resubmit the application?

Yes

No



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SURVEY OF NEW AND EARLY STAGE INVESTIGATORS**30. What factors contributed to your decision not to resubmit your application?**

- This was my second submission. I could not resubmit again.
- I have not yet decided to resubmit
- I did not think I could lower my score enough to be in the competitive range
- I did not think my application had a chance to be funded
- I was no longer interested in the project
- Other work responsibilities were higher priorities
- I did not have time
- Colleagues recommended that I not resubmit
- Project Officer recommended that I not resubmit
- I was discouraged by the process
- I was discouraged by the reviewers' comments
- There was no opportunity to resubmit (e.g. one-time RFA)
- I received research funding from another source
- Other (please specify)





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31. When I resubmitted my NIH grant application I was confident that I had adequately addressed all issues raised in my original application's critique.

- Strongly Disagree Moderately Disagree Slightly Disagree Neither Agree, Nor Disagree Slightly Agree Moderately Agree Strongly Agree

32. The critiques provided insights on how to improve the application.

- Strongly Disagree Moderately Disagree Slightly Disagree Neither Agree, Nor Disagree Slightly Agree Moderately Agree Strongly Agree





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33. What was the most influential factor in your decision of whether or not to revise and resubmit your NIH grant application?



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For the following set of questions, consider your experience with the NIH peer review process as a whole.



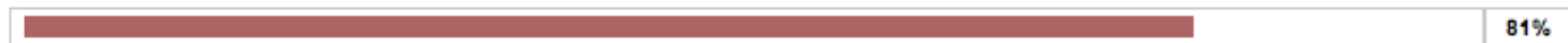
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34. To what degree do you believe each of the following words/phrases describe the NIH peer review process?

	Not at all	Very little	Slightly	Neutral	Somewhat	Moderately	Completely
Unfair	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Independent of inappropriate influences	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Confusing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Expert in quality	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Transparent	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Impartial	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Confidential	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Inefficient	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Biased	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



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35. The NIH peer review process is fair regardless of an applicant's ethnic/racial identity.

- Strongly Disagree Moderately Disagree Slightly Disagree Neither Agree, Nor Disagree Slightly Agree Moderately Agree Strongly Agree

36. The NIH peer review process is not equally fair to male and female applicants.

- Strongly Disagree Moderately Disagree Slightly Disagree Neither Agree, Nor Disagree Slightly Agree Moderately Agree Strongly Agree

37. The NIH peer review process is equally fair to early career and more established applicants.

- Strongly Disagree Moderately Disagree Slightly Disagree Neither Agree, Nor Disagree Slightly Agree Moderately Agree Strongly Agree

38. The NIH peer review process is not equally fair to applicants from high and low research intensive institutions.

- Strongly Disagree Moderately Disagree Slightly Disagree Neither Agree, Nor Disagree Slightly Agree Moderately Agree Strongly Agree



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39. The positive aspects of my experience with NIH Peer Review include:

40. The negative aspects of my experience with NIH Peer Review include:

87%

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41. Preconceived notions on the part of CSR reviewers about my race/ethnicity are not likely to influence the review of my work.

- Strongly Disagree Moderately Disagree Slightly Disagree Neither Agree, Nor Disagree Slightly Agree Moderately Agree Strongly Agree

42. Perceptions of my race/ethnicity may affect my receipt of grant funding.

- Strongly Disagree Moderately Disagree Slightly Disagree Neither Agree, Nor Disagree Slightly Agree Moderately Agree Strongly Agree

43. I consider the potential impact of my race/ethnicity in my decision to apply for grant funding or other research opportunities.

- Strongly Disagree Moderately Disagree Slightly Disagree Neither Agree, Nor Disagree Slightly Agree Moderately Agree Strongly Agree





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Now we would like to learn a little about you. Please answer the following demographic questions to the best of your ability.



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44. What is your ethnicity?

- Hispanic or Latino
- Not Hispanic or Latino
- Prefer not to answer

45. What is your race (mark all that apply)?

- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Black or African American
- Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
- White
- Prefer not to answer

46. What is your gender?

- Female
- Male
- Other
- Prefer not to answer

47. What is your institutional affiliation?

48. What is your position or job title?

49. What types of research support have you received?

- Research award
- Training or Career Development award
- Research Center award
- Merit award
- Prize for Research or Teaching
- Institutional Start-Up Funds
- Support from a colleague's research project
- None
- Prefer not to answer
- Other (please specify)

50. Have you been successful in obtaining NIH R01 grant funding?

- Yes
- No

51. What is your geographic location?

- Central (ND, SD, NE, KS, OK, MN, IA, MO, WI, IL, MI, IN, OH)
- East (ME, VT, NH, MA, RI, CT, NY, NJ, PA, DE)
- South (MD, DC, VA, WV, KY, TN, NC, SC, GA, FL, AL, MS, AR, TX, LA)
- West (WA, OR, CA, ID, NV, AZ, UT, MT, WY, CO, NM, AK, HI)
- Prefer not to answer

52. In what state or country did you receive your PhD?

State or territory (if U.S.)

Country (if non-U.S.)

53. What is the highest level of educational attainment of your mother and father?

	Mother	Father
Less than high/secondary school graduate	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
High/secondary school graduate or equivalent	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Some college	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Bachelor's degree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Some graduate level coursework	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Master's degree (e.g. MS, MA, MBA, MSW, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Professional Degree (e.g. MD, DDS, JD, DMin, PsyD, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Research doctoral degree (PhD)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Not applicable/unknown	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Prefer not to answer	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

54. I believe that reviewers knew my race/ethnicity when evaluating my grant applications

- Strongly Disagree
- Moderately Disagree
- Slightly Disagree
- Neither Agree, Nor Disagree
- Slightly Agree
- Moderately Agree
- Strongly Agree





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Thank you for your participation in this important survey. Your feedback is valuable to NIH's mission to continual improvement and refinement of grant funding procedures.

If you would like to receive an honorarium for your participation in this survey, click on the following link (if you are unable to click on this link, please copy and paste the URL into your web browser):

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/5DJ7QWD>



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Done

1. Would you like to receive your honorarium in the form of a \$25 Amazon gift card emailed to your preferred email address?

Yes

No

Next

2. Please enter your preferred email address. This information will not be linked to your survey responses.

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2. Please enter your preferred mailing address, and a prepaid credit card will be sent to you. This information will not be linked to your survey responses.

Name:

Company:

Address 1:

Address 2:

City/Town:

State/Province:

ZIP/Postal Code:

Country:

Email Address:

Phone Number:

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Thank you! We have received your information and your honorarium is currently being processed.

[Prev](#)[Done](#)