Attachment 1: First Invitation Email

Dear Loan Repayment Program Participant,

You are invited to participate in The Loan Repayment Program Participant Survey. This survey is being conducted on behalf of the Division of Loan Repayment's (DLR) Extramural Loan Repayment Program (LRP) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Abt Associates, an independent policy research firm, has been awarded a contract by DLR to administer the project.

The survey questions focus on your experiences in the LRP, your career status, and your suggestions for program improvements. A subset of LRP participants was selected for the survey, and information from the survey will be used to guide program improvements and to support future program goals. Following the instructions and answering the questions should take approximately 20 minutes of your time.

Please click on the following link to complete this confidential online survey:

http://survey.abtassociates.com/surveys/melanie-X/lrp-participant/?code=ml7IM

Your participation in this study is voluntary and your responses will be secure to the extent permitted by law. Abt Associates will share aggregate data resulting from the survey with NIH, but none of these data will contain specific information that could lead to your identification. Your frank and open responses will help us improve the program, and we encourage you to be candid about your experiences. Any decision you make regarding completing the survey will not affect your current or future eligibility to participate in the LRP.

If you have questions about the study or have difficulty completing the survey, please contact us at [Project E-mail Address].

Thank you in advance for taking the time to participate in the study. We request that you complete the survey by DATE [4 weeks].

Regards,

Luba Katz, PhD Senior Associate and Project Director Abt Associates

Jill Mattia, PhD Scientific Program Evaluation Specialist OD/OER/OEP/DLR National Institutes of Health