



## **NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION**

### **INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH EXPERIENCES FOR STUDENTS (IRES) EVALUATION**

**2019**

## **SURVEY OF FORMER PARTICIPANTS**

#### **Notice**

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**CONTINUE**

These questions aim to confirm your eligibility for this survey and rely on information Dr. <First name Last name> at <INSTITUTION> provided to the National Science Foundation (NSF).

S1. Is your name <First Name Middle Name/Initial Last Name>?

Yes, this is my name.

No, my name has changed or is misspelled or incomplete.

<Ask> My full name (including middle name or initial) is:

No, I'm not the person named above.

<Go to screen out language on next page>

*Source: Adapted from PIRE Grad Survey A1a*

S2. Do you recall participating in an international research experience as part of the National Science Foundation International Research Experiences for Students (IRES) program?

Yes <Qualify, go to S5.a. to confirm country and subsequent information>

No

I am not sure

S3. Do you recall participating in an international research experience with or organized by Dr. <First name Last name> at <INSTITUTION>?

Yes <Qualify, go to S5.a. to confirm country and subsequent information>

No

I am not sure

S4. Did you conduct research in another country while you were an undergraduate or graduate student?

Yes

No <Go to screen out language on next page>

S5.a. In which country was the research conducted?

<If other> Please specify the country:

S5.b. Did you conduct the research abroad during [YEAR]?

Yes

No <Ask> In what year(s) did you conduct the research?

S5.c. At the time you conducted the international research were you:

Select all that apply

S5.c1.  An undergraduate student

A graduate student

S5.c2. Enrolled in [UNIVERSITY]

Yes

No

<Ask>

In what university or universities were you enrolled when you conducted the international research?

[If screened out]

Your answers indicate that you are not the intended person for this survey.

Thank you for your time!

[If screened in]

Your answers indicate that you qualify for this survey!

You may have had multiple international research experiences in your career. Please provide responses thinking of your FIRST international research experience as part of the IRES program.

If you do not recall participating in IRES, please think of your FIRST international research experience.

If you need to stop before you have finished, please click on the  button at the bottom of each page to exit the survey. The data you provide prior to clicking  will be securely stored and available when you return to complete the survey.

For security purposes, you will be timed out if you are idle for longer than 30 minutes.

## Please tell us about your experience participating in IRES

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1. How many times did you participate in IRES?

Once

Twice or more <If so, note:> If you participated in the IRES program more than once, please think about your **first IRES experience** when answering the remainder of this survey.

Don't know <If so, note:> If you do not recall participating in IRES, please think of your **first international experience** in answering this and all other questions.

2. Toward what degree were you working when you participated in the IRES international research experience?

No specific degree

Associate's degree (e.g., AA, AS)

Bachelor's degree (e.g., BS, BA, AB)

Master's degree (e.g., MS, MA, MBA)

Doctorate (e.g., PhD, DSc, EdD)

Other professional degree (e.g., JD, LLB, MD, DDS, DVM) – Specify type:

Other – Specify type:

*Source: Added one response option from Q7 (AA degree) into Q16 of NSCG 2015*

3.a <If Q2 answer is No specific degree, AA or BA/BS degree>. What was your college/university class standing when you participated in the IRES international research experience?

Incoming freshman

Freshman

Sophomore

Junior

Senior

4th year of a 5-year program

Other, please explain:

*Source: REU Data System*

3.b <If Q2 answer is MS, Doctorate, or Other professional degree>. In what year of graduate school did you participate in the IRES international research experience?

First year

Second year

Third or more years

Other, please explain:

4. What was the primary field of studies for this degree?

*Select the field that is closest to your field of studies: <drop down menu with broad fields>*

1	Agriculture Business and Production
2	Agricultural Sciences
3	Architecture/Environmental Design
4	Biological/Life Sciences
5	Business Management/Administrative Services
6	Communications
7	Computer and information sciences
8	Conservation and Renewable Natural Resources
9	Criminal Justice/Protective Services
10	Education
11	Engineering
12	Engineering-Related Technologies
13	Languages, Linguistics, Literature/Letters
14	Health and Related Sciences
15	Home Economics
16	Law/Prelaw/Legal Studies
17	Liberal Arts/General Studies
18	Library Science
19	Mathematics and Statistics
20	Parks, Recreation, Leisure, and Fitness Studies
21	Philosophy, Religion, Theology
22	Physical Sciences
23	Psychology
24	Public Affairs
25	Social Work
26	Social Sciences and History
27	Visual and Performing Arts
28	Other Fields (Not Listed)

*Source: Question wording from NSCG 2015 D17, response options from NSCG 2015 list pp. 20-21, instruction in italics is new*

5. Before traveling abroad for your research experience, what was your proficiency level in the primary language spoken in your host country?

*Please remember to provide responses thinking of your FIRST international research experience—as part of the IRES program if you remember participating in IRES.*

- No proficiency (may be able to make simple statements but with very limited overall understanding of the language)
- Novice level (able to communicate short, simple messages on familiar topics)
- Intermediate level (able to have discussions on familiar topics)
- Advanced level (able to understand and participate in any conversations)
- Native or bilingual level (complete fluency)

*Source: New*

6. Which of the following did you do as part of your IRES international research experience?

Select all that apply

- Developed the ideas, hypotheses, broad framework, or vision for the research project
- Researched literature relevant to the project
- Developed instrumentation, software, equipment, or data collection processes
- Synthesized or fabricated materials
- Prepared samples or specimens
- Conducted fieldwork or field observations
- Collected data from a lab or office or carried out simulations
- Analyzed data

- Interpreted results
- Planned or developed follow-up work based on results
- Prepared summaries of results for dissemination (in publications or presentations)
- Presented my work to other students, faculty or researchers (in a seminar, conference or other venue)
- Mentored other students conducting research or led a student research team

*Source: Adapted from EAPSI E4*

## Please tell us about your experience **BEFORE** participating in IRES

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7. a. Had you participated in any research prior to participating in the IRES program?

- Yes
- No

- b. <If Q 7a= Yes> When did you participate in prior research?

Select all that apply

- During one academic year (typically ~10 hr/week for at least one semester)
- During one summer (typically full time for at least six weeks)
- During multiple academic years and/or summers

*Source: SURE follow-up survey, question wording tailored to name IRES and to add the word “experience”*

8. Before your IRES international research experience, had you done any of the following?

Select all that apply

- Attended elementary or secondary school in another country (outside the U.S.)
- Lived outside the U.S. for six months longer
- Participated in a study abroad program
- Spent a semester or more pursuing research outside the U.S.
- Visited another country for leisure
- Collaborated on research with someone based in another country
- Published research with someone based in another country
- Attended or presented scholarly work at a research conference in another country
- Participated on a research team with a scientist who was visiting my group from a foreign institution
- Worked with a colleague who had completed the IRES program
- None of the above <If selected, other options get unmarked>

*Source: Adapted from IRFP C4 (added response options 3, 4 and 5)*

9. **Before** you traveled to the international research site, did you receive any of the following supports from IRES faculty and staff?

Select all that apply

- Foreign language instruction
- Country orientation (covering culture, politics, customs etc.)
- Training in research techniques
- Other:

*Source: New*

## Please tell us about support activities **AFTER** your IRES experience

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10. Did you receive any of the following supports from IRES faculty and staff after you returned from the international research site?

Select all that apply

- Academic support (scientific/research advice, academic planning)
- Reference letter to apply for further education or job
- Assistance developing a publication or presentation based on research conducted while abroad.
- Support finding other research opportunities
- Guidance on how to maintain the professional contacts developed at the host institution
- Help obtaining financial support to continue research you started on the IRES project
- Mentoring on how to integrate the research conducted at the host institution into future research.
- Other:

*Source: Adapted from EAPSI advisor survey D1 and E1*

11. Since the end of your IRES experience, have you collaborated or communicated with your foreign host?

- Yes
- No

*Source: Adapted from IRFP F1*

12. <If Q11=yes> How did you collaborate or communicate with your foreign host since the end of your IRES experience?

Select all that apply

- We brainstormed / exchanged ideas
- We exchanged / shared data, research results, or tools
- We co-authored papers or grant proposals
- My foreign host provided letters of reference
- I had a position at the foreign host's institution or group (analyst, postdoc, mentor, or other)
- I participated again as an undergraduate or graduate student or post-doctoral fellow in a program offered by the host's institution
- Other – Please specify

*Source: IRFP F1a*

## The next questions focus on benefits of the IRES program

13. How satisfied were you with the following aspects of your experience with the IRES program:

	Very dissatisfied	Somewhat dissatisfied	Neutral	Somewhat satisfied	Very satisfied	Not applicable
a. Lab or field equipment	1 <input type="radio"/>	2 <input type="radio"/>	3 <input type="radio"/>	4 <input type="radio"/>	5 <input type="radio"/>	6 <input type="radio"/>
b. Support and guidance from U.S. faculty involved in IRES	1 <input type="radio"/>	2 <input type="radio"/>	3 <input type="radio"/>	4 <input type="radio"/>	5 <input type="radio"/>	6 <input type="radio"/>
c. Support and guidance from the foreign host or other foreign senior researchers	1 <input type="radio"/>	2 <input type="radio"/>	3 <input type="radio"/>	4 <input type="radio"/>	5 <input type="radio"/>	6 <input type="radio"/>
d. Support and guidance from graduate U.S. students involved in IRES	1 <input type="radio"/>	2 <input type="radio"/>	3 <input type="radio"/>	4 <input type="radio"/>	5 <input type="radio"/>	6 <input type="radio"/>
e. Support and guidance from undergraduate U.S. students involved in IRES	1 <input type="radio"/>	2 <input type="radio"/>	3 <input type="radio"/>	4 <input type="radio"/>	5 <input type="radio"/>	6 <input type="radio"/>
f. Research group meetings	1 <input type="radio"/>	2 <input type="radio"/>	3 <input type="radio"/>	4 <input type="radio"/>	5 <input type="radio"/>	6 <input type="radio"/>
g. Group social activities	1 <input type="radio"/>	2 <input type="radio"/>	3 <input type="radio"/>	4 <input type="radio"/>	5 <input type="radio"/>	6 <input type="radio"/>
h. The IRES program in general	1 <input type="radio"/>	2 <input type="radio"/>	3 <input type="radio"/>	4 <input type="radio"/>	5 <input type="radio"/>	6 <input type="radio"/>

*Source: Adapted from URSSA 11 and CISE REU a la carte 24*

14. What were the most valuable aspects of your experience with the IRES program?

Text box, xxx

*Source: Adapted from EAPSI E3*

15. What would have made the IRES experience more useful or impactful to you?

Text box, xxx

*Source: New*



16. Please rate how much you learned about the following during your IRES research experience:

	Nothing at all	A little bit	A good amount	A great deal
a. Writing a research proposal	1 ○	2 ○	3 ○	4 ○
b. Giving an effective oral presentation	1 ○	2 ○	3 ○	4 ○
c. Writing technical and scientific text	1 ○	2 ○	3 ○	4 ○
d. Ethics in scientific research	1 ○	2 ○	3 ○	4 ○
e. Laboratory or research techniques	1 ○	2 ○	3 ○	4 ○
f. The nature of the job of a researcher	1 ○	2 ○	3 ○	4 ○
g. Working collaboratively with others	1 ○	2 ○	3 ○	4 ○
h. Identifying appropriate research methods and designs	1 ○	2 ○	3 ○	4 ○
i. Formulating a research hypothesis that could be answered with data	1 ○	2 ○	3 ○	4 ○
j. Analyzing data and interpreting results	1 ○	2 ○	3 ○	4 ○
k. Understanding the theories and concepts guiding a research project	1 ○	2 ○	3 ○	4 ○
l. Defending an argument when asked questions	1 ○	2 ○	3 ○	4 ○
m. Ability to work collaboratively	1 ○	2 ○	3 ○	4 ○
n. Self-confidence in ability to contribute to knowledge through research	1 ○	2 ○	3 ○	4 ○
o. Applying and participating in conferences	1 ○	2 ○	3 ○	4 ○
p. Career options in research	1 ○	2 ○	3 ○	4 ○

*Source: Adapted from REU CISE a la carte.*

17. How much do you agree with the following statements?

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not applicable
a. My research benefited from access to expertise of foreign partners in my field.	1 <input type="radio"/>	2 <input type="radio"/>	3 <input type="radio"/>	4 <input type="radio"/>	5 <input type="radio"/>	6 <input type="radio"/>
b. My research benefited from access to data, equipment or facilities available in foreign locations.	1 <input type="radio"/>	2 <input type="radio"/>	3 <input type="radio"/>	4 <input type="radio"/>	5 <input type="radio"/>	6 <input type="radio"/>
c. My research benefited from access to place-based phenomena that occur outside the U.S. (e.g., biological, geological, cultural phenomena).	1 <input type="radio"/>	2 <input type="radio"/>	3 <input type="radio"/>	4 <input type="radio"/>	5 <input type="radio"/>	6 <input type="radio"/>
d. Regulatory, bureaucratic or administrative procedures in a foreign country hindered the progress of my research.	1 <input type="radio"/>	2 <input type="radio"/>	3 <input type="radio"/>	4 <input type="radio"/>	5 <input type="radio"/>	6 <input type="radio"/>
e. Exposure to different cultural perspectives improved the quality of my research.	1 <input type="radio"/>	2 <input type="radio"/>	3 <input type="radio"/>	4 <input type="radio"/>	5 <input type="radio"/>	6 <input type="radio"/>
f. Cultural differences hindered the progress of my research.	1 <input type="radio"/>	2 <input type="radio"/>	3 <input type="radio"/>	4 <input type="radio"/>	5 <input type="radio"/>	6 <input type="radio"/>
g. Language differences hindered the progress of my research.	1 <input type="radio"/>	2 <input type="radio"/>	3 <input type="radio"/>	4 <input type="radio"/>	5 <input type="radio"/>	6 <input type="radio"/>
h. My work abroad opened up new areas of investigation.	1 <input type="radio"/>	2 <input type="radio"/>	3 <input type="radio"/>	4 <input type="radio"/>	5 <input type="radio"/>	6 <input type="radio"/>
i. I made valuable professional connections.	1 <input type="radio"/>	2 <input type="radio"/>	3 <input type="radio"/>	4 <input type="radio"/>	5 <input type="radio"/>	6 <input type="radio"/>
j. Participating in IRES made me more competitive for jobs.	1 <input type="radio"/>	2 <input type="radio"/>	3 <input type="radio"/>	4 <input type="radio"/>	5 <input type="radio"/>	6 <input type="radio"/>
k. Participating in IRES made me consider professional opportunities I would not have considered in the past.	1 <input type="radio"/>	2 <input type="radio"/>	3 <input type="radio"/>	4 <input type="radio"/>	5 <input type="radio"/>	6 <input type="radio"/>

*Source: Adapted from PIRE grad survey C4 and EAPSI Applicant Survey F3 [consider alternatives for order delivery]*

18. Has the IRES experience influenced your short- and/or long-term professional goals?

Select all that apply

IRES encouraged me to pursue further education (e.g., graduate school, post-doc, etc.)

IRES helped solidify my interest in a research or academic career

IRES helped solidify my interest in science

IRES helped me change my career plans

<If selected> Please explain how your plans changed:

None of the above. My professional goals did not change as a result of participating in the IRES program

*Source: New*

19. Since participating, have you recommended the IRES program to a friend or colleague?

Yes

No

*Source: New*

## Please tell us about yourself

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20. What is the highest degree you have earned?

- Associate's degree (e.g., AA, AS)
- Bachelor's degree (e.g., BS, BA, AB)
- Master's degree (e.g., MS, MA, MBA)
- Doctorate (e.g., PhD, DSc, EdD)
- Other professional degree (e.g., JD, LLB, MD, DDS, DVM) – Specify type:
- Other – Specify type:

*Source: Added one response option from Q7 (AA degree) into Q16 of NSCG 2015*

21. In what year was your highest degree awarded?

Year:

*Source: Adapted from NSCG 2015 D11*

22. What was your <degree from above> major or primary field of study?

*[Drop down menu with broad fields as shown in Q4]*

*Source: NSCG 2015 and REU Data System*

23. Were you working for pay or profit during the week of [REFERENCE DATE]?

*Working includes being a student on paid work-study, self-employed and did not get paid that week, on a postdoctoral appointment, on vacation from work, on personal leave, paid sick leave, on travel while employed, or on any type of paid or unpaid leave, including vacation.*

- Yes <Go to 25>
- No

*Source: NSCG 2015 A1, wording in italics adapted to be more comprehensive*

24. What were your reasons for not working during the week of [REFERENCE DATE]?

Select all that apply

- Retired
- On layoff from a job
- Student
- Family responsibilities
- Chronic illness or permanent disability
- Suitable job not available
- Did not need or want to work
- Other – Specify

*Source: NSCG 2015 A3, excluded retirement date if selected retired*

<Go to Q28>

25. Choose the category that best describes the principal job you held during the week of [REFERENCE DATE]: [Drop down menu with following NSCG job titles]

1	Biological/Life Scientists
2	Clerical/Administrative Support Occupations
3	Clergy/Other Religious Workers
4	Computer Occupations
5	Consultants
6	Counselors
7	Engineers/Architects
8	Engineering Technologists/Technicians/Surveyors
9	Farmers/Foresters/Fishermen
10	Health Occupations
11	Lawyers/Judges
12	Librarians/Archivists/Curators
13	Managers and Supervisors, First-Line
14	Managers, Top-level Executives/Administrators
15	Managers, Other
16	Management-Related Occupations
17	Mathematical Scientists
18	Physical Scientists
19	Research Associates/Assistants
20	Sales/Marketing Occupations
21	Service Occupations, Except Health
22	Social Scientists
23	Social Workers
24	Teachers—Precollege
25	Teachers/Professors—Postsecondary
26	Teachers—Other
27	Writers/Editors/Public Relations Specialists/Artists/Entertainers/Broadcasters
28	Other Professions
29	Other Occupations (not listed)

*Source: Adapted from NSCG 2015 A7 to select job titles from NSCG pages 18-19 instead of inserting job code*

26. Did your duties on this job require the technical expertise of a bachelor's degree or higher in...

- Engineering, computer science, math, or the natural sciences  
 The social sciences  
 Some other field (e.g., health, business, or education). Specify:

*Source: NSCG 2015 A19*

27. Did your duties on this job require you to collaborate with foreign investigators?

- Yes  
 No

*Source: New*

28. In addition to IRES, have you participated in any other program funded by the National Science Foundation – such as Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU), International Research Fellowship Program (IRF), Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP), etc.?

- Yes, in the following program(s):   
 No

*Source: New*

29. Have you applied for a research grant to the National Science Foundation as a principal investigator or co-principal investigator?

- Yes
- No

*Source: New*

30. Since participating in IRES, how many of the following works have you produced as an author, co-author, inventor, co-inventor, developer, or co-developer? Make your best approximation if you do not know the exact number.

	<b>Total number (enter 0 if none)</b>
a. Conference abstracts, posters or presentations (including any published in conference proceedings)	Number box, xx
b. Scientific publication in a peer-reviewed journal	Number box, xx
c. Patents, registered or pending, provisional or non-provisional	Number box, xx
d. Other products that have been disseminated to the scholarly community or public (e.g., educational material, software application, dataset, database)	Number box, xx

*Source: Adapted from PIRE grad survey C2a*

<If Q30a>=1> Did any of these conference abstracts, posters or presentations include a foreign collaborator?

<If Q30b>=1> Did any of these publications include a foreign collaborator?

<If Q30c>=1> Did any of these patents include a foreign collaborator?

<If Q30d>=1> Did any of these products include a foreign collaborator?

NSF seeks participation in its activities among different groups, including men and women, minorities and nonminorities, people with and without disabilities, and others. Please help us measure attainment of this goal by answering a few additional questions.

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31. Ethnicity

- Hispanic or Latino
- Not Hispanic or Latino
- I do not wish to provide this information

*Source: REU Data System. Modified from the GRPF Application. Adapted the last response option from "Do not wish to provide ethnicity" to "I do not wish to provide this information".*

32. Race

Select all that apply

- American Indian or Alaskan Native
- Asian
- Black or African American
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- White
- I do not wish to provide this information <If selected, other selections get unmarked>

*Source: REU Data System. Modified from the GRFP Application. Adapted the last response option from "Do not wish provide race" to "I do not wish to provide this information".*

33. Sex assigned at birth on your original birth certificate

- Male
- Female
- I do not wish to provide this information

*Source: Mathematica memo on "Measuring Gender," based on Williams Institute at the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA)*

34. Veteran Status

*A veteran is a person who served in the active military, naval, or air service and who was discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable.*

- Veteran
- Not veteran
- I do not wish to provide this information

*Source: REU Data System. Modified from the GRFP Application to include a definition from 38 CFR. Adapted the last response option from "Do not wish to provide" to "I do not wish to provide this information".*

35. What is the usual degree of difficulty you have with...

*This question is designed to help us better understand the career paths of individuals with specific difficulties.*

	None	Slight	Moderate	Severe	Unable to do
a. <b>SEEING</b> words or letters in ordinary newsprint (with glasses/contact lenses, if you usually wear them)?	1 <input type="radio"/>	2 <input type="radio"/>	3 <input type="radio"/>	4 <input type="radio"/>	5 <input type="radio"/>
b. <b>HEARING</b> what is normally said in conversation with another person (with hearing aid, if you usually wear one)?	1 <input type="radio"/>	2 <input type="radio"/>	3 <input type="radio"/>	4 <input type="radio"/>	5 <input type="radio"/>
c. <b>WALKING or using stairs</b> without human or mechanical assistance?	1 <input type="radio"/>	2 <input type="radio"/>	3 <input type="radio"/>	4 <input type="radio"/>	5 <input type="radio"/>
d. <b>LIFTING or carrying</b> something as heavy as 10 pounds, such as a bag of groceries?	1 <input type="radio"/>	2 <input type="radio"/>	3 <input type="radio"/>	4 <input type="radio"/>	5 <input type="radio"/>
e. <b>CONCENTRATING, REMEMBERING, or MAKING DECISIONS</b> because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition?	1 <input type="radio"/>	2 <input type="radio"/>	3 <input type="radio"/>	4 <input type="radio"/>	5 <input type="radio"/>
f. I do not wish to provide this information	6 <input type="radio"/>				

*Source: REU Data System. Adapted from the NSCG 2015 E14 to include "I do not wish to provide this information".*

36. What is the highest level of education completed by your parents or guardians?

	Mother or female guardian	Father or male guardian
Less than high school completed	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
High school diploma or equivalent	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Some college, vocational, or trade school (including 2-year degrees)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Bachelor's degree (e.g., BS, BA, AB)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Master's degree (e.g., MS, MA, MBA)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Professional degree (e.g., JD, LLB, MD,DDs,	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Doctorate (e.g., PhD, DSc, EdD)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Not applicable	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Don't know	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

*Source: Adapted from the National Survey of Recent College Graduates 2010 (D6). Added "Don't know" as a response category.*

37. Were either of your parents or guardians born outside of the United States?

- Yes
- No
- I do not wish to provide this information

*Source: New*

38. Please use the space below to share additional thoughts or comments about the IRES program or to provide clarifications on your responses to this survey.

Text box, xxx

**Thank you for taking the time to fill out this survey!**

[Click here to submit and exit this survey](#)