

Participant exit survey

PARTICIPANT EXIT SURVEY

Note: This exit survey was designed for the NSF REU and IRES programs. The survey will be revised to accommodate other programs in the pilot. Some questions might be phrased more generally to accommodate other type of training opportunities (such as fellowships) or respondents (such as teachers), and some questions might be replaced with alternative questions relevant to each program. However, we expect the burden to remain the same.

Survey Eligibility

1. Did you participate in the REU [IRES] program [project]<program/project name, with URL> during <year>?

☐ Yes

☐ No (→ screen out)

[If Q1=1, screened out]

Your answers indicate that you are not the intended person for this survey about <program [project] name, with URL>. If you participated in another REU [IRES] program [project], you should have received another survey link for that program [project]. Please contact the [helpdesk](#) if you did not receive the survey associated with the program [project] in which you participated.

Thank you for your time!

[If Q1=2, screened in]

Tell us about your REU [IRES] experience

1. **[REU only]** How much time did you spend participating in the REU program <project name, with URL>?

If your research experience is ongoing, please provide your best estimate of how long you expect your participation to last.

Number box, xx

weeks

[IRES only] How much time did you spend abroad as part of your participation in the project <project name, with URL>?

If your research experience is ongoing, please provide your best estimate of how long you expect your participation to last.

Number box, xx

weeks

2. **[IRES only] 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, and so on)

- ☐ Training in research techniques
- ☐ Other:
3. Did you have a choice of research projects to work on during your REU [IRES] experience?
- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
4. Did you work on your own research project?
- ☐ Yes, I worked on my own project [at the foreign site]
- ☐ No, I worked on an existing project led by another researcher at the [foreign] site
5. Which of the following did you do as part of your REU [IRES] 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
6. Did you participate in any of the following activities during your REU [IRES] research experience?
- Select all that apply*
- ☐ Training on research ethics or institutional review boards
- ☐ Writing workshops or seminars (such as proposal or scientific writing)
- ☐ Professional development workshops or seminars (for example, inter-personal and communication skills, preparation for graduate or employment, and so on)
- ☐ Formal lectures or seminars on topics related to the research project
- ☐ Research-related field trip(s) (for example, to other labs, universities, industry, and so on)

Tell us about your REU [IRES] primary mentor

7. Who was your primary mentor during your REU [IRES] research experience?

- 1 ☐ A professor or scientist
 2 ☐ A postdoctoral fellow
 3 ☐ A graduate student
 4 ☐ Other, please specify:

Text box, xx

8. **[IRES ONLY]** Was your primary mentor from...?

- 1 ☐ A U.S. institution
 2 ☐ A foreign institution

9. On average, how many hours per week did you spend with your primary mentor?

Number box, xx

hours

10. Please indicate the extent to which you agree with each statement below about your primary mentor.

My mentor...

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neutral	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree	Not applicable
a. was accessible	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐	6 ☐
b. demonstrated professional integrity	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐	6 ☐
c. demonstrated content expertise in my research area	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐	6 ☐
d. was supportive and encouraging	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐	6 ☐
e. provided constructive and useful critiques of my work	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐	6 ☐
f. was helpful in directing and guiding me on research project issues	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐	6 ☐
g. answered my questions satisfactorily (for example, timely, clearly, comprehensively)	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐	6 ☐
h. acknowledged my contributions appropriately	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐	6 ☐
i. challenged me to extend my abilities	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐	6 ☐

The next questions ask about potential benefits of the REU [IRES] program [project].

11. Please rate how much you learned about the following during your REU [IRES] 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. Self-confidence in my ability to contribute to knowledge through research	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐
o. Applying and participating in conferences	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐
p. [REU only] What graduate school is like	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐
q. Career options in research	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐

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

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neutral	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree	Not applicable
a. My research benefited from access to expertise of faculty in my field. [My research benefited from access to expertise of foreign partners in my field.]	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐	6 ☐
b. My research benefited from access to data, equipment, or facilities available at my REU site. [My research benefited from access to data, equipment, or facilities available in foreign locations.]	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐	6 ☐
c. [IRES only] My research benefited from access to place-based phenomena that occur outside the U.S. (e.g., biological, geological, cultural phenomena).	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐	6 ☐
d. [IRES only] Regulatory, bureaucratic or administrative procedures in a foreign country hindered the progress of my research.	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐	6 ☐
e. [IRES only] Exposure to different cultural perspectives improved the quality of my research.	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐	6 ☐
f. [IRES only] Cultural differences hindered the progress of my research	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐	6 ☐
g. [IRES only] Language differences hindered the progress of my research.	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐	6 ☐
h. [IRES only] My work abroad opened up new areas of investigation.	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐	6 ☐
i. I made valuable professional connections.	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐	6 ☐
j. Participating in REU will help me be more competitive for graduate schools or jobs. [Participating in IRES will help me be more competitive for competitive for jobs.]	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐	6 ☐
k. Participating in REU [IRES] made me consider professional opportunities I would not have considered in the past.	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐	6 ☐

13. Has the REU [IRES] experience influenced your short- or long-term professional goals?

Select all that apply

- 1 ☐ REU [IRES] encouraged me to pursue further education (e.g. graduate school, post-doc, etc)
- 2 ☐ REU [IRES] helped solidify my interest in a research or academic career
- 3 ☐ REU [IRES] helped solidify my interest in science
- 4 ☐ REU [IRES] helped me change my career plans

<If selected> Please explain how your plans changed:

Text box, xx

- 5 ☐ None of the above. My professional goals did not change as a result of participating in the REU [IRES] program.

Satisfaction with the REU [IRES] experience

14. How do you feel about the length of time you spent researching as part of your REU [IRES] experience?

- 1 ☐ Too short
- 2 ☐ About right
- 3 ☐ Too long

15. How do you feel about the amount of hands-on research you did during your REU [IRES] experience?

- 1 ☐ Wish I had done more
- 2 ☐ Did about the right amount
- 3 ☐ Wish I had done less
- 4 ☐ Not applicable

16. How satisfied were you with the following aspects of the REU [IRES] program [project]:

	Very dissatisfied	Somewhat dissatisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Very satisfied	Not applicable
a. The www.nsfetap.org application website	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐
b. Orientation or acclimation activities	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐
c. Lab, technology, or field equipment	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐
d. Support and guidance from faculty and mentors involved in the program. [Support and guidance from U.S. faculty involved in IRES.]	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐
e. [IRES only] Support and guidance from the foreign host or other foreign senior researchers.	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐
f. Support and guidance from other students involved in the program [Support and guidance from graduate U.S. students involved in IRES.]	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐
g. [IRES only] Support and guidance from undergraduate U.S. students involved in IRES.	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐

	Very dissatisfied	Somewhat dissatisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Very satisfied	Not applicable
h. Quality of the interactions with the research group	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐
i. Opportunities for professional development	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐
j. Group social activities	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐
k. [REU only] Housing arrangements	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐
l. [REU only] Stipend	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐
m. The REU [IRES] program [project] experience in general	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐

17. [If Q16<4] Please describe changes you would like to see to the application website, program [project] requirements, or supports and opportunities offered through the program [project]?

Text box, xxx

**SUBMIT YOUR
SURVEY**