

2020 HEDS Advanced Degree First Destination Survey

This is a PDF representation of the online version of the survey. It includes all questions and response options, as well as notes (in italics) about how questions will display to survey takers.

Welcome to the First Destination Survey. Thanks for agreeing to participate!

The HEDS First Destination Survey asks you about your primary activity following graduation, including postgraduate employment, continuing education, volunteer work, etc.

Some questions ask you for personal information regarding your primary activity following graduation. Your participation is completely voluntary, and there are no penalties if you decide not to participate or if you choose to skip any questions. Your responses are confidential and will not be publicly linked with your name or any other identifying information.

1. Please indicate which of the following best describes what your PRIMARY activity will be after graduation. (Choose one)

- Employed, full time (on average 30 hours or more per week – includes postgraduate internship or fellowship)
- Employed, part time (on average less than 30 hours per week – includes postgraduate internship or fellowship)
- Accepted/enrolled in graduate school or another program of continuing education
- Participating in a volunteer or service program (e.g., Peace Corps, AmeriCorps, Catholic Charities USA, Teach for America)
- Serving in the U.S. military
- Seeking employment
- Planning to continue education by Fall 2020, but not yet accepted/enrolled
- None of the above

Respondents must select an answer in Q1 to move on in the survey.

2. Please identify the country where you will engage in this activity.

Respondents will select from a drop-down menu that lists: United States, Australia, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Spain, United Kingdom, Other, and Unknown. Respondents who select “Other” will get a fill-in question asking them to “Please fill in the name of the country where you will engage in this activity.”

Q3 only appears to respondents who select “United States” in Q2.

3. Please select the state where you will engage in this activity.

Respondents will select from a drop-down menu listing all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico in alphabetical order. They will also be able to select “Unknown.”

Q4 only appears to respondents who did not select “Unknown” in Q2 or Q3.

4. Please fill in the city where you will engage in this activity.

After the first four questions, the survey branches based on the respondent’s answer to the first question. We describe the questions in the different branches below.

Follow-up questions for respondents who indicate that they are employed full time or part time as their primary activity

Please provide the following information about your employment.

Name of the organization _____

Your position or title _____

Which of the following describes your employment sector?

- Public sector – working for local, state, or federal government agencies or organizations
- Private sector – working for agencies, companies, and organizations that are not owned by the local, state, or federal government

Which of the following describes your place of employment?

- For-profit organization
- Nonprofit organization



Given the diverse nature of employment, we would like to know if your position falls into one of the following categories.

(Choose one)

- Working as an entrepreneur – starting your own business with multiple customers/clients
- Employed on a temporary/contract work assignment – working for one client on a specific project, which has a limited timeframe
- Employed freelance – developing your own projects and selling them to clients, e.g. as an artist or freelance journalist
- Employed in a fellowship, postdoctoral residency, or other postdoctoral appointment
- Employed in a faculty tenure track position (*response option only appears to respondents who are employed full time*)
- Employed in a faculty non-tenure track position
- My employment does not fall into any of the categories listed above

To what extent is your position related to your graduate education?

- Directly related
- Somewhat related
- Not related

Respondents who did not select “directly related” in the previous question will be asked the following question.

If your position is not directly related to your graduate education, please mark the statement that best describes your situation.

- I found a more desirable position in another field
- I was unable to find a position related to my graduate education
- I have not seriously looked for a position related to my graduate education
- Other, please specify: _____

Were you employed before enrolling in your graduate program at [Institution Name]?

- Yes, I was employed in the same position as my employment after graduation.
- Yes, I was employed in a different position than my employment after graduation.
- No, I was not employed before enrolling in my graduate program.

Follow-up questions for respondents who indicate that they are employed full time

Are you paid an annual salary or hourly wage?

- Annual salary
- Hourly wage

Respondents who select “Annual salary” will be asked the following questions about their compensation.

Please provide your annual base salary, signing bonus, and guaranteed first-year bonus, writing out dollar amounts in full (e.g., \$45,000 = 45000). If you did not receive a signing or guaranteed first-year bonus, please leave those fields blank. If you received a non-cash bonus or a bonus without a specific dollar amount, please describe it in the field provided (e.g., stock options, 5% of annual profit).

Annual base salary \$ _____
 Signing bonus _____
 Guaranteed first-year bonus _____

Respondents who select “Hourly wage” will be asked the following two questions.

Please provide your hourly rate (e.g., \$20.25 per hour = 20.25).

\$ _____ per hour

On average, how many hours per week will you work?

_____ hours per week



Follow-up questions for respondents who indicate that they are accepted/enrolled in graduate school or another program of continuing education as their primary activity

What degree or certificate are you pursuing? (Choose one)

- Master's Degree in Arts and Sciences (e.g., MA, MS)
- Master of Business Administration (MBA)
- Other Master's Degree (e.g., MAT, MFA, MPA, MSE, MSN, MSW)
- Law Degree (JD or LLB)
- Medical Degree (e.g., MD, DO, DDS, DVM, PharmD)
- PhD
- Other Doctoral Degree (e.g., EdD, PsyD, DBA)
- Dual Degree (e.g., MD/PhD, JD/PhD, MA/MPA)
- Certificate _____
- Other Degree _____
- Taking courses without formally seeking a degree

Please provide the following information concerning your graduate school or other program of continuing education.

Name of institution _____

Program of study _____

Follow-up questions for respondents who indicate that they are participating in a volunteer or service program as their primary activity

Please provide the following information about your volunteer or service program.

Name of the sponsoring organization (e.g., Peace Corps, AmeriCorps) _____

Your position or title _____

Follow-up questions for respondents who indicate that they are serving in the U.S. military as their primary activity

Please provide the following information about your military assignment.

Service Branch:

- U.S. Army
- U.S. Air Force
- U.S. Coast Guard
- U.S. Marines
- U.S. Navy
- U.S. Merchant Marines
- Other: _____

Rank _____

Follow-up question for respondents who selected "None of the above" as their primary activity

Please describe what your PRIMARY activity will be after graduation. _____

All respondents will get these twelve final questions

How satisfied are you with your plans after graduation?

- Very satisfied
- Satisfied
- Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
- Dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied

How satisfied are you with your graduate education at [Institution Name]?

- Very satisfied
- Satisfied
- Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
- Dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied



If you could start your graduate education again, would you enroll at [Institution Name]?

- Definitely yes
- Probably yes
- Probably not
- Definitely not

What kind of degree or certificate will you receive from [Institution Name]?

- Post-Baccalaureate certificate
- Master's degree
- Post-Master's certificate
- Doctoral degree (e.g., DBA, DDS, DO, DVM, EdD, JD, MD, PhD, PharmD, PsyD)
- Other, please specify: _____

What is your field of study for your graduate degree or certificate?

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture & Environmental Design | <input type="checkbox"/> Law & Legal Professions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture & Natural Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Mathematics, Statistics, & Data Sciences |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arts & Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical & Health Professions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biological Sciences | <input type="checkbox"/> Physical Sciences |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business & Management | <input type="checkbox"/> Psychology |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications, Media, & Public Relations | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion & Theology |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Computer Science & Information Technology | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Sciences |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Service Professions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Humanities | |

What is your gender identity?

- Man
- Woman
- Nonbinary, please specify: _____

Are you transgender?

- Yes
- No

What is your citizenship status?

- U.S. citizen
- U.S. permanent resident but not a U.S. citizen
- Not a U.S. citizen or permanent resident

Are you authorized to permanently work in the United States?

- Yes
- No

Are you Hispanic or Latino/a?

- Yes
- No

Please indicate the race or races with which you identify. (Choose one or more)

- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Black or African American
- Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
- White

Please provide the primary email address you will use after graduation. _____