

ATTACHMENT 8: SED Nonrespondent Contact Materials

2026 and 2027 SED Communications

Type	To	From	Content	Expected Date	Timing
Email	Nonrespondents	NSF Project Officer	Email #1A – 1 st nonrespondent email prompt *have not registered for survey	8/2025-ongoing	
Email	Nonrespondents	NSF Project Officer	Email #1B – 1 st nonrespondent email prompt *have registered, but not completed	8/2025-ongoing	
Email	Nonrespondents	NSF Project Officer	Email #2A – 2 nd nonrespondent email prompt *have not registered for survey	8/2025-ongoing	Sent two weeks after Email #1A
Email	Nonrespondents	NSF Project Officer	Email #2B – 2 nd nonrespondent email prompt *have registered, but have broken off	8/2025-ongoing	Sent two weeks after Email #1B
Email	Nonrespondents	NSF Project Officer	Email #3 – 3 rd nonrespondent email prompt	9/2025-ongoing	Sent two weeks after Email #2
Email	Nonrespondents	NSF Project Officer	Email #4 – 4 th nonrespondent email prompt	9/2025-ongoing	Sent two weeks after Email #3
Email	Nonrespondents	NSF Project Officer	Email #5 – 5 th nonrespondent email prompt	10/2025-ongoing	Sent two weeks after Email #4
Email	Nonrespondents	NSF Project Officer	Email #6 – 6 th nonrespondent email prompt	11/2025-ongoing	Sent four weeks after Email #5
Email	Nonrespondents	NSF Project Officer	Email #7 – 7 th nonrespondent email prompt	12/2025-ongoing	Sent four weeks after Email #6
Email	Nonrespondents	NSF Project Officer	Email #8 – 8 th nonrespondent email prompt	1/2026-ongoing	Sent four weeks after Email #7
Email	Nonrespondents	NSF Project Officer	Email #9 – 9 th nonrespondent email prompt	2/2026-ongoing	Sent four weeks after Email #8
Email	Nonrespondents	NSF Project Officer	Email #10 – 10 th nonrespondent email prompt	3/2026-ongoing	Sent four weeks after Email #9
Email	Nonrespondents	NSF Project Officer	Email #11 – 11 th nonrespondent email prompt	4/2026-ongoing	Sent four weeks after Email #10
Email	Nonrespondents	NSF Project Officer	Email #12 – 12 th nonrespondent email prompt	5/2026-ongoing	Sent four weeks after Email #11
Email	Nonrespondents	NSF Project Officer	Email #13 – 13 th nonrespondent email prompt	6/2026-ongoing	Sent four weeks after Email #12
Email	Nonrespondents	NSF Project Officer	Email #14 – 14 th nonrespondent email prompt	7/2026-ongoing	Sent eight weeks after Email #13
Email	Nonrespondents	NSF Project Officer	Email #15 – 15 th nonrespondent email prompt	8/2026-ongoing	Sent four weeks after Email #14
Email	Nonrespondents	NSF Project Officer	Email #16 – 16 th nonrespondent email prompt	9/2026-ongoing	Sent four weeks after Email #15
Email	Nonrespondents	NSF Project Officer	Email #17 – 17 th nonrespondent email prompt	10/2026-ongoing	Sent four weeks after Email #16
Email	Nonrespondents	NSF Project Officer	Email #18 – 18 th nonrespondent email prompt	11/2026-ongoing	Sent four weeks after Email #17

Email	Nonrespondents	NSF Project Officer	Email #19 – 19 th nonrespondent email prompt	12/2026	Sent three weeks after Email #18
Email	Nonrespondents	NSF Project Officer	Email #20 – Final nonrespondent email prompt	12/2026	Sent 1 wee after Email #19
Letter	Nonrespondents	NSF Project Officer	Mail #1 – 1 st Nonresponse Mailing	6/2026-ongoing	
Post Card	Nonrespondents	NSF Project Officer	Mail #2 – Pressure Sealed Postcard Reminder	6/2026-ongoing	Sent two weeks after the 1 st letter
Letter	Nonrespondents	NSF Project Officer	Mail #3 – 2 nd Nonresponse Mailing	7/2026-ongoing	Sent two weeks after the postcard reminder
Text	Nonrespondents		Text Messages #1 - #5	4/2026-12/2026	Sent two weeks apart
Text	Nonrespondents		Final Text Message	12/2026	
Email	Advisors of Nonrespondents	NSF Project Officer	Requesting student contact information from faculty advisors of nonrespondents	8/2026-ongoing	
Email	Advisors of Nonrespondents	NSF Project Officer	Reminder email requesting student contact information from faculty advisors of nonrespondents	8/2026-ongoing	Sent two weeks after the initial request
Email	Nonrespondents	SED Project Staff	SED Web Login Info Email sent during/after CATI call	7/2026-ongoing	
Email	Nonrespondents	ROC Staff	Follow-up email sent after CATI voicemail	7/2026-ongoing	
Email	Nonrespondents	ROC Staff	Email sent to NR who received 10 calls without contact “no contact email”	10/2026-ongoing	
Email	Nonrespondents	ROC Staff	Email to respondents we have spoken with but no interview was conducted	10/2026-ongoing	

EMAIL #1A—1ST PROMPT TO NONRESPONDENTS WHO HAVE NOT REGISTERED (Stage 351)

Subject: Survey Invitation from the National Science Foundation

Dear Dr. <LastName>,

Congratulations on earning your doctoral degree! As a recent graduate of <UniversityName>, you are invited to participate in the Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED), a census of all new U.S. research doctorate recipients that has been conducted every year since 1958. The SED is sponsored by the National Science Foundation and other federal agencies.

Your response contributes to valuable data that are used to analyze the characteristics of doctorate cohorts, assess investments in graduate student support, and make improvements to the doctorate education system.

To complete the SED, click the button below. For security, you will be asked to create a new password prior to starting the survey.



Alternately, you can go login to <https://sed-ncses.org> and use the credentials provided below:

PIN: <caseid>351

Password: <Password>

Your responses will be kept strictly confidential and only aggregate data are publicly reported. If you have any questions, please visit the SED information website at <https://sedsurvey.org/> or contact the SED help desk at sed@rti.org or (877) 256-8167.

Your participation would be greatly appreciated. Congratulations again on your achievement!

Sincerely,

Kelly H. Kang
Project Officer
Survey of Earned Doctorates
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics
National Science Foundation



Study sponsored by:



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For information on the SED, please visit <https://nsf.gov/statistics/srvydoctorates/>.

2026 SED data are being collected under contract by [RTI International](https://www.rti.org/), a nonprofit research organization, for NSF.

EMAIL #1B—1ST PROMPT TO NONRESPONDENTS WHO HAVE REGISTERED BUT NOT COMPLETED (Stage 352)

Subject: A reminder from the National Science Foundation

Dear Dr. <LastName>,

Congratulations on earning your doctoral degree! I am sending you a friendly reminder to please complete the Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED). As a recent doctoral graduate of <UniversityName>, your participation in this year's SED is very important.

Your response contributes to valuable data that are used to analyze the characteristics of doctorate cohorts, assess investments in graduate student support, and make improvements to the doctorate education system.

To access the survey, please go to <https://sed-ncses.org> and use your credentials below:

PIN: <caseid>352
Password: *****

If you do not remember the password that you set when you registered for the SED, click the "Reset My Password" link on the login page or contact our Help Desk at sed@rti.org.

The survey asks about your educational history and post-graduation plans, and should only take about 20 minutes to complete. Your responses will be kept strictly confidential and only aggregate data are publicly reported.

If you have any questions, please visit the SED information website at <https://sedsurvey.org/> or contact the SED help desk at sed@rti.org or (877) 256-8167.

Thank you in advance for your participation, and we look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Kelly H. Kang
Project Officer
Survey of Earned Doctorates
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics
National Science Foundation



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For information on the SED, please visit <https://nsf.gov/statistics/srvydoctorates/>.
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EMAIL #2A—2nd PROMPT TO NONRESPONDENTS WHO STILL HAVE NOT REGISTERED (Stage 353)

Subject: Survey of Earned Doctorates

Dear Dr. <LastName>,

We recently reached out to you with information for completing the Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED). As a recent doctoral graduate of <UniversityName>, your participation in this year's SED is essential. By completing the survey, you provide valuable information that is used by policymakers and universities to analyze changes in the characteristics of doctorate recipients, assess investments in graduate student support, and make improvements to the U.S. doctoral education system.

To complete the SED, click the button below. For security, you will be asked to create a new password prior to starting the survey.



Alternately, you can go login to the survey website with your PIN and temporary password below.

<https://sed-ncses.org>

PIN: <caseid>353

Password: <Password>

The survey takes about 20 minutes to complete. Your responses will be kept strictly confidential, and only aggregate data will be publicly reported. More information about the SED and how your information is protected can be found at <https://sedsurvey.org/>

If you have any questions, please contact us at sed@rti.org or (877) 256-8167.

Thank you for your participation, and congratulations on your achievement!

Sincerely,

Kelly H. Kang
Project Officer
Survey of Earned Doctorates
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics
National Science Foundation



Study sponsored by:



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To learn more about the SED and how the results have been used, please visit <https://www.nsf.gov/statistics/srvydoctorates/>.
2026 SED data are being collected under contract by [RTI International](#), a nonprofit research organization.

EMAIL #2B—2nd PROMPT TO NONRESPONDENTS WHO HAVE REGISTERED, BREAKOFF CASES (Stage 354)

Subject: Please complete your Survey of Earned Doctorates

Dear Dr. <LastName>,

Our records show that you have started the Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED) but haven't yet completed it. Your timely participation helps to ensure that the data are accurate and useful to policymakers and universities across the country.

You can pick up where you left off at <https://sed-ncses.org> using your credentials below:

PIN: <caseid>354

Password: *****

If you do not remember the password you set when you last accessed the SED, click the "Reset My Password" link on the login page or contact our Help Desk at sed@rti.org.

If you have any questions or need assistance completing the survey, please contact us at sed@rti.org or (877) 256-8167.

Thank you for your participation, and congratulations on your achievement!

Sincerely,

Kelly H. Kang
Project Officer
Survey of Earned Doctorates
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics
National Science Foundation



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For information on the SED, please visit <https://nsf.gov/statistics/srvydoctorates/>
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EMAIL #3—3rd PROMPT TO NONRESPONDENTS (Stage 355)

Subject: Participation in the Survey of Earned Doctorates

Dear Dr. <LastName>,

This is a friendly reminder that we are still waiting for your response to the Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED), an annual census of research doctorate recipients from U.S. universities sponsored by the National Science Foundation and other federal agencies.

It is very important that the survey data are representative of all research doctorate earners from July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

Any information you provide will be kept strictly confidential. Only data aggregated to levels that do not allow for the identification of individual respondents are released for publication. The SED results are published in an annual report; the reports from earlier surveys are available at: <http://www.nsf.gov/statistics/sed/>

To complete the SED, click the button below. For security, you will be asked to create a new password prior to starting the survey.



You can also login to the survey website with your PIN and temporary password below.

<https://sed-ncses.org>

PIN: <caseid>355

Password: <Password>

If you have any questions, please contact us at sed@rti.org or (877) 256-8167.

Thank you in advance for your time and assistance.

Sincerely,

Kelly H. Kang
Project Officer
Survey of Earned Doctorates
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics
National Science Foundation



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For information on the SED, please visit <https://nsf.gov/statistics/srvydoctorates/>

2026 SED data are being collected under contract by [RTI International](https://www.rti.org/), a nonprofit research organization, for NSF.

EMAIL #4—4th PROMPT TO NONRESPONDENTS (Stage 356)

Subject: National Science Foundation – Survey of Earned Doctorates

Dear Dr. <LastName>,

A few weeks ago, we sent you a reminder to respond to participate in the Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED), an annual census of research doctorate recipients from U.S. universities sponsored by the National Science Foundation and other federal agencies.

Please consider completing the SED – we would like to include your answers with those of approximately 55,000 other research doctorate earners from July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

The SED is used to make important policy decisions about graduate education, and it is important that the survey data are representative of all research doctorates in the United States. All information you provide will be kept strictly confidential and only aggregated data are used in the publications. The SED results are available in an [annual report](#), as well as in the two reports mandated by Congress - [Science and Engineering Indicators](#), and [Women, Minorities, and Persons with Disabilities in Science and Engineering](#).

To start the survey, click the button below. To protect your responses, you will be asked to create a new password prior to starting the survey.



Alternately, you can go login to the survey website with your PIN and temporary password below.

<https://sed-ncses.org>

PIN: <caseid>356

Password: <Password>

If you have any questions, please contact us at sed@rti.org or (877) 256-8167.

Congratulations again, on completing your doctorate!

Sincerely,

Kelly H. Kang
Project Officer
Survey of Earned Doctorates
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics
National Science Foundation



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For information on the SED, please visit <https://nsf.gov/statistics/srvydoctorates/>

2026 SED data are being collected under contract by [RTI International](#), a nonprofit research organization, for NSF.

EMAIL #5—5th PROMPT TO NONRESPONDENTS (Stage 357)

Subject: Survey of Earned Doctorates – we need your help

Dear Dr. <LastName>,

You are one of only approximately 55,000 research doctorates who earned their degree from July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026. Considering this accomplishment, we ask for your help in completing the Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED), an annual census of research doctorate recipients from U.S. universities sponsored by the National Science Foundation and other federal agencies.

By completing the survey, you provide valuable information used by policymakers and universities to analyze changes in the characteristics of doctorate recipients, assess investments in graduate student support, and make improvements to the U.S. doctoral education system.

To complete the SED, click the button below. For security, you will be asked to create a new password prior to starting the survey.



You can also login to the survey website with your PIN and temporary password below.

<https://sed-ncses.org>

PIN: <caseid>357

Password: <Password>

If you have any questions, please contact us at sed@rti.org or (877) 256-8167.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kelly H. Kang
Project Officer
Survey of Earned Doctorates
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics
National Science Foundation



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For information on the SED, please visit <https://nsf.gov/statistics/srvydoctorates/>

2026 SED data are being collected under contract by [RTI International](https://www.rti.org/), a nonprofit research organization, for NSF.

EMAIL #6—6th PROMPT TO NONRESPONDENTS

Subject: Please remember to complete the Survey of Earned Doctorates

Dear Dr. <LastName>,

This is just a friendly reminder to complete the Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED), sponsored by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and three other federal agencies, at your earliest convenience.

Data collected from the SED helps policymakers and universities analyze changes in the characteristics of doctorate recipients, assess investments in graduate student support, and make improvements to the U.S. doctoral education system.

You can find out more about what we've learned from previous rounds of the SED at <https://nces.nsf.gov/pubs/nsf23300>.

The online survey only takes about 20 minutes, and can be completed at <https://sed-nces.org> using your credential below:

PIN: <caseid>
Password: <Password>

You may also call (877) 256-8167 to complete a brief version of the survey over the telephone, if you prefer. We can also send a paper version of the survey to you to complete and mail back to us.

Your responses will be kept strictly confidential and only aggregate data are publicly reported. If you have any questions, please visit the SED information website at <https://sedsurvey.org/> or contact the SED help desk at sed@rti.org.

We look forward to learning about your experiences since earning your doctorate. Congratulations again on your achievement!

Sincerely,

Kelly H. Kang
Project Officer
Survey of Earned Doctorates
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics
National Science Foundation

For information on the SED, please visit <https://nsf.gov/statistics/srvydoctorates/>

SED data are being collected under contract by [RTI International](#), a nonprofit research organization, for NSF

EMAIL #7—7th PROMPT TO NONRESPONDENTS

Subject: Please complete the Survey of Earned Doctorates

Dear Dr. <LastName>,

We are still conducting the Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED), sponsored by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and three other federal agencies but time is running out and we need your help. As a recent doctoral graduate of <UniversityName>, your participation in the SED is very important. The SED asks about your educational history and post-graduation plans.

I hope you will take advantage of this unique opportunity to contribute to research that provides valuable data that are used by policymakers and universities. Your responses will be kept strictly confidential and only aggregate data are publicly reported.

The online survey only takes about 20 minutes, and can be completed at <https://sed-ncses.org> using your credential below:

PIN: <caseid>

Password: <Password>

If you would prefer to complete a brief version of the survey over the phone, please call 877-256-8167 and reference your Study ID [PIN]. We can also send a paper version of the survey to you to complete and mail back to us.

If you have any questions, please visit the SED information website at <https://sedsurvey.org/> or contact the SED help desk at sed@rti.org. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Kelly H. Kang
Project Officer
Survey of Earned Doctorates
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics
National Science Foundation

For information on the SED, please visit <https://nsf.gov/statistics/srvydoctorates/>

SED data are being collected under contract by [RTI International](#), a nonprofit research organization, for NSF

PROPOSED EMAIL #8— ALL NONRESPONDENTS

Subject: Survey Invitation from the National Science Foundation

Dear Dr. <LastName>,

I am writing again to request your participation in the Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED), a census of all individuals who earn a research doctorate in the United States. The information you provide will inform and support the next generations of doctoral students at your university and across the nation.

To complete the SED, click the button below or login to <https://sed-ncses.org> with the PIN and temporary password provided below. For security, you will be asked to create a new password prior to starting the survey.



PIN: <caseid>373

Password: <Password>

The average time to complete the survey is estimated to be 20 minutes. Your responses will be kept confidential.

You can find more information about the SED a at www.sedsurvey.org or <https://www.nsf.gov/statistics/srvydoctorates>.

If you have any questions, please contact the SED help desk at sed@rti.org or (877) 256-8167.

We look forward to your participation.

Sincerely,

Kelly H. Kang
Project Officer
Survey of Earned Doctorates
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics
National Science Foundation



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PROPOSED EMAIL #9— ALL NONRESPONDENTS

Subject: Request for Participation in the Survey of Earned Doctorates

Dear Dr. <LastName>,

This is another friendly reminder for the Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED) because your responses are critical to understanding the doctoral experience and post-graduation employment plans. Governmental organizations and academic institutions use the results of this survey for decisions about funding graduate education and evaluation of current and new programs.

To complete the SED, please click the button below or login to <https://sed-ncses.org> with the PIN and temporary password provided below. For security, you will be asked to create a new password prior to starting the survey.



PIN: <caseid>374

Password: <Password>

The information you provide is kept strictly confidential and only the summary level data are used in the published reports. The time needed to complete the survey varies according to individual circumstances, but on average it is estimated to be 20 minutes.

You can find more information about the SED at www.sedsurvey.org or <https://www.nsf.gov/statistics/srvydoctorates>.

If you have any questions, please contact the SED help desk at sed@rti.org or (877) 256-8167.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kelly H. Kang
Project Officer
Survey of Earned Doctorates
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics
National Science Foundation



Study sponsored by:



SED data are being collected under contract by [RTI International](http://www.rti.org), a nonprofit research organization, for NSF.

PROPOSED EMAIL #10— ALL NONRESPONDENTS

Subject: Survey of Earned Doctorates

Dear Dr. <LastName>,

As a graduate of <UniversityName>, you are invited to participate in the Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED), a census of all new U.S. research doctorate recipients that has been conducted every year since 1958. The SED is an important survey sponsored by the National Science Foundation, National Institutes of Health, Department of Education, and the National Endowment of Humanities.

Your response contributes to valuable data that are used to analyze the characteristics of doctorate cohorts, assess investments in graduate student support, and make improvements to the doctorate education system.

To complete the SED, click the button below or login to <https://sed-ncses.org> with the PIN and temporary password provided below. For security, you will be asked to create a new password prior to starting the survey.



PIN: <caseid>xxx

Password: <Password>

Your responses will be kept strictly confidential and only aggregate data are publicly reported. If you have any questions, please visit the SED information website at <https://sedsurvey.org> or contact the SED help desk at sed@rti.org or (877) 256-8167.

Your participation would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Kelly H. Kang

Project Officer
Survey of Earned Doctorates
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics
National Science Foundation



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To learn more about the SED and how the results have been used, please visit <https://nsf.gov/statistics/srvydoctorates>.

PROPOSED EMAIL #11— ALL NONRESPONDENTS

Subject: Invitation to Participate in the Survey of Earned Doctorates

Dear Dr. <LastName>,

This is a friendly reminder that we need your response to the Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED). It is very important that the SED data are representative of all research doctorate earners from July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

Information you provide will be kept strictly confidential. Only data aggregated to levels that do not allow for the identification of individual respondents are released for publication. The SED results from earlier surveys are available at : <http://www.nsf.gov/statistics/sed>.

To complete the SED, click the button below or login to <https://sed-ncses.org> with the PIN and temporary password provided below. For security, you will be asked to create a new password prior to starting the survey.



PIN: <caseid>355

Password: <Password>

If you have any questions, please contact us at sed@rti.org or (877) 256-8167.

Thank you in advance for your time and assistance.

Sincerely,

Kelly H. Kang

Project Officer
Survey of Earned Doctorates
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics
National Science Foundation



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PROPOSED EMAIL #12— ALL NONRESPONDENTS

Subject: National Science Foundation Request on the Survey of Earned Doctorates

Dear Dr. <LastName>,

We continue to follow up with you to please complete the Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED) so we can include your answers with those of approximately 57,000 other research doctorate earners from July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

The SED is used to make important policy decisions about graduate education, and it is important that the survey data are representative of all research doctorates in the United States.

All information you provide will be kept strictly confidential and only aggregated data are used in the publications. The SED results are available at <https://nsf.gov/statistics/srvydoctorates> and in the two congressionally mandated reports - [Science and Engineering Indicators](#), and [Diversity and STEM: Women, Minorities, and Persons with Disabilities](#).

To start the survey, click the button below or login to <https://sed-ncses.org> with your PIN and temporary password below. To protect your responses, you will be asked to create a new password prior to starting the survey.



PIN: <caseid>356

Password: <Password>

If you have any questions, please contact us at sed@rti.org or (877) 256-8167.

Sincerely,

Kelly H. Kang

Project Officer
Survey of Earned Doctorates
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics
National Science Foundation



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PROPOSED EMAIL #13— ALL NONRESPONDENTS

Subject: National Science Foundation – Survey of Earned Doctorates

Dear Dr. <LastName>,

We are conducting the Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED), sponsored by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and three other federal agencies and we need your help. As a recent doctoral graduate of <UniversityName>, your participation in the SED is very important.

I hope you will take advantage of this unique opportunity to contribute to research that provides valuable data that are used by policymakers and universities. Your responses will be kept strictly confidential and only aggregated data are used in the publications.

The online survey only takes about 20 minutes and can be completed by clicking the button below or login to <https://sed-ncses.org> with your PIN and temporary password below. For security, you will be asked to create a new password prior to starting the survey.



PIN: <caseid>xxx

Password: <Password>

If you have any questions, please visit the SED information website at <https://sedsurvey.org> or contact the SED help desk at sed@rti.org. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Kelly H. Kang
Project Officer
Survey of Earned Doctorates
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics
National Science Foundation



Study sponsored by:



To learn more about the SED and how the results have been used, please visit <https://nsf.gov/statistics/srvydoctorates>.

SED data are being collected under contract by [RTI International](https://www.rti.org/), a nonprofit research organization, for NSF.

PROPOSED EMAIL #14— ALL NONRESPONDENTS

Subject: Your Participation in the NSF Survey of Earned Doctorates

Dear Dr. <LastName>,

I am writing to encourage you once again to complete the Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED), a census of all individuals who earn a research doctorate in the United States. The information you provide will inform and support the next generations of doctoral students at your university and across the nation.

To complete the SED, click the button below or login to <https://sed-ncses.org> with your PIN and temporary password below. For security, you will be asked to create a new password prior to starting the survey.



PIN: <caseid>XXX

Password: <Password>

Your responses will be kept confidential. The average time to complete the survey is estimated to be 20 minutes and I hope you can take a moment to complete the survey today.

You can find more information about the SED at www.sedsurvey.org or <https://www.nsf.gov/statistics/srvydoctorates>.

If you have any questions, please contact the SED help desk at sed@rti.org or (877) 256-8167,

Thank you for your participation,

Sincerely,

Kelly H. Kang
Project Officer
Survey of Earned Doctorates
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics
National Science Foundation



Study sponsored by:



SED data are being collected under contract by [RTI International](http://www.rti.org), a nonprofit research organization, for NSF.

PROPOSED EMAIL #15— ALL NONRESPONDENTS

Subject: Need Your Help on the Survey of Earned Doctorates

Dear Dr. <LastName>,

This is a friendly reminder to complete the Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED), sponsored by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and three other federal agencies, at your earliest convenience.

Data from the SED enables policymakers and universities evaluate shifts in doctorate recipients' characteristics, review funding for graduate student support, and enhance the U.S. doctoral education system.

You can find out more about what we've learned from previous rounds of the SED at <https://nces.nsf.gov/surveys/earned-doctorates>. Your responses will be kept strictly confidential and only aggregate data are publicly reported.

To complete the SED, click the button below or login to <https://sed-nces.org> with PIN and temporary password provided below. For security, you will be asked to create a new password prior to starting the survey.



PIN: <caseid>xxx

Password: <Password>

If you have any questions, please visit the SED information website at <https://sedsurvey.org> or contact the SED help desk at sed@rti.org.

We look forward to learning about your experiences since earning your doctorate.

Sincerely,

Kelly H. Kang
Project Officer
Survey of Earned Doctorates
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics
National Science Foundation



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SED data are being collected under contract by [RTI International](http://www.rti.org), a nonprofit research organization, for NSF.

PROPOSED EMAIL #16— ALL NONRESPONDENTS

Subject: Reminder to Complete the Survey of Earned Doctorates

Dear Dr. <LastName>,

The Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED) is an annual census of all research doctorate recipients in the United States and I am sending you another reminder that your responses are critical to understanding the doctoral experience and post-graduation employment plans. Federal agencies and academic institutions use the results of this survey for decisions about funding graduate education, developing new programs, and supporting existing ones.

To complete the SED, click the button below or login to <https://sed-ncses.org> with PIN and temporary password provided below. For security, you will be asked to create a new password prior to starting the survey.



PIN: <caseid>xxx

Password: <Password>

The information you provide is kept confidential. The time needed to complete the survey varies according to individual circumstances, but the average time is estimated to be 20 minutes.

You can find more information about the SED at www.sedsurvey.org or <https://www.nsf.gov/statistics/srvydoctorates>.

If you have any questions, please contact the SED help desk at sed@rti.org or (877) 256-8167.

Thank you for your participation,

Sincerely,

Kelly H. Kang
Project Officer
Survey of Earned Doctorates
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics
National Science Foundation



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SED data are being collected under contract by [RTI International](http://www.rti.org), a nonprofit research organization, for NSF.

PROPOSED EMAIL #17— ALL NONRESPONDENTS

Subject: Survey of Earned Doctorates

Dear Dr. <LastName>,

As a graduate of <UniversityName>, you have been invited to take part in the Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED). This survey has been conducted annually since 1958 and is sponsored by the National Science Foundation, along with other federal agencies.

Your participation will provide crucial data to help analyze doctorate cohorts, assess investments in graduate student support, and enhance the doctoral education system.

To complete the SED, click the button below or login to <https://sed-ncses.org> with PIN and temporary password provided below. For security, you will be asked to create a new password prior to starting the survey.



PIN: <caseid>xxx

Password: <Password>

Your responses will be kept strictly confidential and only aggregated data are publicly reported. If you have any questions, please visit the SED information website at <https://sedsurvey.org> or contact the SED help desk at sed@rti.org.

We look forward to learning about your experiences since earning your doctorate.

Sincerely,

Kelly H. Kang
Project Officer
Survey of Earned Doctorates
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics
National Science Foundation



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To learn more about the SED and how the results have been used, please visit <https://nsf.gov/statistics/srvydoctorates>.

SED data are being collected under contract by [RTI International](https://www.rti.org/), a nonprofit research organization, for NSF.

PROPOSED EMAIL #18— ALL NONRESPONDENTS

Subject: Importance of Your Participation in the Survey of Earned Doctorates

Dear Dr. <LastName>,

The 2026 Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED) will soon be ending, and we are reluctant to close this year's survey without your response.

Your responses to the 2026 SED will be combined with that of approximately 58,000 other research doctorate recipients from the academic year 2026 (July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026). Please rest assured that only aggregated data will be in published reports.

The SED data is an important national resource, which are used to help inform government policy, evaluate graduate education programs, and make doctorate labor force projections.

The online survey can be completed by clicking the button below. For security, you will be asked to create a new password prior to starting the survey.



Alternately, you can go login to <https://sed-ncses.org> and use the credentials provided below:

PIN: <caseid>358

Password: <Password>

You can learn more about the SED and how the results are used, at <https://sedsurvey.org>. If you have questions, or concerns, please contact us at sed@rti.org or toll-free at (877) 256-8167.

We would greatly appreciate your participation in this important research effort.

Sincerely,

Kelly H. Kang, Project Officer
Survey of Earned Doctorates
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics
National Science Foundation



Study sponsored by:



SED data are being collected under contract by [RTI International](https://www.rti.org/), a nonprofit research organization, for NSF.

PROPOSED EMAIL #19— ALL NONRESPONDENTS

Subject: Reminder to Complete the Survey of Earned Doctorates

Dear Dr. <LastName>,

Happy Holidays from the National Science Foundation!

We will be closing the 2026 Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED) data collection at the end of the year. I want to appeal to you one more time to complete the survey. Your responses will also help future students, your institution, and the broader academic community understand the costs and benefits of the doctoral experience. I hope that you will take a moment to respond to the SED today. It takes about 20 minutes to complete the survey.

The online survey can be completed by clicking the button below. For security, you will be asked to create a new password prior to starting the survey.



Alternately, you can go login to <https://sed-ncses.org> and use the credentials provided below:

PIN: <caseid>359

Password: <Password>

You can learn more about the SED and how the results are used, at <https://www.nsf.gov/statistics/srvydoctorates/>. If you have questions, or concerns, please contact us at sed@rti.org or toll-free at (877) 256-8167.

Your participation in this important research effort is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Kelly H. Kang, Project Officer
Survey of Earned Doctorates
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics
National Science Foundation



Study sponsored by:



For information on the SED, please visit <https://nsf.gov/statistics/srvydoctorates/>.

SED data are being collected under contract by [RTI International](https://www.rti.org/), a nonprofit research organization, for NSF.

PROPOSED EMAIL #20— ALL NONRESPONDENTS

Subject: Importance of Your Participation in the Survey of Earned Doctorates – FINAL REMINDER

Dear Dr. <LastName>,

The 2026 Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED) is ending on December 31, 2026, and we really would like your responses to be part of the SED data, which is the only national source that helps to inform government policy, evaluate graduate education programs, and make doctorate labor force projections, among many of its uses.

The online survey can be completed by clicking the button below. For security, you will be asked to create a new password prior to starting the survey.



Alternately, you can go login to <https://sed-ncses.org> and use the credentials provided below:

PIN: <caseid>360

Password: <Password>

You can learn more about the SED and how the results are used, at <https://www.nsf.gov/statistics/srvydoctorates/>. If you have questions, or concerns, please contact sed@rti.org or toll-free at (877) 256-8167.

We would greatly appreciate your participation in this important research effort.

Sincerely,

Kelly H. Kang, Project Officer
Survey of Earned Doctorates
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics
National Science Foundation



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For information on the SED, please visit <https://nsf.gov/statistics/srvydoctorates/>.

SED data are being collected under contract by [RTI International](https://www.rti.org/), a nonprofit research organization, for NSF

NONRESPONSE MAILING #1 – 1st MAILING TO NONRESPONDENTS

<Date>

<FirstName> <LastName>

<Address>

<City, State, Zip>

Dear Dr. <FirstName> <LastName>:

We would like to extend our congratulations on completing your doctorate! In light of this achievement, I invite you to participate in the Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED), conducted by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and other federal agencies. SED data are being collected under contract by RTI International, a nonprofit research organization for NSF.

Because the SED is used to make important policy decisions about graduate education, it is important that the survey data are representative of all research doctorates in the United States. Your response will be combined with that of approximately 55,000 other research doctorate earners from your academic year. These aggregated data are used to help inform governmental policy, evaluate graduate programs, and make doctorate labor force projections.

We greatly value your doctoral education experiences and request you complete the SED online at:

URL: <https://sed-ncses.org>

PIN: <caseid>301

Password: <Password>

<PasswordFill>

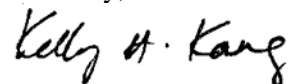
Your responses will be kept strictly confidential, and only aggregate data will be in published reports. The SED results are available at: <https://ncses.nsf.gov/pubs/nsf24300/>

You can view a paper version of the questionnaire at:
https://sedsurvey.org/Content/pdf/2025_Questionnaire.pdf

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us at sed@rti.org or (877) 256-8167.

Congratulations again on this monumental accomplishment.

Sincerely,



Kelly H. Kang, Project Officer
Survey of Earned Doctorates
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, National Science Foundation
<controlID>

RESPONDENT BROCHURE

Who is sponsoring the study?

The study is conducted on behalf of the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics of the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, the U.S. Department of Education, and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

SED data are collected under contract by RTI International,¹ a nonprofit research organization based in North Carolina.

How will my information be protected?

The confidentiality of any information provided as part of the SED is safeguarded under the Privacy Act of 1974 and the National Science Foundation Act of 1950, as amended. Staff working with data are required to sign binding confidentiality affidavits with fines up to \$250,000 or imprisonment as punishment for disclosure. In addition, the processing facilities and computer equipment used to store or access data are designed and maintained to ensure confidentiality.

¹RTI International is a registered trademark and a trade name of Research Triangle Institute.

How do I participate?

You can complete the SED at:
<https://sed-ncses.org>



SCAN ME

If you have any questions, please contact:

National Science Foundation
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics
Attention: SED
2415 Eisenhower Ave.
Alexandria, VA 22314

RTI International – Project: SED
Research Operations Center
5265 Capital Blvd.
Raleigh, NC 27616
877-256-8167
sed@rti.org

Survey Sponsors



U.S. National
Science Foundation



Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED)

Your participation counts.
Make a difference by sharing
your experiences with the SED.

Why does the SED need the partial Social Security number (SSN)?

We use the last four digits of the SSN for two reasons:

- to identify duplicate records for doctorate recipients in historical SED data files
- to match SED data to information on federal funding support for graduate education

SED safeguards all responses, including participants' partial SSN with the utmost security. The partial SSN shall not be used for any purpose other than those listed above.

How will my information be used?

Your information will be combined with that of approximately 57,500 other research doctorate recipients from your academic year. These combined data will be used by various entities (e.g., universities and federal and state agencies) to inform governmental policy, evaluate graduate education programs, and make labor force projections. Additionally, graduate deans receive aggregated data on their graduates and may conduct additional analyses for statistical purposes only.

Any information you provide will be kept strictly confidential. Only data aggregated to levels that will not allow the identification of individual respondents are released for publication.

Did You Know?

Recent SED results revealed:



Overall, **47% of all doctorates in 2022 were awarded to women**, increasing 1% from 2021. Since 2002, women have earned just over half of all research doctorates awarded to U.S. citizens and permanent residents. More than 30% of research doctorates were awarded to temporary visa holders.²



Compared to 2019, prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, **the proportion of doctorate recipients with definite commitments in 2022 increased in all fields**. The largest increase was in Engineering, by 5% between 2021 and 2022.³



In 2022, **33% of doctorate recipients with definite non-postdoc employment commitments in the United States reported that their principal job would be in academe**. This number is a 3% decrease from 2021, down from 48% in 2001.⁴



The COVID-19 pandemic disrupted many aspects of the higher education and training of doctorate recipients. The most frequent impact on doctorate recipients was a **disruption of their research, mentioned by 67%**, an increase of 19% from 2021; 53% indicated that the pandemic delayed the timeline for completing their doctoral degree, an increase of 14% from 2021.⁵

Data from the survey are available on the NSF website and in annual reports published online at <https://nsf.gov/statistics/sed/>

² National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, National Science Foundation (NCSES/NSF), 2022. Doctorate Recipients from U.S. Universities: 2021, Figure 4. NSF 23-300, Alexandria, VA. Available at: <https://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubinfo.asp?pubid=202300>.

³ See NCSES/NSF 2022, figure 20.

⁴ See NCSES/NSF 2022:30.

⁵ See NCSES/NSF 2022, figure 27.

What is the SED?

The Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED) is an annual census of individuals who were awarded a research doctorate from an accredited U.S. institution.

Why am I being asked to participate?

As a recipient of a research doctorate, your participation is essential to the federal agencies that sponsor this study to learn more about those who graduate with a research doctoral degree.

NONRESPONSE MAILING #2 –PRESSURE SEALED POSTCARD REMINDER TO NONRESPONDENTS



Dear Dr. <FirstNameLastName>:

This is a friendly reminder to complete the Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED), sponsored by the National Science Foundation and other federal agencies. If you have already completed the survey, we thank you!

If you haven't, we ask that you do so as soon as possible. We would like to include your responses in this important survey.

We greatly value your doctoral education experiences and request you complete the SED online at:

URL: <https://sed-ncses.org>

PIN: <pin>

Password: <>

<PasswordFill>

If you have any questions, please contact us by email at sed@rti.org or by telephone toll-free at 1-877-256-8167.

We greatly appreciate your time and effort.

NONRESPONSE MAILING #3—2nd HARDCOPY LETTER MAILING TO NONRESPONDENTS

<Date>

<FirstName> <LastName>

<Address>

<City, State, Zip>

Dear Dr. <FirstName> <LastName>:

A few weeks ago, we asked for your participation in the Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED), an annual census of research doctorate recipients from U.S. universities sponsored by the National Science Foundation and other federal agencies.

We would greatly appreciate your participation as the efficacy and accuracy of this survey rely on a high response rate. Any information you provide will be kept strictly confidential. Only data aggregated to levels that do not allow the identification of individual respondents are released for publication.

You can complete the survey online by going to: <https://sed-ncses.org/>

Your PIN is: <caseID>

Your Password is: <Password>

<PasswordFill>

You can view a paper version of the questionnaire at:

<https://www.nsf.gov/statistics/srvydoctorates/surveys/srvydoctorates-2022.pdf>

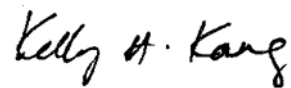
If you have already completed the survey, we thank you for your response. The SED results will be published in an annual report; the annual reports on earlier surveys are available at: <http://nsf.gov/statistics/sed/>.

This survey is conducted under contract by RTI International, a nonprofit research organization, for NSF.

If you have any questions, please contact us at sed@rti.org or (877) 256-8167.

Congratulations on completing your doctorate.

Sincerely,



Kelly H. Kang

Project Officer

Survey of Earned Doctorates

National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics

National Science Foundation

<controlID>

SMS TEXT MESSAGE REMINDERS TO NONRESPONDENTS

Initial Text

Dr. *LastName*, congratulations on behalf of the NSF on your doctoral degree. We invite you to complete the Survey of Earned Doctorates at <https://link.rti.org/VJowfe7-91>. The SED is a census of research doctorates from US universities and your responses will be kept strictly confidential. Reply STOP to opt out.

Reminder Text #1

Dr. *LastName*, this is a reminder on behalf of NSF to please complete the Survey of Earned Doctorates at <https://link.rti.org/VJoife7-91>. SED is an annual census of U.S. research doctorate recipients sponsored by NSF, NIH, ED and NEH. Your participation is very important! If you have any questions, please contact us at sed@rti.org. Reply STOP to opt out.

Reminder Text #2

Dr. *LastName*, this is a friendly reminder to please complete the Survey of Earned Doctorates at <https://link.rti.org/VJoife7-91>. Information on the survey is available at <https://www.nsf.gov/statistics/srvydoctorates/>. Reply STOP to opt out.

Reminder Text #3

Dr. *LastName*, your responses to the Survey of Earned Doctorates [are important for NSF and NIH policy decisions on graduate education. Please complete the SED at https://link.rti.org/VJoife7-91](#) For survey results, see <https://www.nsf.gov/statistics/srvydoctorates/>. Reply STOP to opt out.

Reminder Text #4

Dr. *LastName*, This is a reminder on behalf of NSF to please complete the Survey of Earned Doctorates. Please go to *URL* to complete the survey. Your response would be greatly appreciated. The SED results are published in an annual report at: <https://www.nsf.gov/statistics/srvydoctorates/>. Reply STOP to opt out.

Reminder Text #5

Dr. *LastName*, This is a reminder to please complete the Survey of Earned Doctorates at <https://link.rti.org/VJoife7-91>. Completing the survey is a service to your institution, to your peers, and to future doctoral students. Information on the survey is available at <https://www.nsf.gov/statistics/srvydoctorates/>. Reply STOP to opt out.

Final Text

Dr. *LastName*, we are sending the final text reminder for you to complete the SED <https://link.rti.org/VJoife7-91> before it ends soon. Your response would be greatly appreciated. For survey results, see <https://www.nsf.gov/statistics/doctorates/>. For any questions, call us at 877 256 8167. Reply STOP to opt out.

OR

Dr. *LastName*, this is our final text asking you to please complete the survey by going to <https://sed-ncses.org> and entering your SED PIN @custom4@ and password. If you don't remember your password that you set when you registered for the SED, click the "Reset My Password" link on the login page or contact us at sed@rti.org. Your response would be greatly appreciated. Information on the survey is available at <https://www.nsf.gov/statistics/srvydoctorates/>. Reply STOP to opt out.

EMAIL TO FACULTY ADVISORS OF NONRESPONDENTS

Subject: Request from the National Science Foundation

Dear Dr. <Advisor First Name> <Advisor Last Name>:

I would like to ask for your assistance with the Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED), sponsored by the National Science Foundation and other federal agencies. We need to find the contact information for one of your former students, <Respondent First Name> <Respondent Last Name>, so we can send an invitation to complete the SED.

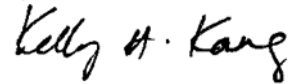
As you may know, the SED is an annual census of all research doctorate recipients in the U.S., conducted since 1958. The aggregated survey data are used to help inform government policy, in evaluation of graduate programs, and projection of the doctorate workforce, among many important data uses. Information and data from the SED can be found online at: <https://www.nsf.gov/statistics/srvydoctorates/>.

We will soon be closing the SED data collection for the AY2026 (July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026) graduates and would like to ensure Dr. <Respondent First Name> <Respondent Last Name>'s responses are included in this important national census.

If you have any contact information for Dr. <Respondent Last Name>, please let us know at sed@rti.org or (877) 256-8167.

We greatly appreciate your assistance with this important effort.

Sincerely,



Kelly H. Kang
Project Officer
Survey of Earned Doctorates
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics
National Science Foundation

SED data are being collected under contract by [RTI International](https://www.rti.org/), a nonprofit research organization, for NSF

REMINDER EMAIL TO FACULTY ADVISORS OF SED NONRESPONDENTS

Subject: Request from the National Science Foundation – Reminder

Dear Dr. <Advisor First Name> <Advisor Last Name>:

I am following up on my earlier request for your assistance with the Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED), sponsored by the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, and other federal agencies.

We would like to contact one of your former doctoral students, <Respondent First Name> <Respondent Last Name>, to send an invitation to complete the 2026 SED.

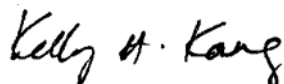
As you may know, the SED is an annual census of all research doctorate recipients in the U.S., conducted since 1958. The aggregated data from the SED are used to help inform government policy, in evaluation of graduate programs, and projection of the doctorate workforce, among many important data uses. The released data from the 2020 SED can be found at: <https://ncses.nsf.gov/pubs/nsf22300/>.

If you have any contact information for Dr. <Respondent Last Name>, please let us know at sed@rti.org or (877) 256-8167.

If you prefer, you can also forward this email to Dr. <Respondent Last Name>.

We greatly appreciate your assistance with this important effort.

Sincerely,



Kelly Kang
Project Officer
Survey of Earned Doctorates
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics
National Science Foundation

SED data are being collected under contract by [RTI International](https://www.rti.org/), a nonprofit research organization, for NSF.

SED Survey Link: <https://sed-ncses.org>

SURVEY LOGIN INFORMATION EMAIL SENT TO NONRESPONDENTS UPON REQUEST DURING CATI CALL

Subject: Your SED Survey Login Information

Dear Dr. <Last Name of Nonrespondent>,

We greatly appreciate your participation in the Survey of Earned Doctorates.

Please complete the SED online at <https://sed-ncses.org> using your credentials below:

PIN: <caseid>

Password: <Password>

Your responses will be kept strictly confidential and only aggregate data will be publicly reported.

If you have any questions, please contact us at SED@rti.org or (877) 256-8167.

Thank you for your participation, and congratulations on your achievement!

Sincerely,

The SED Project Team

For more information about the SED, please visit <https://www.nsf.gov/statistics/srvydoctorates/>

To learn more about how your information is protected, please see:

https://sedsurvey.org/content/pdf/Student_Brochure.pdf

EMAIL FOLLOW-UP SENT TO NONRESPONDENTS FOLLOWING CATI CALL VOICEMAIL

Subject: We left you a voicemail message on behalf of NSF

Dear Dr. <LAST NAME>,

A member of our survey team called you and left a voicemail message regarding the Survey of Earned Doctorates. The SED is conducted by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and other federal agencies and the survey data are being collected under contract by RTI International, a nonprofit research organization. The SED survey will soon come to a close, so we hope you will take just 10 minutes to complete it over the phone or complete it online at your convenience.

The SED is an annual census that gathers information from new research doctorate graduates from U.S. universities about their educational histories, funding sources, and post-doctoral plans. We don't want you to miss out on providing valuable input that will be used to inform governmental policy, evaluate graduate education programs, and make labor force projections. Your responses will be kept strictly confidential, and only aggregate data will be publicly reported.

To complete the survey online, use the secure login credentials to access the survey at <https://sed-ncses.org>:

Pin: [CASEID]

Password: [PASSWORD]

If you would like to complete the survey over the phone with one of our interviewers, please call **877-256-8167** and reference ID number [CASEID].

Thank you in advance for your participation, and congratulations on your achievement!

Peter Einaudi,

SED Project Director, RTI International

For more information about the SED, please visit <https://www.nsf.gov/statistics/srvydoctorates/>

EMAIL FOLLOW-UP SENT TO NONRESPONDENTS WHO HAVE RECEIVED MORE THAN 10 CATI CALLS WITHOUT CONTACT

Subject: A message on behalf of NSF

Dear Dr. <LAST NAME>,

We have tried to contact you several times regarding the Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED) but have been unsuccessful.

We know that receiving unwanted phone calls can be annoying, so we want to reach out to explain the purpose of our calls.

The SED is an annual census that gathers information from new research doctorate graduates from U.S. universities about their educational histories, funding sources, and post-doctoral plans. We don't want you to miss out on providing valuable input that will be used to inform governmental policy, evaluate graduate education programs, and make labor force projections. Your responses will be kept strictly confidential, and only aggregate data will be publicly reported.

To complete the survey online, use the secure login credentials to access the survey at <https://sed-ncses.org>:

Pin: [CASEID]

Password: [PASSWORD]

To complete a short version of the survey by phone, please call 877-256-8167 and reference ID number [CASEID].

Thank you in advance for your participation, and congratulations on your achievement!

Peter Einaudi,
SED Project Director, RTI International

For more information about the SED, please visit <https://www.nsf.gov/statistics/srvydoctorates/>

EMAIL TO RESPONDENTS WE HAVE SPOKEN WITH BUT NO INTERVIEW WAS CONDUCTED

Subject: Recent Phone Call about the SED

Dear Dr. [LASTNAME],

Thank you for taking the time to speak to us recently about the Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED). The SED is conducted by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and other federal agencies, with the survey data collection by RTI International, a nonprofit research organization. The SED is an annual census that collects important information on new U.S. research doctorate graduates about their educational history, graduate education funding, and postgraduation plans.

We invite you to complete an abbreviated survey which takes about 10 minutes over the phone or complete the full Web survey at your convenience. We understand that you're very busy, but we want to make sure your information is included in the valuable data that is used to inform government policy, evaluate graduate education programs, and make labor force projections. Your responses will be kept strictly confidential, and only aggregate data will be publicly reported.

To complete the survey online, use the secure login credentials to access the survey at <https://sed-ncses.org>:

PIN: [CASEID_TRACKING]

Password: [PASSWORD]

To complete the survey over the phone, please call **877-256-8167** and reference ID number [CASEID].

Thank you in advance for your participation, and congratulations on your achievement!

Peter Einaudi,
SED Project Director, RTI International

For more information about the SED, please visit <https://nsf.gov/statistics/srvydoctorates/>.