

## Attachment E

### Draft 2017 SDR Survey Mailing Materials

The 2017 Survey of Doctorate Recipients (SDR) contact materials are consistent with materials utilized in past cycles. The various materials used in outreach to the SDR sample members are listed below. All letters will be printed on the SDR 2017 letterhead found on pages E-2 and E-3.

- Mail Start Mode Prenotice Letter for 2015 Cooperative (M\_PN1)
- Mail Start Mode Prenotice Letter for 2015 Nonresponse Retirees/2015 NIR/Partial Responders (M\_PN2)
- Mail Start Mode Prenotice Letter for 2017 New Cohort (M\_PN3)
- CATI Start Mode Prenotice Letter for 2015 Cooperative (C\_PN1)
- CATI Start Mode Prenotice Letter for 2015 Nonresponse Cases/2017 New Cohort (C\_PN2)
- Web Start Mode Initial Notice sent via USPS to 2015 Cooperative cases (W\_IC1\_u)
- Web Start Mode Initial Notice sent via USPS to 2015 Cooperative Retiree cases (W\_IC2\_u)
- Web Start Mode Initial Notice sent via USPS to 2015 Nonresponse Cases (W\_IC3\_u)
- Web Start Mode Initial Notice sent via USPS to 2015 Cooperative Green Appeal (W\_IC5\_u)
- Web Start Mode Initial Notice sent via USPS to 2017 New Cohort and 2015 Panel Locating Problems (W\_IC7\_u)
- Web Start Mode Enclosed InfoCard - USPS: 2017 New Cohort and 2015 Panel Locating Problems (InfoCard)
- Mail Start Mode First Questionnaire Cover Letter for 2015 Cooperative cases (M\_Quex1\_1)
- Mail Start Mode First Questionnaire Cover Letter for 2015 Cooperative Retiree cases (M\_Quex1\_2)
- Mail Start Mode First Questionnaire Cover Letter for 2015 Nonresponse Retiree cases (M\_Quex1\_3)
- Mail Start Mode First Questionnaire Cover Letter for Refusals/NIR/Partial Responders (M\_Quex1\_4)
- Mail Start Mode First Questionnaire Cover Letter for 2017 New Cohort cases (M\_Quex1\_5)
- Mail Start Mode First Questionnaire Cover Letter for Money Cooperative cases (incentive) (M\_Quex1\_10)
- Web Start Mode Follow-up Notice sent via USPS to 2015 Cooperative cases (W\_FN1\_u)
- Web Start Mode Follow-up Notice sent via USPS to 2015 Locating/2015 Nonresponse Cases (W\_FN2\_u)
- Web Start Mode Follow-up Notice sent via USPS to 2015 Cooperative Green Appeal (W\_FN3\_u)
- Web Start Mode Follow-up Notice sent via USPS to New Cohort (incentive) (W\_FN10\_u)
- CATI Start Mode Prompting Message sent via USPS to Panel (C\_PM\_u)
- CATI Start Mode Prompting Message sent via USPS to New Cohort (incentive) (C\_PM2\_u)
- CATI and Web Start Modes First Questionnaire Cover Letter sent to 2015 Non-retired cases (CW\_Quex1\_6)
- CATI and Web Start Modes First Questionnaire Cover Letter sent to 2015 Cooperative Retiree cases (CW\_Quex1\_7)
- CATI and Web Start Modes First Questionnaire Cover Letter sent to New Cohort (CW\_Quex1\_10)
- Mail Start Second Questionnaire Cover Letter to all sample member types (Quex2)
- Mail Start Mode Second Questionnaire Cover Letter to New Cohort (incentive) (Quex2\_10)
- CATI and Web Start Survey Request Letter: Panel except Locating Problems (CW\_InfoCard\_letter\_for\_SMs)
- CATI and Web Start Survey Request Letter: New Cohort and Panel Locating Problems (CW\_Letter\_with\_Graphic\_not\_InfoCard)
- Postcard Text sent to all sample member types

SDR Letterhead text (front)



SDR Letterhead text (back)

The graphic features a central illustration of a red graduation cap with the letters 'SDR' on its top, and a rolled-up diploma tied with a red ribbon. This is set against a background of faint, overlapping silhouettes of people's heads and shoulders. Below the illustration, the text is centered and formatted with various bold and italic styles.

**SDR Study Information**

You have been randomly selected to represent the population of doctorate holders trained in science, engineering, and health fields at U.S. academic institutions for the 2017 Survey of Doctorate Recipients (SDR). The SDR is not an employer-based survey and seeks to represent doctorate-degree holders whether they are working, retired, seeking work, or in some other situation.

Your survey participation helps make the SDR data series more complete, accurate, and reliable. While we hope that you will agree to fully participate in the SDR, it is a voluntary survey for which you are not required to answer any questions.

The SDR is sponsored by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The NSF and NIH are independent agencies of the U.S. government dedicated to promoting the progress of science. NORC at the University of Chicago is the contractor conducting the 2017 SDR.

NORC at the University of Chicago is a not-for-profit social science research organization serving the public interest and informed decision making.

More information about NORC can be found at:  
[www.norc.org/Research/Projects/Pages/survey-of-doctorate-recipients.aspx](http://www.norc.org/Research/Projects/Pages/survey-of-doctorate-recipients.aspx)

If you have questions about your rights as a study participant, you may call the NORC Institutional Review Board Administrator, toll-free within the U.S., at 1-866-309-0542.

All information you provide will be kept strictly confidential and safeguarded in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 and the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002. Your responses are used for research purposes only.

Per the Federal Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2015, your data are protected from cybersecurity risks through screening of the federal information systems that transmit your data.

Information that personally identifies you is separated from your survey responses. Published reports show only summary information.

***You are uniquely qualified to contribute to this study and cannot be replaced by anyone else – please participate in the 2017 SDR.***

***Mail Start Mode Prenotice Letter: 2015 Cooperative (M\_PN1.docx)***

*This letter will be sent to sample members printed on the SDR 2017 letterhead, images of which can be found on pages D-2 and D-3.*

[DATE], 2017

Dr. [FIRST NAME] [MIDDLE INITIAL] [LAST NAME]  
[ORGNAME]  
[STREET ADDRESS 1]  
[STREET ADDRESS 2]  
[CITY], [STATE] [ZIP CODE]

Dear Dr. [LAST NAME],

In a few days, you should receive a questionnaire in the mail for the 2017 Survey of Doctorate Recipients (SDR). **Thank you for your past contribution to this unique study of doctorate holders, sponsored by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institutes of Health.** The participation of doctorate holders like you has provided governmental organizations, businesses, and academic institutions with crucial information concerning the availability of highly-educated personnel in a variety of fields.

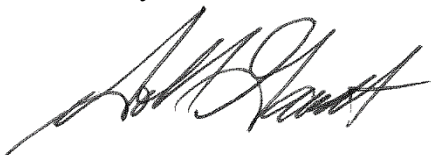
The SDR has been conducted biennially since 1973 and is the only source of data on the careers of science, engineering, and health doctorate holders from U.S. academic institutions. The value of the data obtained over the years with the help of its participants is immeasurable, **and your continued participation ensures the validity and accuracy of the survey data.** Aggregated results from earlier rounds of the study are publically available at the NSF website listed below.

All information you provide will be kept strictly confidential and safeguarded in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 and the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002.

NORC at the University of Chicago is the survey contractor conducting this survey on our behalf. If you do not receive a questionnaire within two weeks or have any questions regarding this study, please contact NORC via the toll-free number or email address listed below. **A secure, online version of the survey is also available;** please contact NORC for your unique survey PIN and password if you prefer to complete the 2017 SDR online. Staff members are available from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. (Central Time) to assist you.

I would greatly appreciate your continued participation in this significant effort.

Sincerely,



John R. Gawalt, Director  
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics  
National Science Foundation

ID: [SDR ID]

***Mail Start Mode Prenotice Letter: 2015 Nonresponse Retirees/2015 NIR/Partial Responders  
(M\_PN2.docx)***

*This letter will be sent to sample members printed on the SDR 2017 letterhead,  
images of which can be found on pages D-2 and D-3.*

[DATE], 2017

Dr. [FIRST NAME] [MIDDLE INITIAL] [LAST NAME]  
[ORGNAME]  
[STREET ADDRESS 1]  
[STREET ADDRESS 2]  
[CITY], [STATE] [ZIP CODE]

Dear Dr. [LAST NAME],

In a few days, you should receive a questionnaire in the mail for the 2017 Survey of Doctorate Recipients (SDR), which is sponsored by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institutes of Health. **The SDR has been conducted biennially since 1973 and is the only source of data on the careers of science, engineering, and health doctorate holders from U.S. academic institutions.** Analysis and reports prepared using this survey data have provided governmental organizations, businesses, and academic institutions with crucial information concerning the availability of highly-educated personnel in a variety of fields.

Your response is needed, regardless of your current employment status or occupation. **Because you were scientifically selected to represent a crucial segment of the population, we cannot substitute any other person for you.** Your involvement in this ongoing effort will help to ensure the validity and accuracy of the survey data. Aggregated results from earlier rounds of the study are publically available at the NSF website listed below.

All information you provide will be kept strictly confidential and safeguarded in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 and the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002.

NORC at the University of Chicago is the survey contractor conducting this survey on our behalf. If you do not receive a questionnaire within two weeks or have any questions regarding this study, please contact them via the toll-free number or email address listed below. **A secure, online version of the survey is also available; please contact NORC for your unique PIN and password if you prefer to complete the 2017 SDR online.** Staff members are available from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. (Central Time) to assist you.

I would greatly appreciate your cooperation in this significant effort.

Sincerely,



John R. Gawalt, Director  
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics  
National Science Foundation

ID: [SDR ID]

***Mail Start Mode Prenotice Letter: New Cohort (M\_PN3.docx)***

*This letter will be sent to sample members printed on the SDR 2017 letterhead, images of which can be found on pages D-2 and D-3.*

[DATE], 2017

Dr. [FIRST NAME] [MIDDLE INITIAL] [LAST NAME]  
[ORGNAME]  
[STREET ADDRESS 1]  
[STREET ADDRESS 2]  
[CITY], [STATE] [ZIP CODE]

Dear Dr. [LAST NAME],

In a few days, you should receive a questionnaire in the mail for the 2017 Survey of Doctorate Recipients (SDR), which is sponsored by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institutes of Health. **The SDR has been conducted biennially since 1973 and is the only source of data on the careers of science, engineering, and health doctorate holders from U.S. academic institutions.** Analysis and reports prepared using this survey data have provided governmental organizations, businesses, and academic institutions with crucial information concerning the availability of highly-educated personnel in a variety of fields.

You were scientifically selected to **represent a crucial segment of the population** of individuals earning a research doctorate in the U.S. **As such, we cannot substitute any other person for you.** Your involvement in this ongoing effort will help ensure the validity and accuracy of the survey data. Aggregated results from earlier rounds of the study are publically available at the NSF website listed below.

All information you provide will be kept strictly confidential and safeguarded in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 and the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002.

NORC at the University of Chicago is the survey contractor conducting this survey on our behalf. If you do not receive a questionnaire within two weeks or have any questions regarding this study, please contact them via the toll-free number or email address listed below. **A secure, online version of the survey is also available; please contact NORC for your unique survey PIN and password if you prefer to complete the 2017 SDR online.** Staff members are available from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. (Central Time) to assist you.

**I would greatly appreciate your cooperation in this significant effort.**

Sincerely,



John R. Gawalt, Director  
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics  
National Science Foundation

ID: [SDR ID]



***CATI Start Mode Prenotice Letter: 2015 Cooperative (C\_PN1.docx)***

*This letter will be sent to sample members printed on the SDR 2017 letterhead, images of which can be found on pages D-2 and D-3.*

[DATE], 2017

Dr. [FIRST NAME] [MIDDLE INITIAL] [LAST NAME]  
[ORGNAME]  
[STREET ADDRESS 1]  
[STREET ADDRESS 2]  
[CITY], [STATE] [ZIP CODE]

Dear Dr. [LAST NAME],

We will be calling you soon to request your participation in the 2017 Survey of Doctorate Recipients (SDR). **Thank you for your past contribution to this unique study of doctorate holders, sponsored by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institutes of Health.** The participation of doctorate holders like you has provided governmental organizations, businesses, and academic institutions with crucial information concerning the availability of highly-educated personnel in a variety of fields.

The SDR has been conducted biennially since 1973 and is the only source of data on the careers of science, engineering, and health doctorate holders from U.S. academic institutions. The value of the information obtained over the years with the help of its participants is immeasurable, **and your continued participation ensures the validity and accuracy of the survey data.** Aggregated results from earlier rounds of the study are publically available at the NSF website listed below.

All information you provide will be kept strictly confidential and safeguarded in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 and the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002.

NORC at the University of Chicago is the survey contractor conducting this survey on our behalf. The interview should take about 25 minutes. If you do not receive a call within the next two weeks or have any questions regarding this study, please contact NORC via the toll-free number or email address listed below. **A secure, online version of the survey is also available;** please contact NORC for your unique survey PIN and password if you prefer to complete the 2017 SDR online. Staff members are available from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. (Central Time) to assist you.

I would greatly appreciate your continued participation in this significant effort.

Sincerely,



John R. Gawalt, Director  
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics  
National Science Foundation

ID: [SDR ID]

*CATI Start Mode Prenotice Letter: 2015 Nonresponse /2017 New Cohort (C\_PN2.docx)*

*This letter will be sent to sample members printed on the  
SDR 2017 letterhead as found on pages D-2 and D-3.*

[DATE], 2017

Dr. [FIRST NAME] [MIDDLE INITIAL] [LAST NAME]  
[ORGNAME]  
[STREET ADDRESS 1]  
[STREET ADDRESS 2]  
[CITY], [STATE] [ZIP CODE]

Dear Dr. [LAST NAME],

We will be calling you soon to request your participation in the 2017 Survey of Doctorate Recipients (SDR), sponsored by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institutes of Health. **The SDR has been conducted biennially since 1973 and is the only source of data on the careers of science, engineering, and health doctorate holders from U.S. academic institutions.** Analysis and reports prepared using this survey data have provided governmental organizations, businesses, and academic institutions with crucial information concerning the availability of highly-educated personnel in a variety of fields.

You were scientifically selected to **represent a crucial segment of the population** of individuals earning a research doctorate in the U.S. **As such, we cannot substitute any other person for you.** Your involvement in this ongoing effort will help ensure the validity and accuracy of the survey data. Aggregated results from earlier rounds of the study are publically available at the NSF website listed below.

All information you provide will be kept strictly confidential and safeguarded in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 and the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002.

NORC at the University of Chicago is the survey contractor conducting this survey on our behalf. The interview should take about 25 minutes. If you do not receive a call within the next two weeks or have any questions regarding this study, please contact NORC via the toll-free number or email address listed below. **A secure, online version of the survey is also available;** please contact NORC for your unique survey PIN and password if you prefer to complete the 2017 SDR online. Staff members are available from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. (Central Time) to assist you.

We would greatly appreciate your cooperation in this important effort.

Sincerely,



John R. Gawalt, Director  
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics  
National Science Foundation

ID: [SDR ID]



***Web Start Mode Initial Notice - USPS: 2015 Cooperative (W\_ICI\_u.docx)***

*This letter will be sent to sample members printed on the SDR 2017 letterhead, images of which can be found on pages D-2 and D-3.*

[DATE], 2017

Dr. [FIRST NAME] [MIDDLE INITIAL] [LAST NAME]  
[ORGNAME]  
[STREET ADDRESS 1]  
[STREET ADDRESS 2]  
[CITY], [STATE] [ZIP CODE]

Dear Dr. [LAST NAME],

**Thank you for your past participation in the Survey of Doctorate Recipients (SDR)**, sponsored by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institutes of Health. Your responses, aggregated with other participants' responses, help academic and governmental organizations with decision-making, for instance, in the anticipation of personnel shortages and funding needs for research and development. The information you provided has also proven valuable for students who want to learn about the occupational potential of their graduate education.

**Please continue to participate by completing the 2017 SDR online.** Because the survey is secure and confidential, you'll need to enter your unique and case-sensitive PIN and password to access the survey after going to the survey website.

<https://websurvey.norc.org/2017sdr>

PIN: [WEBPIN] Password: [WEBPWD]

To ensure receipt, **we are also sending you access to the survey to the email address we have on record for you.** The information you provide will be collected by NORC at the University of Chicago, the survey contractor conducting SDR on our behalf. Your data will be kept strictly confidential and safeguarded in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 and the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002.

If you have any questions regarding the survey or would like to request a paper version of the survey, please contact NORC via the toll-free number or email address listed below. Staff members are available from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. (Central Time) to assist you.

**Thank you in advance for contributing to the SDR.** We look forward to receiving your online survey.

Sincerely,



John R. Gawalt, Director  
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics  
National Science Foundation

ID: [SDR ID]

***Web Start Mode Initial Notice - USPS: 2015 Cooperative Retiree (W\_IC2\_u.docx)***

*This letter will be sent to sample members printed on the SDR 2017 letterhead, images of which can be found on pages D-2 and D-3.*

[DATE], 2017

Dr. [FIRST NAME] [MIDDLE INITIAL] [LAST NAME]  
[ORGNAME]  
[STREET ADDRESS 1]  
[STREET ADDRESS 2]  
[CITY], [STATE] [ZIP CODE]

Dear Dr. [LAST NAME],

**Thank you for your past participation in the Survey of Doctorate Recipients (SDR)**, sponsored by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institutes of Health. Your responses, aggregated with other participants' responses, help academic and governmental organizations with decision-making, for instance, in the anticipation of personnel shortages and funding needs for research and development. The information you provided has also proven valuable for students who want to learn about the occupational potential of their graduate education.

**Please continue to participate by completing the 2017 SDR online.** Because the survey is secure and confidential, you'll need to enter your unique and case-sensitive PIN and password to access the survey after going to the survey website.

<https://websurvey.norc.org/2017sdr>

PIN: [WEBPIN] Password: [WEBPWD]

To ensure receipt, **we are also sending you access to the survey to the email address we have on record for you.** The information you provide will be collected by NORC at the University of Chicago, the survey contractor conducting SDR on our behalf. Your data will be kept strictly confidential and safeguarded in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 and the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002.

Our records show that you were retired when you last participated in the SDR. Your response is vital, regardless of your employment situation. We want to hear from you whether you are retired and not working, retired but working part time, or back to working full time.

If you have any questions regarding the survey, please contact NORC via the toll-free number or email address listed below. Staff members are available from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. (Central Time) to assist you.

**Thank you in advance for contributing to the SDR.** We look forward to receiving your online survey.

Sincerely,



John R. Gawalt, Director  
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics  
National Science Foundation

ID: [SDR ID]

***Web Start Mode Initial Notice - USPS: 2015 Nonresponse (W\_IC3\_u.docx)***

*This letter will be sent to sample members printed on the SDR 2017 letterhead, images of which can be found on pages D-2 and D-3.*

[DATE], 2017

Dr. [FIRST NAME] [MIDDLE INITIAL] [LAST NAME]  
[ORGNAME]  
[STREET ADDRESS 1]  
[STREET ADDRESS 2]  
[CITY], [STATE] [ZIP CODE]

Dear Dr. [LAST NAME],

**We are requesting your participation in the 2017 Survey of Doctorate Recipients (SDR).** The study is being conducted by NORC at the University of Chicago on behalf of the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institutes of Health and is the only source of data on the careers of science, engineering, and health doctorate holders from U.S. academic institutions.

Your response is needed whatever your current employment status or occupation. **Because you were scientifically selected to represent a crucial segment of the population, we cannot substitute any other person for you.** Your involvement in this effort will help ensure the validity and accuracy of the survey results.

**Please contribute to this research by completing the SDR online.** Because the survey is secure and confidential, you'll need to enter your unique and case-sensitive PIN and password to access the survey after going to the survey website.

<https://websurvey.norc.org/2017sdr>

PIN: [WEBPIN] Password: [WEBPWD]

To ensure receipt, **we are also sending you access to the survey to the email address we have on record for you.** The information you provide will be collected by NORC at the University of Chicago, the survey contractor conducting SDR on our behalf. Your data will be kept strictly confidential in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 and the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002.

If you have any questions regarding the survey or would like to request a paper version of the survey, please contact NORC via the toll-free number or email address listed below. Staff members are available from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. (Central Time) to assist you.

**Thank you in advance for contributing to the SDR.** We look forward to receiving your online survey.

Sincerely,



John R. Gawalt, Director  
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics  
National Science Foundation

ID: [SDR ID]

***Web Start Mode Initial Notice - USPS: 2015 Cooperative Green Appeal (W\_IC5\_u.docx)***

*This letter will be sent to sample members printed on the SDR 2017 letterhead, images of which can be found on pages D-2 and D-3.*

[DATE], 2017

Dr. [FIRST NAME] [MIDDLE INITIAL] [LAST NAME]  
[ORGNAME]  
[STREET ADDRESS 1]  
[STREET ADDRESS 2]  
[CITY], [STATE] [ZIP CODE]

Dear Dr. [LAST NAME],

**Thank you for your past participation in the Survey of Doctorate Recipients (SDR)**, sponsored by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institutes of Health. Your responses, aggregated with other participants' responses, help academic and governmental organizations with decision-making, for instance, in the anticipation of personnel shortages and funding needs for research and development. The information you provided has also proven valuable for students who want to learn about the occupational potential of their graduate education.

We are asking you to complete the 2017 SDR online rather than a paper questionnaire sent in the mail to promote a more efficient and eco-friendly way to participate in the 2017 SDR. We hope you will support the NSF's efforts to conserve resources.

**Please continue to participate by completing the survey online.** Because the survey is secure and confidential, you'll need to enter your unique and case-sensitive PIN and password to access the survey after going to the survey website.

<https://websurvey.norc.org/2017sdr>

PIN: [WEBPIN] Password: [WEBPWD]

To ensure receipt, **we are also sending you access to the survey to the email address we have on record for you.** The information you provide will be collected by NORC at the University of Chicago, the survey contractor conducting SDR on our behalf. Your data will be kept strictly confidential and safeguarded in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 and the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002.

If you have any questions regarding the survey or would rather complete the paper version of the survey, please contact NORC via the toll-free number or email address listed below. Staff members are available from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. (Central Time) to assist you.

**Thank you in advance for contributing to the SDR.** We look forward to receiving your online survey.

Sincerely,



John R. Gawalt, Director  
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics  
National Science Foundation

ID: [SDR ID]

***Web Start Mode Initial Notice - USPS: 2017 New Cohort and 2015 Panel Locating Problems  
(W\_IC7\_u.docx)***

**Please see pages D-14 and D-15 for the referenced enclosed InfoCard**  
*This letter will be sent to sample members printed on the SDR 2017 letterhead,  
images of which can be found on pages D-2 and D-3.*

[DATE], 2017

Dr. [FIRST NAME] [MIDDLE INITIAL] [LAST NAME]  
[ORGNAME]  
[STREET ADDRESS 1]  
[STREET ADDRESS 2]  
[CITY], [STATE] [ZIP CODE]

Dear Dr. [LAST NAME],

**We are requesting your participation in the 2017 Survey of Doctorate Recipients (SDR)**, sponsored by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institutes of Health. The SDR collects career outcome information from a highly educated and important population – individuals who have earned a science, engineering, or health doctorate degree from a U.S. academic institution.

**Please complete this important survey online using the access information below.** Your PIN and password are unique, and, for your convenience, we are sending this same information to the email address we have on record for you.

<https://websurvey.norc.org/2017sdr>

PIN: [WEBPIN] Password: [WEBPWD]

**Your response will help us better understand the career and employment patterns of the U.S. trained doctorate population.** Your response is needed regardless of your present employment situation, whether you are working, retired, or looking for a job. We also understand that highly-trained individuals like yourself are mobile, and we want to hear from you, wherever you currently reside.

**To thank you for your consideration**, you'll find a card enclosed that provides more information about the SDR with an attached bookmark. If you have any questions regarding the survey, please contact NORC via the toll-free number or email address listed below. Staff members are available from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. (Central Time) to assist you.

We look forward to receiving your online survey.

Sincerely,



John R. Gawalt, Director  
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics  
National Science Foundation

SDR ID: [SDR ID]

***Web Start Mode Enclosed InfoCard - USPS: 2017 New Cohort and 2015 Panel Locating Problems (InfoCard) OUTSIDE VIEW***

**Graphic and statistics, as well as color of the InfoCard will be updated utilizing the 2015 SDR data.**

**HIN** **NSF**  
Sponsored by

**2015 Survey of Doctorate Recipients**

**SDR**

## SDR Is Important

The SDR is the only comprehensive source of data on the education and training, work experience, and career development of science, engineering, and health (SEH) doctorate holders trained in the U.S. Data from the SDR help government, business, and academic leaders forecast labor supply and demand in many fields.

Complete the 2015 SDR online survey by visiting  
**<https://websurvey.norc.org/2015sdr>**  
and entering your unique PIN and password provided on the enclosed letter.

For information about the 2015 SDR or for assistance completing the survey, visit  
**<http://norc.uchicago.edu/sdr>**,  
or contact NORC by email at **[sdr@norc.uchicago.edu](mailto:sdr@norc.uchicago.edu)** or by phone at  
**800-685-1663** (toll-free in the U.S.) or **312-759-5239** (outside the U.S.).

For information about the results of past survey rounds, visit the NSF's National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics website:  
**[www.nsf.gov/statistics/srvydoctoratework](http://www.nsf.gov/statistics/srvydoctoratework)**

**NSF**

**National Science Foundation**  
**Measuring Progress...**  
**[www.nsf.gov/statistics](http://www.nsf.gov/statistics)**



**Web Start Mode Enclosed InfoCard - USPS: 2017 New Cohort and 2015 Panel Locating Problems (InfoCard) INSIDE VIEW**

**Graphic and statistics, as well as color of the InfoCard will be updated utilizing the 2015 SDR data.**

# Survey of Doctorate Recipients

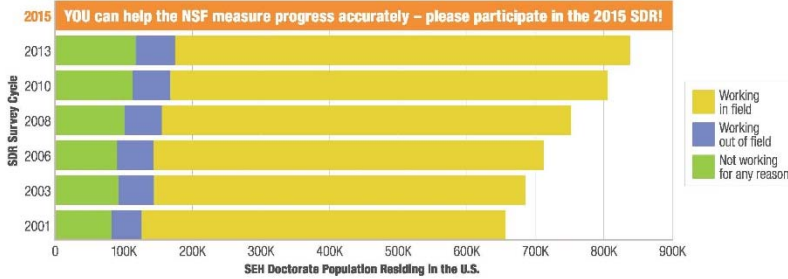
The 2015 SDR is conducted by **NORC** at the UNIVERSITY of CHICAGO.

The 2015 SDR is sponsored by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH), agencies of the U.S. federal government. NSF and NIH promote the progress of science and advance the national health by sponsoring scientific and medical research, developing programs to strengthen scientific potential, supporting educational programs, and appraising the impact of research upon industrial development and innovation.



## YOU Are A Representative

Working Status of U.S.-trained SEH Doctorates: SDR 2001-2013



SOURCE: National Science Foundation/National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, Survey of Doctorate Recipients: 2001, 2003, 2006, 2008, 2010, 2013

The attached bookmark is a token of our appreciation for your participation in the 2015 SDR.

1 in															
<b>LENGTH</b>	in	inches	x	25.4	=	millimeters	mm	<b>VOLUME</b>	fl oz	fluid ounces	x	29.57	=	milliliters	mL
	ft	feet	x	0.305	=	meters	m		gal	gallons	x	3.785	=	liters	L
	yd	yards	x	0.914	=	meters	m		ft <sup>3</sup>	cubic feet	x	0.028	=	cubic meters	m <sup>3</sup>
	mi	miles	x	1.61	=	kilometers	km		yd <sup>3</sup>	cubic yards	x	0.765	=	cubic meters	m <sup>3</sup>
<b>AREA</b>	in <sup>2</sup>	square inches	x	645.2	=	square millimeters	mm <sup>2</sup>	<b>MASS</b>	oz	ounces	x	28.35	=	grams	g
	ft <sup>2</sup>	square feet	x	0.093	=	square meters	m <sup>2</sup>		lb	pounds	x	0.454	=	kilograms	kg
	yd <sup>2</sup>	square yards	x	0.836	=	square meters	m <sup>2</sup>		T	tons	x	0.907	=	metric tons	t
	ac	acres	x	0.405	=	hectares	ha								
m <sup>2</sup>	square miles	x	2.59	=	square kilometers	km <sup>2</sup>	<b>TEMP</b>	°F	Fahrenheit	(°F - 32) / 1.8	=	Celsius	°C		

***Mail Start Mode First Questionnaire Cover Letter: 2015 Cooperative (M\_Quex1\_1.docx)***

*This letter will be sent to sample members printed on the SDR 2017 letterhead, images of which can be found on pages D-2 and D-3.*

[DATE], 2017

Dr. [FIRST NAME] [MIDDLE INITIAL] [LAST NAME]  
[ORGNAME]  
[STREET ADDRESS 1]  
[STREET ADDRESS 2]  
[CITY], [STATE] [ZIP CODE]

Dear Dr. [LAST NAME],

**Thank you for your past participation in the Survey of Doctorate Recipients (SDR).** For over 40 years, you and other SDR respondents have contributed to an irreplaceable collection of longitudinal data about doctorate holders. Your responses, aggregated with other participants' responses, help academic and governmental organizations with decision-making, for instance, in the anticipation of personnel shortages and funding needs for research and development. The information you provided has also proven valuable for students who want to learn about the occupational potential of their graduate education.

**At this time, we are asking for you to complete the enclosed 2017 SDR questionnaire.** The study is being conducted by NORC at the University of Chicago on behalf of the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institutes of Health. Your response, regardless of your employment situation, is vital to the creation of an accurate picture of the doctorate population. We want to learn how many doctorate holders are working in or out of their field of study, are seeking employment, are retired, or are in other employment-related situations. We can only learn about how the career patterns of doctorate recipients change over time from you. Aggregated results from earlier rounds of the study are publically available at the NSF website listed below.

**Please complete the enclosed questionnaire** and return it in the postage-paid envelope to NORC.

If you have any questions about the survey, please contact NORC via the toll-free number or email address listed below. Staff members are available from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. (Central Time) to assist you.

**Thank you for your continued participation.** We look forward to receiving your completed survey.

Sincerely,



John R. Gawalt, Director  
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics  
National Science Foundation

ID: [SDR ID]

***Mail Start Mode First Questionnaire Cover Letter: 2015 Cooperative Retiree (M\_Quex1\_2.docx)***

*This letter will be sent to sample members printed on the SDR 2017 letterhead, images of which can be found on pages D-2 and D-3.*

[DATE], 2017

Dr. [FIRST NAME] [MIDDLE INITIAL] [LAST NAME]  
[ORGNAME]  
[STREET ADDRESS 1]  
[STREET ADDRESS 2]  
[CITY], [STATE] [ZIP CODE]

Dear Dr. [LAST NAME],

**Thank you for your past participation in the Survey of Doctorate Recipients (SDR).** For over 40 years, you and other SDR respondents have contributed to an irreplaceable collection of longitudinal data about doctorate holders. Your responses, aggregated with other participants' responses, help academic and governmental organizations with decision-making, for instance, in the anticipation of personnel shortages and funding needs for research and development. The information you provided has also proven valuable for students who want to learn about the occupational potential of their graduate education.

**At this time, we are asking for you to complete the enclosed 2017 SDR questionnaire.** The study is being conducted by NORC at the University of Chicago on behalf of the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institutes of Health. Our records show that you were retired when you last participated in the SDR. Your response, regardless of your employment situation, is vital to the creation of an accurate picture of the doctorate population. We can only learn about how the career patterns of doctorate recipients change over time from you. Aggregated results from earlier rounds of the study are publically available at the NSF website listed below.

**Please complete the enclosed questionnaire** and return it in the postage-paid envelope to NORC.

If you have any questions about the survey, please contact NORC via the toll-free number or email address listed below. Staff members are available from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. (Central Time) to assist you.

**Thank you for your continued participation.** We look forward to receiving your completed survey.

Sincerely,



John R. Gawalt, Director  
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics  
National Science Foundation

ID: [SDR ID]

***Mail Start Mode First Questionnaire Cover Letter: 2015 Nonresponse Retiree  
(M\_Quex1\_3.docx)***

*This letter will be sent to sample members printed on the SDR 2017 letterhead,  
images of which can be found on pages D-2 and D-3.*

[DATE], 2017

Dr. [FIRST NAME] [MIDDLE INITIAL] [LAST NAME]  
[ORGNAME]  
[STREET ADDRESS 1]  
[STREET ADDRESS 2]  
[CITY], [STATE] [ZIP CODE]

Dear Dr. [LAST NAME],

**We are requesting your participation in the 2017 Survey of Doctorate Recipients (SDR).** The study is being conducted by NORC at the University of Chicago on behalf of the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institutes of Health and an irreplaceable collection of longitudinal data on the careers of science, engineering, and health doctorate holders from U.S. academic institutions.

Our records show that you were retired during a previous round of the SDR. Your response, regardless of your current employment situation, is vital to the creation of an accurate picture of the doctorate population. We can only learn about the extent to which retirement decisions change or remain stable over time from you. Aggregated results from earlier rounds of the study are publically available at the NSF website listed below.

**Please complete the enclosed questionnaire** and return it in the postage-paid envelope to NORC at the University of Chicago.

If you have any questions about the survey, please contact NORC via the toll-free number or email address listed below. Staff members are available from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. (Central Time) to assist you.

**Thank you in advance for your participation.** We look forward to receiving your completed survey.

Sincerely,



John R. Gawalt, Director  
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics  
National Science Foundation

ID: [SDR ID]

***Mail Start Mode First Questionnaire Cover Letter: Refusals/NIR/Partial Responders  
(M\_Quex1\_4.docx)***

*This letter will be sent to sample members printed on the SDR 2017 letterhead,  
images of which can be found on pages D-2 and D-3.*

[DATE], 2017

Dr. [FIRST NAME] [MIDDLE INITIAL] [LAST NAME]  
[ORGNAME]  
[STREET ADDRESS 1]  
[STREET ADDRESS 2]  
[CITY], [STATE] [ZIP CODE]

Dear Dr. [LAST NAME],

**We are requesting your participation in the 2017 Survey of Doctorate Recipients (SDR).** The study is being conducted by NORC at the University of Chicago on behalf of the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institutes of Health and is an irreplaceable collection of longitudinal data on the careers of science, engineering, and health doctorate holders from U.S. academic institutions.

Your response, regardless of your employment situation, is vital to the creation of an accurate picture of the doctorate population. We want to learn how many doctorate holders are working in or out of their field of study, are seeking employment, are retired, or are in other employment-related situations. **We can only learn about how the career patterns of doctorate recipients change over time from you.**

**Your data will be kept strictly confidential** and safeguarded in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 and the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002. The data collected will be aggregated and used to prepare scientific reports, articles, and statistical summaries, but any information released publicly will maintain the confidentiality of all participants. Results from earlier studies are available at the NSF website listed below.

**Please complete the enclosed questionnaire** and return it in the postage-paid envelope to NORC.

If you have any questions about the survey, please contact NORC via the toll-free number or email address listed below. Staff members are available from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. (Central Time) to assist you.

**Thank you in advance for your participation.** We look forward to receiving your completed survey.

Sincerely,



John R. Gawalt, Director  
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics  
National Science Foundation

ID: [SDR ID]

***Mail Start Mode First Questionnaire Cover Letter: 2017 New Cohort (M\_Quex1\_5.docx)***

*This letter will be sent to sample members printed on the SDR 2017 letterhead,  
images of which can be found on pages D-2 and D-3.*

[DATE], 2017

Dr. [FIRST NAME] [MIDDLE INITIAL] [LAST NAME]  
[ORGNAME]  
[STREET ADDRESS 1]  
[STREET ADDRESS 2]  
[CITY], [STATE] [ZIP CODE]

Dear Dr. [LAST NAME],

**We are requesting your participation in the 2017 Survey of Doctorate Recipients (SDR).** The study is being conducted by NORC at the University of Chicago on behalf of the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institutes of Health.

As mentioned in our previous correspondence, you were scientifically selected to represent a crucial segment of the population and as such, **we cannot substitute any other person for you.** Your response, regardless of your employment situation, is vital to the creation of an accurate picture of the doctorate population.

**Please complete the enclosed questionnaire** and return it in the postage-paid envelope to NORC at the University of Chicago—or complete an online survey by using the access information below. Because the survey is secure and confidential, you'll need to enter your unique and case-sensitive PIN and password to access the survey after going to the survey website.

<https://websurvey.norc.org/2017sdr>

PIN: [WEBPIN] Password: [WEBPWD]

If you have any questions about the survey, please contact NORC via the toll-free number or email address listed below. Staff members are available from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. (Central Time) to assist you.

**We would greatly appreciate your cooperation in this significant effort.** We look forward to receiving your completed survey.

Sincerely,



John R. Gawalt, Director  
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics  
National Science Foundation

ID: [SDR ID]



***Mail Start Mode First Questionnaire Cover Letter: Money Cooperative (M\_Quex1\_10.docx)***

*This letter will be sent to sample members printed on the SDR 2017 letterhead, images of which can be found on pages D-2 and D-3.*

[DATE], 2017

Dr. [FIRST NAME] [MIDDLE INITIAL] [LAST NAME]  
[ORGNAME]  
[STREET ADDRESS 1]  
[STREET ADDRESS 2]  
[CITY], [STATE] [ZIP CODE]

Dear Dr. [LAST NAME],

**We are requesting your participation in the 2017 Survey of Doctorate Recipients (SDR).** The study is being conducted by NORC at the University of Chicago on behalf of the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institutes of Health and is an irreplaceable collection of longitudinal data on the careers of science, engineering, and health doctorate holders from U.S. academic institutions.

**Please find a \$30 token of our appreciation enclosed to thank you for your past contribution and in advance for your 2017 SDR participation.** Your response, regardless of your employment situation, is vital to the creation of an accurate picture of the doctorate population. We want to learn how many doctorate holders are working in or out of their field of study, are seeking employment, are retired, or are in other employment-related situations. **We can only learn about how the career patterns of doctorate recipients change over time from you.**

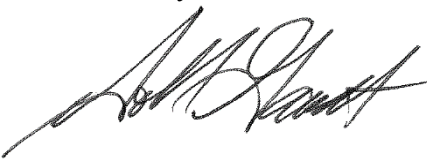
**Your data will be kept strictly confidential** and safeguarded in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 and the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002. The data collected will be aggregated and used to prepare scientific reports, articles, and statistical summaries, but any information released publicly will maintain the confidentiality of all participants. Results from earlier studies are available at the NSF website listed below.

**Please complete the enclosed questionnaire** and return it in the postage-paid envelope to NORC.

If you have any questions about the survey, please contact NORC via the toll-free number or email address listed below. Staff members are available from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. (Central Time) to assist you.

**Thank you in advance for your participation.** We look forward to receiving your completed survey.

Sincerely,



John R. Gawalt, Director  
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics  
National Science Foundation

ID: [SDR ID]

***Web Start Mode Follow-up Notice - USPS: 2015 Cooperative (W\_FNI\_u.docx)***

*This letter will be sent to sample members printed on the SDR 2017 letterhead,  
images of which can be found on pages D-2 and D-3.*

[DATE], 2017

Dr. [FIRST NAME] [MIDDLE INITIAL] [LAST NAME]  
[ORGNAME]  
[STREET ADDRESS 1]  
[STREET ADDRESS 2]  
[CITY], [STATE] [ZIP CODE]

Dear Dr. [LAST NAME],

**We would like your help in completing the 2017 Survey of Doctorate Recipients (SDR).** The SDR is being conducted by NORC at the University of Chicago on behalf of the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institutes of Health.

**Your participation helps to ensure that SDR information and statistics are valid and complete.** Because you were scientifically selected for the SDR, we cannot substitute any other person for you. Your response, regardless of your employment situation, is vital to the creation of an accurate picture of the doctorate population. We want to learn how many doctorate holders are working in or out of their field of study, are seeking employment, are retired, or are in other employment-related situations.

**Please complete this important survey online using the access information below.**

<https://websurvey.norc.org/2017sdr>

PIN: [WEBPIN] Password: [WEBPWD]

If you would rather complete this survey on the telephone or via a paper questionnaire, please let us know by contacting the study's toll-free number or email address listed below. For your convenience, this information has also been sent to the email address we have on record for you.

If you have any questions regarding the survey, please contact NORC where staff members are available from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. (Central Time) to assist you.

**Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this important effort.**

Sincerely,



John R. Gawalt, Director  
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics  
National Science Foundation

P.S. **If you have already completed the 2017 survey**, thank you so much for your time!

ID: [SDR ID]

***Web Start Mode Follow-up Notice - USPS: 2015 Locating/2015 Nonresponse (W\_FN2\_u.docx)***

*This letter will be sent to sample members printed on the SDR 2017 letterhead,  
images of which can be found on pages D-2 and D-3.*

[DATE], 2017

Dr. [FIRST NAME] [MIDDLE INITIAL] [LAST NAME]  
[ORGNAME]  
[STREET ADDRESS 1]  
[STREET ADDRESS 2]  
[CITY], [STATE] [ZIP CODE]

Dear Dr. [LAST NAME],

**We would like your help in completing the 2017 Survey of Doctorate Recipients (SDR).** The SDR is being conducted by NORC at the University of Chicago on behalf of the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institutes of Health.

**Your participation helps to ensure that SDR information and statistics are valid and complete.** Science, engineering, and health doctorate holders are highly trained and mobile, moving from one country to another to take advantage of opportunities in their fields. We want to gather information on the productivity and career paths of individuals like you, wherever you may live or work. Because you were scientifically selected for the SDR, we cannot substitute any other person for you.

**Please complete this important survey online using the access information below.**

<https://websurvey.norc.org/2017sdr>

PIN: [WEBPIN] Password: [WEBPWD]

If you would rather complete this survey on the telephone or via a paper questionnaire, please let us know by contacting the study's toll-free number or email address listed below. For your convenience, this information has also been sent to the email address we have on record for you.

If you have any questions regarding the survey, please contact NORC where staff members are available from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. (Central Time) to assist you.

**Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this important effort.**

Sincerely,



John R. Gawalt, Director  
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics  
National Science Foundation

P.S. **If you have already completed the 2017 survey**, thank you so much for your time!

ID: [SDR ID]

***Web Start Mode Follow-up Notice - USPS: 2015 Cooperative Green Appeal (W\_FN3\_u.docx)***

*This letter will be sent to sample members printed on the SDR 2017 letterhead,  
images of which can be found on pages D-2 and D-3.*

[DATE], 2017

Dr. [FIRST NAME] [MIDDLE INITIAL] [LAST NAME]  
[ORGNAME]  
[STREET ADDRESS 1]  
[STREET ADDRESS 2]  
[CITY], [STATE] [ZIP CODE]

Dear Dr. [LAST NAME],

**We would like your help in completing the 2017 Survey of Doctorate Recipients (SDR).** The SDR is being conducted by NORC at the University of Chicago on behalf of the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institutes of Health.

**Your participation helps ensure that SDR information and statistics are valid and complete.** Because you were scientifically selected for the SDR, we cannot substitute any other person for you. Your response, regardless of your employment situation or location, is vital to the creation of an accurate picture of the doctorate population. We want to learn how many doctorate holders are working in or out of their field of study, are seeking employment, are retired, or are in other employment-related situations.

**Please complete this important survey online using the access information below.**

<https://websurvey.norc.org/2017sdr>

PIN: [WEBPIN] Password: [WEBPWD]

**We are asking you to complete the survey online in an effort to make the SDR a more sustainable and environmentally-friendly program.** If you would rather complete this survey on the telephone or via a paper questionnaire, please let us know by contacting the study's toll-free number or email address listed below. For your convenience, this information has also been sent to the email address we have on record for you.

If you have any questions regarding the survey, please contact NORC where staff members are available from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. (Central Time) to assist you.

**Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this important effort.**

Sincerely,



John R. Gawalt, Director  
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics  
National Science Foundation

P.S. **If you have already completed the 2017 survey**, thank you so much for your time!

ID: [SDR ID]

***Web Start Mode Follow-up notice - USPS: New Cohort (W\_FN4\_u.docx)***

*This letter will be sent to sample members printed on the SDR 2017 letterhead, images of which can be found on pages D-2 and D-3.*

[DATE], 2017

Dr. [FIRST NAME] [MIDDLE INITIAL] [LAST NAME]  
[ORGNOME]  
[STREET ADDRESS 1]  
[STREET ADDRESS 2]  
[CITY], [STATE] [ZIP CODE]

Dear Dr. [LAST NAME],

**Please find a \$30 token of our appreciation enclosed to thank you in advance for participating in the 2017 Survey of Doctorate Recipients (SDR).**

**Your participation helps to ensure that SDR information and statistics are valid and complete.** Because you were scientifically selected for the SDR, we cannot substitute any other person for you. Doctorate holders in science, engineering, and health are highly trained and mobile, moving to take advantage of opportunities in their fields. Understanding the productivity and career paths of individuals like you is important no matter where they live and work.

**Please complete this important survey online using the access information below.**

<https://websurvey.norc.org/2017sdr>

PIN: [WEBPIN] Password: [WEBPWD]

If you would rather complete this survey on the telephone or via a paper questionnaire, please let us know by contacting the study's toll-free number or email address listed below. For your convenience, this information has also been sent to the email address we have on record for you.

The 2017 SDR is being conducted by NORC at the University of Chicago on behalf of the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institutes of Health. If you have any questions regarding the survey, please contact NORC, where staff members are available from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. (Central Time) to assist you.

**Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this important effort.**

Sincerely,



John R. Gawalt, Director  
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics  
National Science Foundation

**P.S. If you have already completed the 2017 survey, thank you so much for your time!**

SDR ID: [SDR ID]

***CATI Start Mode Prompting Message - USPS: Panel (C\_PM\_u.docx)***

*This letter will be sent to sample members printed on the SDR 2017 letterhead, images of which can be found on pages D-2 and D-3.*

[DATE], 2017

Dr. [FIRST NAME] [MIDDLE INITIAL] [LAST NAME]  
[ORGNAME]  
[STREET ADDRESS 1]  
[STREET ADDRESS 2]  
[CITY], [STATE] [ZIP CODE]

Dear Dr. [LAST NAME],

**We recently attempted to reach you by telephone to complete the 2017 Survey of Doctorate Recipients (SDR).** The SDR is being conducted by NORC at the University of Chicago on behalf of the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institutes of Health. We regret that we have been unable to reach you.

**Your participation helps to ensure that SDR information and statistics are valid and complete.** Because you were scientifically selected for the SDR, we cannot substitute any other person for you. Your response, regardless of your employment situation, is vital to the creation of an accurate picture of the doctorate population. We want to learn how many doctorate holders are working in or out of their field of study, are seeking employment, are retired, or are in other employment-related situations.

The data you provide will be kept strictly confidential and safeguarded in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 and the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002.

We are offering three different ways by which you may participate.

1. **Paper:** To request a paper version of the survey, please call 1-800-685-1663.
2. **Telephone:** If you prefer a telephone interview, please call 1-800-685-1663.
3. **Online:** If you prefer to complete the survey online, please go to the following URL and enter your unique and case-sensitive PIN and password to securely access the survey:

**<https://survey.norc.org/2017sdr>**

**PIN: [WEBPIN] Password: [WEBPWD]**

For your convenience, we are also sending you access to the online survey to the email address we have on record for you. If you have any questions regarding the survey, please contact NORC via the toll-free number or email address listed below. Staff members are available from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. (Central Time) to assist you.

**Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this important effort.**

Sincerely,



John R. Gawalt, Director  
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics  
National Science Foundation

ID: [SDR ID]-113



***CATI Start Mode Prompting Message - USPS: New Cohort (C\_PM2\_u.docx)***

*This letter will be sent to sample members printed on the SDR 2017 letterhead,  
images of which can be found on pages D-2 and D-3.*

[DATE], 2017

Dr. [FIRST NAME] [MIDDLE INITIAL] [LAST NAME]  
[ORGNAME]  
[STREET ADDRESS 1]  
[STREET ADDRESS 2]  
[CITY], [STATE] [ZIP CODE]

Dear Dr. [LAST NAME],

**Please find a \$30 token of our appreciation enclosed to thank you in advance for participating in the 2017 Survey of Doctorate Recipients.** We recently attempted to reach you by telephone to complete the survey and regret we have been unable to reach you. The SDR is being conducted by NORC at the University of Chicago on behalf of the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institutes of Health.

**Your participation helps to ensure that SDR information and statistics are valid and complete.** Because you were scientifically selected for the SDR, we cannot substitute any other person for you. Your response, regardless of your employment situation, is vital to the creation of an accurate picture of the doctorate population. We want to learn how many doctorate holders are working in or out of their field of study, are seeking employment, are retired, or are in other employment-related situations.

The data you provide will be kept strictly confidential and safeguarded in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 and the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002.

We are offering three different ways by which you may participate.

1. **Paper:** To request a paper version of the survey, please call 1-800-685-1663.
2. **Telephone:** If you prefer a telephone interview, please call 1-800-685-1663.
3. **Online:** If you prefer to complete the survey online, please go to the following URL and enter your unique and case-sensitive PIN and password to securely access the survey:

**<https://survey.norc.org/2017sdr>**

**PIN: [WEBPIN] Password: [WEBPWD]**

For your convenience, we are also sending you access to the online survey to the email address we have on record for you. If you have any questions regarding the survey, please contact NORC via the toll-free number or email address listed below. Staff members are available from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. (Central Time) to assist you.

**Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this important effort.**

Sincerely,



John R. Gawalt, Director  
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics  
National Science Foundation

ID: [SDR ID]

***CATI and Web Start Mode First Questionnaire Cover Letter: 2015 Non-retirees  
(CW\_Quex1\_6.docx)***

*This letter will be sent to sample members printed on the SDR 2017 letterhead,  
images of which can be found on pages D-2 and D-3.*

[DATE], 2017

Dr. [FIRST NAME] [MIDDLE INITIAL] [LAST NAME]  
[ORGNAME]  
[STREET ADDRESS 1]  
[STREET ADDRESS 2]  
[CITY], [STATE] [ZIP CODE]

Dear Dr. [LAST NAME],

**We are requesting your participation in the 2017 Survey of Doctorate Recipients**, conducted by NORC at the University of Chicago on behalf of the survey sponsors, the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institutes of Health. Recently, we tried to contact you by email and telephone but have not received your completed questionnaire.

**Whether you are working in or out of your doctoral field of study, seeking employment, retired, or in another employment-related situation, your response is vital.** We can only learn about how the career patterns of doctorate recipients change over time from you. This study is conducted every two years and takes an average of 25 minutes of your time. Results from earlier studies are available at the NSF website below.

For your convenience, we are offering three different ways by which you can participate.

1. **Paper:** Please fill out the enclosed questionnaire and return it using the enclosed envelope.
2. **Telephone:** If you prefer a telephone interview, please call 1-800-685-1663.
3. **Online:** If you prefer to complete this survey online, please go to the following URL and enter your unique and case-sensitive PIN and password to securely access the survey:

**<https://survey.norc.org/2017sdr>**

PIN: [WEBPIN] Password: [WEBPWD]

If you have any questions regarding the survey, please contact NORC via the toll-free number or email address listed below. Staff members are available from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. (Central Time) to assist you.

**Thank you for your help with this important effort. We look forward to your response.**

Sincerely,



John R. Gawalt, Director  
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics  
National Science Foundation

ID: [SU\_ID]

***CATI and Web Start Mode First Questionnaire Cover Letter: 2015 Cooperative Retiree  
(CW\_Quex1\_7.docx)***

*This letter will be sent to sample members printed on the SDR 2017 letterhead,  
images of which can be found on pages D-2 and D-3.*

[DATE], 2017

Dr. [FIRST NAME] [MIDDLE INITIAL] [LAST NAME]  
[ORGNOME]  
[STREET ADDRESS 1]  
[STREET ADDRESS 2]  
[CITY], [STATE] [ZIP CODE]

Dear Dr. [LAST NAME],

**We are requesting your participation in the 2017 Survey of Doctorate Recipients**, conducted by NORC at the University of Chicago on behalf of the survey sponsors, the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institutes of Health. Recently, we tried to contact you by email and telephone but have not received your completed questionnaire.

**Whether you are retired and not working, retired but working part time, or back to working full time, your response is vital.** We can only learn about the extent to which retirement decisions change or remain stable over time from you. Aggregated results from earlier rounds of the study are publically available at the NSF website listed below.

For your convenience, we are offering three different ways by which you can participate.

1. **Paper:** Please fill out the enclosed questionnaire and return it using the enclosed envelope.
2. **Telephone:** If you prefer a telephone interview, please call 1-800-685-1663.
3. **Online:** If you prefer to complete this survey online, please go to the following URL and enter your unique and case-sensitive PIN and password to securely access the survey:

**<https://survey.norc.org/2017sdr>**

**PIN: [WEBPIN] Password: [WEBPWD]**

If you have any questions regarding the survey, please contact NORC via the toll-free number or email address listed below. Staff members are available from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. (Central Time) to assist you.

**Thank you for your help with this important effort. We look forward to your response.**

Sincerely,



John R. Gawalt, Director  
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics  
National Science Foundation

ID: [SU\_ID]

***CATI and Web Start Mode First Questionnaire Cover Letter: New Cohort (CW\_Quex1\_10.docx)***

*This letter will be sent to sample members printed on the SDR 2017 letterhead,  
images of which can be found on pages D-2 and D-3.*

[DATE], 2017

Dr. [FIRST NAME] [MIDDLE INITIAL] [LAST NAME]  
[ORGNAME]  
[STREET ADDRESS 1]  
[STREET ADDRESS 2]  
[CITY], [STATE] [ZIP CODE]

Dear Dr. [LAST NAME],

**I hope you received the \$30 token of our appreciation recently mailed to you for the 2017 Survey of Doctorate Recipients (SDR).** We are requesting your participation in this important study, which is sponsored by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institutes of Health. We have not yet received your completed questionnaire and hope you will contribute to 2017 SDR.

**Whether you are working in or out of your doctoral field of study, seeking employment, retired, or in another employment-related situation, your response is vital.** We can only learn about how the career patterns of doctorate recipients change over time from you. This study is conducted every two years and takes an average of 25 minutes of your time. Results from earlier studies are available at the NSF website below.

For your convenience, we are offering three different ways by which you can participate.

1. **Paper:** Please fill out the enclosed questionnaire and return it using the enclosed envelope.
2. **Telephone:** If you prefer a telephone interview, please call 1-800-685-1663.
3. **Online:** If you prefer to complete this survey online, please go to the following URL and enter your unique and case-sensitive PIN and password to securely access the survey:

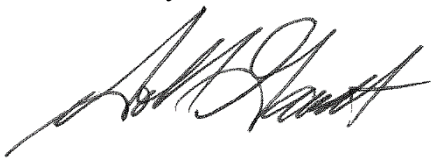
**<https://survey.norc.org/2017sdr>**

**PIN: [WEBPIN] Password: [WEBPWD]**

If you have any questions regarding the survey, please contact NORC via the toll-free number or email address listed below. Staff members are available from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. (Central Time) to assist you.

**Thank you for your help with this important effort. We look forward to your response.**

Sincerely,



John R. Gawalt, Director  
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics  
National Science Foundation

ID: [SU\_ID]

***Mail Start Second Questionnaire Cover Letter: All (Quex2.docx)***

*This letter will be sent to sample members printed on the SDR 2017 letterhead, images of which can be found on pages D-2 and D-3.*

[DATE], 2017

Dr. [FIRST NAME] [MIDDLE INITIAL] [LAST NAME]  
[ORGNAME]  
[STREET ADDRESS 1]  
[STREET ADDRESS 2]  
[CITY], [STATE] [ZIP CODE]

Dear Dr. [LAST NAME],

**We recently mailed you a 2017 Survey of Doctorate Recipients (SDR) questionnaire and have not yet received your completed survey.** Your participation greatly influences the accuracy, usefulness, and overall success of the survey and its results and will take about 25 minutes of your time.

**Your response is needed wherever you live and whatever your employment status is.** Please complete this important survey. For your convenience, we are offering three different participation options.

1. **Paper:** Please fill out the enclosed questionnaire and return it using the enclosed envelope.
2. **Telephone:** If you prefer a telephone interview, please call 1-800-685-1663.
3. **Online:** If you prefer to complete the survey online, please go to the following URL and enter your unique and case-sensitive PIN and password to securely access the survey:

<https://survey.norc.org/2017sdr>

PIN: MPMUK Password: [WEBPWD]

If you have any questions regarding the survey, please contact NORC via the toll-free number or email address listed below. Staff members are available from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. (Central Time) to assist you.

**Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this important effort, which is sponsored by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institutes of Health.**

Sincerely,



John R. Gawalt, Director  
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics  
National Science Foundation

ID: [SU\_ID]

***Mail Start Second Questionnaire Cover Letter: New Cohort (Quex2\_10.docx)***

*This letter will be sent to sample members printed on the SDR 2017 letterhead, images of which can be found on pages D-2 and D-3.*

[DATE], 2017

Dr. [FIRST NAME] [MIDDLE INITIAL] [LAST NAME]  
[ORGNAME]  
[STREET ADDRESS 1]  
[STREET ADDRESS 2]  
[CITY], [STATE] [ZIP CODE]

Dear Dr. [LAST NAME],

**We recently mailed you a 2017 Survey of Doctorate Recipients (SDR) questionnaire and have not yet received your completed survey.** Your participation greatly influences the accuracy, usefulness, and overall success of the survey and its results and will take about 25 minutes of your time.

**Please find a \$30 token of appreciation enclosed to thank you in advance for participating in the 2017 SDR.** Your response is needed wherever you live and whatever your employment status is.

Please complete this important survey. For your convenience, we are offering three different participation options.

1. **Paper:** Please fill out the enclosed questionnaire and return it using the enclosed envelope.
2. **Telephone:** If you prefer a telephone interview, please call 1-800-685-1663.
3. **Online:** If you prefer to complete the survey online, please go to the following URL and enter your unique and case-sensitive PIN and password to securely access the survey:

<https://survey.norc.org/2017sdr>

PIN: **MPM2IR** Password: **[WEBPWD]**

If you have any questions regarding the survey, please contact NORC via the toll-free number or email address listed below. Staff members are available from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. (Central Time) to assist you.

**Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this important effort, which is sponsored by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institutes of Health.**

Sincerely,



John R. Gawalt, Director  
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics  
National Science Foundation

ID: [SU\_ID]

***CATI and Web Start Survey Request Letter: Panel except Locating Problems  
(CW\_InfoCard\_letter\_for\_SMs.docx)***

**Please see pages D-14 and D-15 for the referenced enclosed InfoCard**  
*This letter will be sent to sample members printed on the SDR 2017 letterhead,  
images of which can be found on pages D-2 and D-3.*

[DATE], 2017

Dr. [FIRST NAME] [MIDDLE INITIAL] [LAST NAME]  
[ORGNAME]  
[STREET ADDRESS 1]  
[STREET ADDRESS 2]  
[CITY], [STATE] [ZIP CODE]

Dear Dr. [LAST NAME],

**We have not yet received your completed 2017 Survey of Doctorate Recipients (SDR) and are requesting your participation.** Your participation will enhance the accuracy, usefulness, and overall success of the survey and will help us better understand the career and employment patterns of doctorate holders like you.

**Your response is important** wherever you live worldwide and whatever your employment status. Enclosed you'll find a card that provides additional information about the SDR and contains an attached bookmark.

**To complete the 2017 SDR online**, go to the following URL and enter your unique PIN and password:

**<https://survey.norc.org/2017sdr>**

PIN: [WEBPIN] Password: [WEBPWD]

If you prefer a telephone interview or a mailed paper questionnaire, contact NORC via email or telephone using the information listed below. Staff members can assist you from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. (U.S. Central Time).

Sincerely,



John R. Gawalt, Director  
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics  
National Science Foundation

SDR ID: [SDR ID]



***CATI and Web Start Survey Request Letter: New Cohort and Panel Locating Problems  
(CW\_Letter\_with\_Graphic\_not\_InfoCard.docx)***

**Graphic and statistics will be updated utilizing the 2015 SDR data.**  
*This letter will be sent to sample members printed on the SDR 2017 letterhead,  
images of which can be found on pages D-2 and D-3.*

[DATE], 2017

Dr. [FIRST NAME] [MIDDLE INITIAL] [LAST NAME]  
[ORGNOME]  
[STREET ADDRESS 1]  
[STREET ADDRESS 2]  
[CITY], [STATE] [ZIP CODE]

Dear Dr. [LAST NAME],

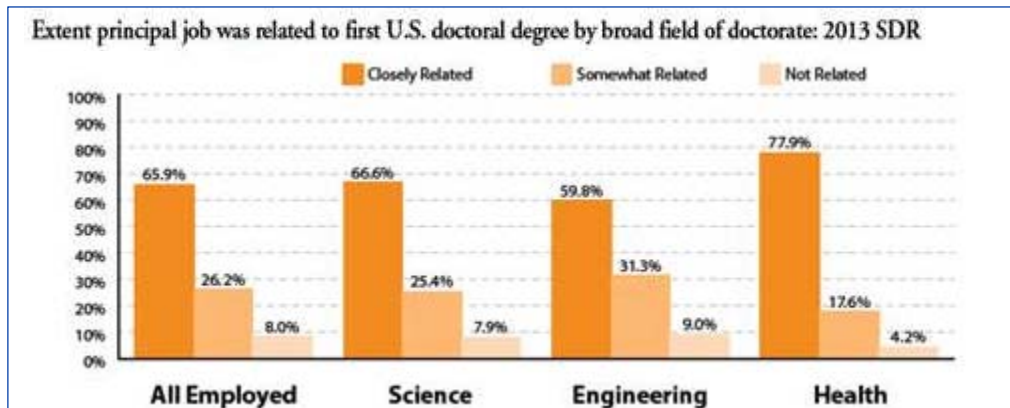
**Please participate in the 2017 Survey of Doctorate Recipients (SDR).** Your participation helps us to accurately continue to report on the career outcomes of U.S.-trained doctorate recipients.

**To complete the survey online**, please go to the following secure URL and enter your PIN and password:

**<https://survey.norc.org/2017sdr>**

**PIN:** [WEBPIN]      **Password:** [WEBPWD]

**Results from the 2013 SDR** show that 86% of U.S.-trained doctorates living in the U.S. were employed full or part time; 58% worked in science occupations, 13% in engineering; and 46% worked at educational institutions. The figure below shows 66% of employed science, engineering, and health doctorates had jobs closely related to their degree field.



**Thank you in advance for your participation in the 2017 SDR,**

John R. Gawalt, Director  
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics  
National Science Foundation

SDR ID: [SDR ID]

*Postcard Text: All (Thank\_you\_Postcard\_text.docx)*

Last week you should have received a survey in the mail from NORC at the University of Chicago on behalf of the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institutes of Health. Many thanks if you have already completed the survey, we look forward to receiving it shortly. If you have not completed the survey, we hope you will complete it as soon as you can.

If you did not receive the materials, or if you would like to complete the survey online or over the telephone, please contact NORC via email at [NSFstudy@norc.uchicago.edu](mailto:NSFstudy@norc.uchicago.edu) or toll-free at 1-800-685-1663 between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. (U.S. Central Time).

Your participation is important for the success of this study.

With appreciation,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John R. Gawalt', written in a cursive style.

John R. Gawalt, Director  
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics  
National Science Foundation