Dear [contact("first name")][contact("last name")],

Thank you for sharing your graduate admissions experiences with us via this brief survey. Your responses will help us improve our graduate programs and recruitment processes.

The survey will take approximately 5-7 minutes to complete. Your responses will remain strictly confidential. Only university-level assessment staff – not members of the department to which you applied – will have access to your identifiable data. Only aggregated results will be shared with departments and included in reports. Your decision to participate is completely voluntary, and your feedback on this survey will not affect your relationship with the University of Illinois in any way. You may skip any questions you wish, and you may end survey participation at any time.

If you have any questions about your rights as a participant in this study or any concerns or complaints, please contact the University of Illinois Institutional Review Board at 217-333-2670 (collect calls will be accepted if you identify yourself as a research participant) or via email at irb@illinois.edu. If you have questions about the survey, you may contact us at DocExperience@illinois.edu

I sincerely thank you for your participation. Although it is unfortunate for Illinois that you will not be joining us, I wish you all the best in whatever opportunities you pursue in the future.

Wojtek Chodzko-Zajko,
Dean, Graduate College
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

I have read and understood this consent letter. I voluntarily agree to participate.
Please click on the consent button below to supply consent and to proceed to the survey.
1. How did you first hear about the [invite("custom 1")]] program at Illinois?

Choose the best answer.

- Mailing from UI
- Petersons.com
- Gradschools.com
- UI faculty member
- Former professor/advisor
- US News and World Report
- UI website
- Current or former UI student
- Some other source (Please specify):

- I can't remember

2. How many institutions did you apply to for graduate study?

Please enter a number.


3. Which institution will you attend?

* I won't be attending graduate school next year.

Arizona State University
Boston University
Brown University
California Institute of Technology
Carnegie Mellon University
Columbia University
Cornell University
Duke University
* I won't be attending graduate school next year.
Please specify which institution you will be attending.

What is the main reason you have chosen not to attend graduate school next year?

Factors
4. Several factors may have contributed to your decision to attend [question("value"), id="6"] instead of the University of Illinois. Please indicate which key factors were better at [question("value"), id="6"] than at the University of Illinois. Choose up to three factors.

- Communication with faculty, graduate students and/or staff (verbal or written communication)
- Program content, structure, or climate (including program size, requirements, specializations, opportunities, length, collegiality)
- Geographic location (e.g., weather, scenery, proximity to family, general quality of life in Champaign-Urbana)
- Availability of equipment or resources for conducting research
- Timeliness of acceptance -- Illinois notified you later than your chosen institution
- Program faculty or advisor
- Cost: Tuition, health benefits, financial package (including assistantships, fellowships)
- Academic quality or reputation of the institution
- Student life or campus climate
- Clarity or availability of information about the program (e.g., web pages, publications)
- Academic quality or reputation of the program (including rankings, others' opinions, post-graduation placement data)
- Something else (Please specify:)

Institutional Quality

5. You noted that the academic quality or reputation of [question("value"), id="6"] was better than that of the University of Illinois. Which of the following influenced your assessment of institutional quality? Please select all major decision factors.

- National or international media rankings
- Your own assessment or experience
- Opinions of friends or family
- Opinions of former teacher, mentors, or advisors
- Something else (Please specify:)

Program Quality
6. You noted that the program was better at [question("value"), id="6"] than at the University of Illinois. Which of the following influenced your assessment of program quality?

*Please select all major decision factors.*

- [ ] Opinions of former teacher, mentors, or advisors
- [ ] Post-graduation placement record
- [ ] National or international media rankings
- [ ] Your own assessment or experience
- [ ] Opinions of friends or family
- [ ] Something else *(Please specify:)*

**Program Faculty**

7. You marked program faculty or advisor as one decision factor. Which of the following were better at [question("value"), id="6"] than at the University of Illinois?

*Choose all that apply.*

- [ ] Quality or reputation of assigned faculty advisor
- [ ] General quality or reputation of program faculty
- [ ] Opportunity to work with the faculty member of your choice
- [ ] Quality or reputation of the research group
- [ ] Something else *(Please specify:)*

**Program Content**
8. You marked program content, structure, or climate as one decision factor. Which of the following aspects were better at \[\text{question("value"), id="6"}\] than at the University of Illinois? Choose all that apply.

- [ ] Shorter program length
- [ ] Research opportunities
- [ ] Supportive, collegial environment
- [ ] Program course requirements
- [ ] Flexibility of program calendar or timeline
- [ ] Teaching opportunities
- [ ] Internship opportunities
- [ ] Online course availability
- [ ] International research or study opportunities
- [ ] Opportunity to study a specific area of interest (specialization)
- [ ] Larger program size (You wanted more students or faculty in the program.)
- [ ] Smaller program size (You wanted fewer students or faculty in the program.)
- [ ] Professional development opportunities
- [ ] Something else (Please specify:)

Cost

9. You marked cost as one decision factor. Which of the following aspects were better at \[\text{question("value"), id="6"}\] than at the University of Illinois? Choose all that apply.

**Financial Package**
- [ ] Research assistantship opportunities
- [ ] Teaching assistantship opportunities
- [ ] Dollar amount or duration of research or teaching assistantship stipend
- [ ] Dollar amount or duration of annual fellowship(s) awarded
- [ ] Tuition and fee waiver

**Cost**
- [ ] Lower tuition and fees in relation to financial package awarded
- [ ] Lower cost of living there than in Champaign-Urbana

**Benefits (e.g. Health, Dental, and Vision)**
- [ ] Preferable health benefits
- [ ] Lower cost of health benefits

**Other**
- [ ] Something else (Please explain:)


Please tell us about the assistantship stipend you have been offered by [question("value"), id="6"].

What is the annual stipend you will receive?
*Please enter a dollar amount.*

For how many years are you guaranteed that stipend?
*Please enter a number of years.*

Please tell us about the fellowship stipend you have been offered by [question("value"), id="6"].

What is the annual stipend you will receive?
*Please enter a dollar amount.*

For how many years are you guaranteed that stipend?
*Please enter a number of years.*

Communication
10. You marked communication with faculty, graduate students, or staff as one decision factor. Which of the following aspects were better at \[\text{question("value"), id="6"}\] than at the University of Illinois? Choose all that apply.

**Verbal Communication**
- Interaction with program faculty
- Interaction with graduate students
- Interaction with program or department staff
- Interaction with University staff

**Written Communication**
- Email or letters from program faculty
- Email or letters from graduate students
- Email or letters from program or department staff
- Email or letters from University staff

**Other**
- Something else (*Please explain:*)

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**Clarity of Information**

11. You marked clarity or availability of information about the \[\text{invite("custom 1")\text{.program}}\] as one decision factor. Which of the following aspects were better at \[\text{question("value"), id="6"}\] than at the University of Illinois? Choose all that apply.

- University website
- Program or department website
- University publications
- Program or department publications
- Something else (*Please specify:*)

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**Student Life**
12. You marked student life or campus climate as one decision factor. Which of the following aspects were better at [question("value"), id="6"] than at the University of Illinois? Choose all that apply.

- [ ] Social or cultural activities
- [ ] Student demographics (e.g. gender, racial or ethnic diversity)
- [ ] Smaller size of institution
- [ ] Family-friendly policies or activities
- [ ] Campus safety or security
- [ ] Recreational or sports activities
- [ ] Friendly, positive campus ethos
- [ ] Something else (Please specify: )

Illinois Campus Visits

13. Did you visit the University of Illinois campus prior to making your decision?

- [ ] No
- [ ] Yes

In what capacity did you visit? Choose all that apply.

- [ ] Informal visit (self-directed)
- [ ] Formal campus visit for prospective students
- [ ] Campus research experience such as REU or SROP
- [ ] Attended UI previously as a student
- [ ] Another opportunity (e.g., previous participation in a sports program, arts program, summer camp)

(Please specify: )
About how much of the cost of your visit was covered by the University of Illinois?

- 100% of the cost
- More than 50% of the cost
- About half of the cost
- Less than 50% of the cost
- None of the cost

Was your visit part of any of these programs?

*Choose all that apply.*

- Campus visit event hosted by the program, department, or college
- Individual visit hosted by the program or department
- Community of Scholars program for under-represented students
- None of the above

Why didn't you visit the Illinois campus?

*Choose all that apply.*

- Illinois was not one of my top choices, so it was not a priority for me to visit.
- No funding to visit
- No time to visit
- I did not know that I could visit campus.
- Another reason *(Please explain:)*

Other Campus Visits

14. Did you visit the campus of [question("value"), id="6"] prior to making your decision?

- No
- Yes
In what capacity did you visit?  
Choose all that apply.

- Attended that institution previously as a student  
- Campus research experience such as REU or SROP  
- Informal visit (self-directed)  
- Formal campus visit for prospective students  
- Another opportunity (e.g., previous participation in a sports program, arts program, summer camp)  
(Please specify:)

About how much of the cost of your visit was covered by [question("value"), id="6"]?

- None of the cost  
- Less that 50% of the cost  
- About half of the cost  
- More than 50% of the cost  
- 100% of the cost

Acceptance

15. Who notified you of your acceptance first: Illinois or [question("value"), id="6"]?

- Illinois  
- [question("value"), id="6"]  
- I don't recall

Thank You!

Thank you again for sharing your graduate admissions experiences with us. We wish you all the best in whatever opportunities you pursue in the future!

If you have any questions or comments about the survey, please email us at: DocExperience@illinois.edu.

You may close your browser window now.