

Postgraduate Research Experience Survey: Student Guide

Frequently asked questions

We're keen to make sure postgraduate students have the best possible experience while studying at Sheffield Hallam University. To do that we need to know what you think we are doing well and what we can do better. If you are thinking about taking part this year, these are the answers to some of the questions students often ask:

What is it?

The Postgraduate Research Experience Survey is a national survey conducted by institutions across the UK and globally. The survey takes around 15 minutes to complete.

Why should I take part?

The Postgraduate Research Experience Survey is **your chance to tell us your thoughts about your course**. The results help us compare how we are doing with other institutions, to make changes that will improve what we do in future and to keep doing the things that you value. **This will help improve the experience of students like you in the future.**

Eligible students may have only recently started their postgraduate studies with us or may be approaching the end of their course.

It is important that you share feedback on your experiences to date.

What does it cover?

PRES concentrates on your course and includes:

- + Supervision
- + Resources
- + research culture
- + progress and assessment
- + responsibilities
- + support
- + research skills and professional development
- + opportunities
- + overall experience
- + motivations

What happens to the results?

Your feedback is incredibly important! Over one hundred universities and colleges take part in the UK and globally. This means we can compare your experience against similar postgraduates at other institutions to see if we are supporting your learning as we should. **We use the findings to improve our courses and the learning experience for future students.**

Is it anonymous?

Your survey response is confidential to the team processing the results and no reporting outside of this team will identify any individual. Any results communicated to teaching staff will be **anonymised**.

The survey asks that any comments you make should not identify yourself or any specific members of staff.

What do I need to do?

You will receive an email with a unique link to the questionnaire on **14th April**. Simply click on the link and complete the online form. The survey will close on **16th May**.

Where can I find out more?

If you are unsure about anything to do with the survey, or have any difficulty, please see your course or course leader, or contact the team in Student Experience, Teaching and Learning (SETL) by email: Katie Alexander / katie.alexander@shu.ac.uk or setl@shu.ac.uk.

You can also read more about the survey by going to <https://www.shu.ac.uk/current-students/working-together/surveys/postgraduate-research-experience-survey>