

What is the Employer Satisfaction Survey (ESS)?

The Australian Government Department of Education and Training has commissioned [the Social Research Centre](#) to undertake the Employer Satisfaction Survey (ESS).

The 2017 ESS represented the largest survey of its kind, reporting the views of over 4,000 employers about the attributes of recent graduates from Australian higher education institutions. We're looking to build on this in 2018.

The ESS is part of the [Quality Indicators for Learning and Teaching \(QILT\)](#) – the first national survey that directly links the experiences of graduates to the views of their direct supervisors.

Employability skills required by employees are constantly changing and the challenge for higher education policy and institutions is to respond appropriately. The ESS collects the insights and perceptions of Australian employers to help monitor and better understand:

- The specific skills and attributes you need in your business
- How well higher education is equipping graduates for the workforce.

This isn't an assessment of the graduate but an opportunity for you to talk about your perceptions of higher education.

Why should I take part?

Employer views of the technical skills, generic skills and work readiness of recent graduates provide assurance about the quality of Australia's higher education sector. By taking part in the ESS, your insights will benefit other employers through enhancements to Australian higher education policy and tertiary curricula.

All employer respondents who take part in the ESS have the option to receive first access to the study findings.

What is needed of me?

Just 7 minutes of your time will help improve Australian graduate preparedness for the workforce.

The information you provide will contribute to positive changes in Australian higher education by providing valuable data about graduates' generic skills, technical skills and work readiness.

Although we value your views and would very much like your input and feedback, you do not have to take part in this research; it is your choice.

Any information you provide will remain confidential and will only be used for research purposes. Research data will be aggregated with other employer's opinions when reported to preserve anonymity.

Latest data show that up to **90%** of employers are satisfied with graduates. While this result is high we also know that there is scope to improve the education experience for students.

2016 Employer Satisfaction Survey

Why are you contacting me?

The ESS is undertaken on a systematic basis by asking employed graduates who participated in the Graduate Outcomes Survey (GOS), four months after graduation, to provide the contact details of their supervisor for follow up.

A recent graduate of an Australian higher education institution nominated you as their work supervisor and they provided us with your contact details so we could invite you to participate.

What happens next?

The Social Research Centre has been commissioned to undertake all aspects of the ESS. You can complete the survey online with the link sent to you or over the phone – just call us on free call [1800 055 818](tel:1800055818).

For more information about the study please contact the ESS research team at ess@srcentre.com.au, free call [1800 055 818](tel:1800055818) or visit QILT at www.qilt.edu.au/.