**Graduate Outcomes Annual Survey**

**2025**

**Note: Institutions should obtain personal information, as specified in the code book, from the graduate. This can be done using the graduate’s record in the institution’s student administration system.**

**\*Section 1: Your Current Situation**

**Q.1 How would you describe your situation on 31st March 2025?**

Please indicate the **main** activity that you are engaged in in the first column. This is the activity that you spend the most time doing. Please indicate **all** activities that you are engaged in in the second column.

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|  | **Main Activity (Select one only)** | **All Activities (tick all that apply)** |
| **Working full-time** | □ if ticked, go to Q.2A | □ |
| **Working part-time** | □ if ticked, go to Q.2A | □ |
| **Due to start a job within the next 3 months** | □ if ticked, go to Q.2A | □ |
| **Engaged in full-time further study or training** | □ if ticked, go to Q.3A1 | □ |
| **Engaged in part-time further study or training** | □ if ticked, go to Q.3A1 | □ |
| **Unemployed and looking for work** | □ if ticked, go to Q.4A | □ |
| **Other Activity**  **(e.g. engaged in home duties, retired from employment, not able to work due to sickness or disability, travelling, volunteering etc.)** | □ if ticked, go to Q.4B | □ |

[Filter as indicated when selected – go Section 2, 3, or 4]

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| **Section 2: Employment**  [Respondents who indicate they are “working full-time”, “working part-time” or “due to start a job in the coming months” as their main activity in Q.1 are directed to Section 2.]  **Q.2A What is your job title?** Please enter your job title in the box below, providing as much information as possible.   |  | | --- | | [This response is free text] |   **\*Q.2B What is your occupation?** Please select an option from the list below.   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Manager, director or senior official** | □ | | *e.g. chief executive, senior production manager, senior functional manager, manager/proprietor* |  | | **Professional** | □ | | *e.g. natural or social science, engineering, ICT, conservation/environment, R&D, health, therapy, nursing/midwifery, teaching/educational, legal, business, architect, social worker, librarian, quality/regulatory, media* |  | | **Associate professional and technical** | □ | | *e.g. technician (science, architectural, IT), health, welfare/housing, protective services, art/media/design, sports/fitness, associate professional (legal, business, sales)* |  | | **Administrative and secretarial** | □ | | *e.g. government (national or local), financial administration, records, office manager, secretarial* |  | | **Skilled trades** | □ | | *e.g. agriculture, metals, vehicles, electrical/electronic, construction/building, textiles/garments, printing, food preparation and hospitality* |  | | **Caring, leisure and other service** | □ | | *e.g. child care, animal care, caring personal services, leisure/travel, hairdressing, housekeeping, cleaning manager* |  | | **Sales and customer service** | □ | | *e.g. sales assistant/retail cashier, sales supervisor, customer service* |  | | **Process, plant and machine operatives** | □ | | *e.g. assembler, plant/machine/construction operative, road transport driver, mobile machine driver* |  | | **Elementary** | □ | | *e.g. farm worker, packer, courier, cleaning, security, shelf-filler, porter, waiter/waitress, bar staff, leisure attendant* |  | | **Postdoctoral researchers** | □ | | **I don’t know / unknown** | □ |   **Q.2C What is the name of the company/organisation/school that you are working for?** Please enter the name in the box below.   |  | | --- | | [This response is free text] |   **\*Q.2D1 What is the location of the company / organisation / school that you are working for?**  Ireland (incl. Northern Ireland) □  Overseas □  [Filter when selected – go to either Q.2D2 (county if Ireland (incl. Northern Ireland) selected) or Q.2D3 (country if Overseas selected)]  **\*Q.2D2 What is the county of the company / organisation / school that you are working for?**   |  | | --- | | [Drop down box to provide list of Irish counties] |   **\*Q.2D3 What is the country of the company / organisation / school that you are working for?** Please select an option from the list below.   |  | | --- | | [Drop down box to provide list of countries, excluding Ireland] |   **\*Q.2E What does the company / organisation / school that you are working for mainly do? Please select an option from the list below.**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Agriculture, forestry and fishing** | □ | | **Industry** | □ | | *e.g. food products, beverages, textiles, clothing, wood, paper, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, rubber and plastic, metals, computer products, electrical equipment, machinery, vehicles, furniture, repair and installation of machinery, electricity/gas supply, water, waste* |  | | **Construction** | □ | | *e.g. construction of buildings, civil engineering, specialised construction* |  | | **Wholesale and retail trade** | □ | | **Transportation and storage** | □ | | *e.g. land, water, air transport, transport via pipelines, warehousing, postal and courier* |  | | **Accommodation and food services** | □ | | **Information and communication** | □ | | *e.g. publishing, motion picture, video and TV programme production, sound recording and music publishing, programming and broadcasting, telecommunications, computer programming, information services* |  | | **Financial, insurance and real estate** | □ | | *e.g. financial services, insurance and pensions, real estate, legal and accounting, head offices, management consultancy* |  | | **Professional, scientific and technical** | □ | | *e.g. architectural/engineering, scientific R&D, advertising and market research, veterinary, renting/leasing, employment, travel agency/tour operator, security and investigation, buildings services* |  | | **Administrative and support service** | □ | | **Public administration and defence** | □ | | **Education** | □ | | **Human health and social work** | □ | | **Other** | □ | | *e.g. residential care, social work, creative arts and entertainment, libraries, archives and museums, gambling and betting, sports and recreation, repair of goods, domestic personnel* |  | | **I don’t know** | □ |   **\*Q.2F Are you:**  An employee? □  Self-employed/freelance/running or starting up own business? □  On a graduate internship/placement? □  [Respondents who indicate they are “Self-employed/freelance/running or starting up own business” skip to Q.2H.]  **\*Q.2G What is the nature of your contract?**  Permanent or open-ended contract □  Fixed term contract lasting 12 months or longer □  Fixed term contract lasting less than 12 months □  Temporary (including substitute teaching), casual or employed through an agency □  Unpaid □  **\*Q.2H What is you annual salary to the nearest Euro, before tax?** This figure should be the salary you receive per year before tax.   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Salary Band** |  | | Up to €14,999 | □ | | €15,000 - €19,999 | □ | | €20,000 - €24,999 | □ | | €25,000 - €29,999 | □ | | €30,000 - €34,999 | □ | | €35,000 - €39,999 | □ | | €40,000 - €44,999 | □ | | €45,000 - €49,999 | □ | | €50,000 - €59,999 | □ | | €60,000 - €69,999 | □ | | €70,000 - €79,999 | □ | | €80,000 + | □ | | I am in an unpaid position | □ | | I’d rather not say | □ |   **\*Q.2I Did you do an accredited work placement/work experience/internship as part of your course?**  **Institutions should use terminology appropriate to work placement/work experience/internship arrangements in their institution**  Yes, this was a mandatory component of my course □  Yes, this was an optional component of my course □  No, I didn’t do any accredited work placement/work experience/internship □  [Respondents who give a ‘No’ response skip to Q.2K.]  **\*Q.2J How long did your accredited work placement/work experience/internship last?**  **Institutions should use terminology appropriate to work placement/work experience/internship arrangements in their institution**  6 weeks or less □  More than 6 weeks but less than 4 months □  Between 4 and 6 months □  More than 6 months □    **Q.2K Please rate the relevance of your course to your job on a scale of 1-5 where 1 is very irrelevant and 5 is very relevant:**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | 1 (very irrelevant) | □ | | 2 | □ | | 3 | □ | | 4 | □ | | 5 (very relevant) | □ | | I don’t know | □ |   **Q.2L Did you need the qualification you recently obtained to get the job (or start your business if self-employed)?**  Yes: the qualification was a formal requirement □  Yes: while the qualification was not a formal requirement, it gave me an advantage □  No: the qualification was not required □  No: I was already in the job when I received the qualification □  I don’t know □  **Q.2M How did you first find out about the job?**  My institution’s careers service □  Another institution source (e.g. lecturer/website/former graduate/academic department) □  Media (e.g. newspaper/magazine advertisement) □  Personal contacts, including family and friends □  Social media/professional networking sites □  I already worked there (including on an internship/placement) □  Employer website □  Recruitment site (e.g. job search websites, including Public Appointments Service) □  Speculative application □  Other □  **END OF SECTION: Go to Section 5** |
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| **Section 3: Further Study or Training**  [Respondents who indicate they are “engaged in full-time further study, training or research”, “engaged in part-time further study, training or research” as their main activity in Q.1 are directed to Section 3.]  **\*Q.3A1 What is the location of the institution you are studying in?**  Ireland (incl. Northern Ireland) □  Overseas □  [Filter when selected – go to either Q3A2 (county if Ireland selected) or Q3A3 (country if Overseas selected)]  **\*Q.3A2 What is the county of the institution you are studying in?**  Please select an option from the list below.   |  | | --- | | [Drop down box to provide list of Irish counties] |   **\*Q.3A3 What is the country of the institution you are studying in?** Please select an option from the list below.   |  | | --- | | [Drop down box to provide list of countries, excluding Ireland] |   **Q.3B What is the name of the institution where your course is being pursued?** Please enter the name of the institution in the box below.   |  | | --- | | [This response is free text] |   **Q.3C What is the title of the course you are pursuing (e.g. MA in History).** Please enter the course title in the box below.   |  | | --- | | [This response is free text] |   **\*Q.3D What is the area of study of your course?** Please select an option from the list below.   |  | | --- | | [Drop down box to provide list of ISCED fields of study] |   **\*Q.3E What award level are you pursuing?** Please select an option from the list below.   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | Further Education  (levels 5 to 6) | Non-third level Access/Up-skilling (e.g. ECDL) | □ | |  | Further Education Certificate (Level 5) | □ | |  | Other Further Education and Training Qualification (e.g. City and Guilds, BTEC – Edexcel (Pearson), ITEC, ILM, other PLC qualification | □ | |  | Advanced Craft Certificate (Apprenticeship) (Level 6) | □ | |  | Non-third level professional qualification | □ | | Undergraduate  (levels 6-8) | Undergraduate Occasional course | □ | |  | Undergraduate Diploma/Certificate (Level 6) | □ | |  | Undergraduate Higher Certificate (Level 6) | □ | |  | Undergraduate Ordinary Degree (Level 7) | □ | |  | Undergraduate Honours Degree (Level 8) | □ | |  | Higher Diploma (Level 8) | □ | | Postgraduate  (levels 9-10) | Postgraduate Occasional course | □ | |  | Postgraduate Certificate (level 9) | □ | |  | Postgraduate Diploma (level 9) | □ | |  | Masters Taught (Level 9) | □ | |  | Masters Research (Level 9) | □ | |  | Doctorate (including Professional and Higher Doctorate) (Level 10) | □ |   **\*Q.3F Are you studying:**  On campus □  Online / by distance education □  Blended learning i.e. a mixture of on campus and online/distance education □  **Q.3G What is the main reason you decided to undertake further study, training or research?**  Because it is a requirement for finding and progressing in future employment □  To change or improve my career options □  Ongoing professional development □  To develop a broader or more specialist range of skills or knowledge □  Because I was interested in the content of the course □  Because I had enjoyed my first course and wanted to continue studying □  I had been unable to find a suitable job □  Other reason □  I don’t know □  **END OF SECTION: Go to Section 5** |

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| **Section 4: Unemployed/Looking for work and Other Activity**  [Respondents who indicate they are “unemployed and looking for work” as their main activity in Q.1 are directed to Q.4A]  **\*Q.4A Have you held a job since you finished your course?**  Yes, but I was let go/made redundant/the contract ended □  Yes, but I resigned from my job to seek employment elsewhere □  No, I have been looking for a job since graduation □  No, I was travelling but I’m now looking for a job □  No, I experienced temporary illness but I’m now looking for a job □  No, I was engaged in home duties (e.g. childcare) but I’m now looking for a job □  Other (please specify) [This response is free text]  [Filter when any response selected – go to Q.4C]  [Respondents who indicate they are “engaged in other activities” as their main activity in Q.1 are directed to Q.4B]  **\*Q.4B Are you:**  Engaged in home duties □  Taking time out to travel □  Volunteering □  Retired □  Caring for a family member/other □  Not able to work due to illness or disability □  Unemployed and not seeking employment □  I’d prefer not to say □  Other (please specify) [This response is free text]  **Q.4C Are there any particular barriers you feel are preventing you from engaging in employment or further study?** Please enter these in the box below.   |  | | --- | | [This response is free text] |   **END OF SECTION: Go to Section 5** |

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| **Section 5: Experience of Higher Education**  [This Section is to be completed by all respondents]  **Q.5A How likely or unlikely is it that you would study the same course again?**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | 1 (very likely) | □ | | 2 (likely) | □ | | 3 (neither likely nor unlikely) | □ | | 4 (unlikely) | □ | | 5 (very unlikely) | □ |   The questions Q.5B to Q.5E below are optional and institutions may substitute these for other questions or remove entirely  **Q.5B**  **Looking back, what could have been included in your course better to enhance your employability?**   |  | | --- | | [This response is free text] |   **Q.5C**  **Looking back, what could have been included in your course to prepare you better for further study?**   |  | | --- | | [This response is free text] |   **Q.5D Looking back, what were the aspects of your course which most enhanced your employability?**   |  | | --- | | [This response is free text] |   **Q.5E Looking back, what were the aspects of your course which best prepared you for further study?**   |  | | --- | | [This response is free text] |   **END OF SECTION: Go to Section 6** |

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| **Section 6: Contact details section**  We would like to contact you again in a few years’ time to see how you are getting on,  as part of a follow-up survey.  This survey will form part of a study on the outcomes of higher education.  Your participation will contribute to the development of higher education policy, and we would love to get  your views.  **\*Q6. Would you be happy for us to contact you in a few years' time?**  Yes: □  No: □  [Respondents who indicate “yes” are directed to the following questions]  Thank you! Please provide the following contact details:  Personal email address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Mobile phone number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Home telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  In case you move abroad or your details change,  please give the name and number of a nominated  person we could contact: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  [Institutions should insert an appropriate note on the uses to which contact information will be put  e.g. “Please note that your higher education institution will store these contact details  on their system only so that you can be contacted in a few years’ time and used solely  for the purposes of a follow-up survey.”]  **END OF SECTION** |

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| Tha **Final page of survey**  [Institutions may add a final page to the survey as wished. Sample text can read as follows…  Thank you for completing this important questionnaire. Your responses will be used to guide policy in  higher education. For further information, please see  <https://hea.ie/skills-engagement/graduate-outcomes/>  [Insert link to institutional website also if wished] |