



# Procedure for Graduate Surveys at the University of Copenhagen

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EDUCATION & STUDENTS

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## Purpose

This procedure describes the University of Copenhagen (UCPH)'s model for the performance of graduate surveys and how the results are included in programme evaluations and programme reports, respectively. UCPH performs graduate surveys in order to ensure the ongoing quality assurance of the programmes' quality and relevance to the labour market.

## Distribution of responsibility

The University's management is responsible for the University's performance of graduate surveys for all programmes within survey topics that are of central significance to the programmes' quality.

The faculties' managements are responsible for including the results of the graduate surveys in the relevant programme evaluations and in programme reports.

Education & Students (US) is responsible for gathering graduate data and for subsequent data reporting to the faculties.

## Study themes

The central study themes for graduate surveys at UCPH support the ongoing quality assurance of the study programme quality and relevance to the labour market. The study themes cover, as a minimum, the graduates' current employment, the competences they have acquired during their studies, and how these competences are applied in the labour market. In addition, there are study themes with relevance for different types of study programmes. US is responsible for ensuring that the continuation of the study themes is continuously balanced in collaboration with the faculties.

## Procedure

Graduate surveys for all professional bachelor's and master's programme are conducted by the Ministry of Higher Education and Science every other year for odd years<sup>1</sup> as part of the questionnaire survey "Uddannelseszoom". Graduate surveys for all bachelor's, professional master's, postgraduate diploma and higher adult education programmes are conducted by US every other year for odd years.

Each graduate survey comprises the last three year groups – but at the earliest one year after graduation. The respondent group thus comprises everyone who graduated one to three years before the data collection date<sup>2</sup>.

UCPH requires the faculties to perform programme evaluations every sixth year and that the graduate data from the latest survey is included in the programme evaluation. UCPH also requires the faculties to include graduate data from the surveys in the intervening years in the programme reports – for at least three years after including in a programme evaluation. The graduate surveys are thus included by turn in a programme evaluation and a programme report with a lag of three years.

UCPH requires the graduate surveys to be analysed in relation to the other quantitative and qualitative data included in the programme evaluations and programme reports, respectively, cf. KU's joint quality assurance policy, ESG 1.9a and b.

For master's and professional bachelor's programmes, the faculties may choose to carry out their own, supplementary studies of the quality and relevance of one or more study programmes.

For bachelor's, higher adult education, postgraduate diploma and continuing education master's programmes, the faculties may choose to carry out their own graduate surveys for one or more study programmes instead of using the UCPH joint graduate survey. The faculties' own graduate survey must, as a minimum, contain the same study themes as the UCPH joint graduate survey for the type(s) of study programme in question.

Data from the faculties' own or supplementary graduate surveys should be included in the study programme's first programme report or programme evaluation.

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<sup>1</sup> However, graduate surveys are conducted as part of "Uddannelseszoom" in 2020. Thereafter, graduate surveys are conducted in 2021, 2023, 2025 etc.

<sup>2</sup> For example: Data is collected in the autumn of 2021 for all students graduating from 1 October 2018 to 30 September 2020.

## **Special rules for new and combined study programmes and programmes which are to be closed**

PAGE 3 OF 4

### *Graduate Surveys for New Study Programmes*

Graduate surveys are to be carried out for new programmes when three years' cohorts of students have graduated from the programme, and the latest cohort graduated in the previous year.

### *Graduate Surveys for combined Study Programmes*

A graduate survey for a new combined bachelor's, continuing education master's, postgraduate diploma and higher adult education programme is carried out under the same terms as for new programmes, i.e. when three years of student cohorts have graduated from the programme and the latest cohort graduated in the previous year. Graduate surveys for a new combined professional bachelor's and master's programme are conducted in the same way, or when the programs are included in the Ministry's Education Zoom.

### *Graduate Surveys for programmes that are to be closed*

Graduate surveys are not carried out for bachelor's, continuing education master's, postgraduate diploma and higher adult education programmes that are to be closed. Previously separate programmes which have been merged are considered to be programmes to be closed when the new combined programme has its first intake of students.

## Appendix 1

### **Survey topics for bachelor, professional bachelor and master's programmes**

#### *Graduates' employment*

UCPH wishes to be even better at creating good study programmes which give the students strong qualifications that are relevant and of use to the labour market. We therefore ask graduates where they are employed, which tasks they perform, and which cooperative relationships they are engaged in.

#### *Relevance – cohesion between the study programme and the labour market*

A degree from UCPH must lead to a meaningful career. The graduate surveys examine whether the graduates gain jobs at the right level, and whether there is cohesion between their qualifications and the needs of the labour market.

#### *Transition from education to the labour market*

UCPH wishes graduates to experience a smooth transition from education to the labour market. UCPH therefore asks how the graduates gained their first jobs, which career opportunities they used, and how they reflected on their career opportunities during their study programme.

#### *Quality of the study programme*

The quality of the study programmes is a key focus area for UCPH. The graduates are therefore asked how they view cohesiveness and progression in the study programme, whether the learning outcome goals are achieved, and how the graduates evaluate the quality of the programme.

### **Survey topics for professional master's, postgraduate diploma and higher-adult-education (academy) programmes**

#### *Graduates' employment*

UCPH wishes to be even better at creating good study programmes that give the students strong qualifications that are relevant and of use to the labour market. We therefore ask graduates where they are employed, which tasks they perform, and which cooperative relationships they are engaged in.

#### *Outcome from the programme and fulfilment of expectations*

UCPH wishes graduates to achieve a satisfactory outcome from their study programme in relation to their own expectations. We therefore ask why the graduates have taken continuing and further education, and whether there is compliance between expectations and outcome.

#### *Quality of the study programme*

The quality of the study programmes is a key focus area for UCPH. The graduates are therefore asked how they view cohesiveness and progression in their study programme, whether the learning outcome goals have been achieved, and how the graduates evaluate the quality of the programme.