

ASC DIVISION OF
Public Opinion & Policy

DPOP Student Survey FAQs

Who is eligible to submit a proposal?

Any graduate student of any social science or social science-related department anywhere in the world who is a member of American Society of Criminology's (ASC) Division of Public Opinion & Public Policy (DPOP). We regret that we cannot provide opportunities to any other individuals and groups.

When is the deadline for submission of a proposal?

The deadline for this year's submissions is Friday, September 13, 2024 at 11:59 pm EST.

How do I submit a proposal?

All proposals must be submitted via email (subject line: "DPOP Student Survey 2024-2025") to the DPOP Awards Committee Chairperson. This year's Chairperson is Sean Patrick Roche (sean.roche@txstate.edu).

Each proposal must designate a contact author. The contact author must be listed first on all proposal documents and is the person to whom all official correspondence will be sent.

How long can my proposal be?

Proposals are limited to five pages of text (including footnotes/endnotes). The following information does not count towards the five-page total: references, up to two pages of tables and figures, and the actual survey items to be included.

Power analyses, which are encouraged, may also be referenced in the main text and placed in a short appendix that does not count against the five-page limit. When revisions are invited to proposals, these may be accompanied by a memo that details changes; concision here is encouraged.

The entire proposal with all appendices or supplements of any sort may not exceed twenty (20) pages under any circumstances.

Proposals must be double-spaced, with one-inch margins and 12-point Times News Roman font. A smaller font is allowed in footnotes and endnotes, and there are not specific formatting requirements for tables. Proposals that exceed these limits will be returned.

What information must my proposal include?

All proposals must include:

1. A title, provided at the top of the first page of the proposal.
2. A brief description of prior research that is relevant to or that informed the motivation of the current study. (about 1 page)
3. A thorough description of the study design, with a particular focus on (a) the experimental stimuli or manipulation and (b) the hypotheses that will be tested. (about 1–2 pages)
4. An explanation of how the study will make a valuable contribution to science and society. (about ½ –1 page)
5. An explanation of the potential real-world impact of this study. (about ½ –1 page)
6. A brief description of additional variables (e.g., dependent variables, moderators, etc.) to be included in the survey, with justification for each. (about ½ page)
7. An appendix with the complete survey to be administered.

In sum, the proposed survey must evaluate important and clearly-stated hypotheses and be likely to generate new knowledge.

Can I submit more than one proposal at a time?

Yes.

What kinds of proposals are most likely to be successful?

We seek proposals that break new ground in the hypotheses they investigate, the procedures they employ, or both. Ideally, your proposal should offer the potential for a clear scientific advance with implications for the real world (e.g., criminal justice policy, practice).

My proposal is not experimental. Will it be accepted?

The Student Survey Award will allow for the collection of a convenience sample of adults in the United States via Lucid. Non-experimental studies seeking to derive univariate point estimates for the American public (i.e., support for a particular law) are ill-suited to this sort of data collection. As such, while non-experimental studies are not strictly prohibited, experimental studies will be prioritized, as they are better able to make use of convenience sample data.

Please review the following resources for an elaboration of what we mean by an experimental design:

- Gilens, M. (2002). An anatomy of survey-based experiments. *Navigating Public Opinion*, 232-250.
- Mize, T. D., & Manago, B. (2022). The past, present, and future of experimental methods in the social sciences. *Social Science Research*, 108, 102799.
- Mutz, D. C. (2011). *Population-based survey experiments*. Princeton University Press.

How many items can I include? How many subjects can I have?

The "size" of a survey experiment is a function of both the length of the survey and the number of respondents (N). Lucid Theorem, the service we are contracting with to field the surveys, provides a sample that is weighted to resemble the U.S. population on a few key demographic variables. However, it requires that surveys be no longer than 15 minutes in length. Please plan accordingly and pilot your survey in some way to ensure that it takes respondents (on average) no longer than 15 minutes to complete.

Currently, Lucid Theorem costs \$1.50 per response. We are therefore able to fund a sample of 1,000 respondents for this year's proposal. Please note that experiments that involve subsampling will involve some % reduction in the maximum N.

What if I need more questions/time/respondents than are usually available?

If the request entails additional costs beyond the total award amount, the proposer must indicate that they have secured the additional funding from another source. If the proposer has not secured the additional funding necessary from another source, we will have to reject the proposal.

What are my obligations if my proposal is funded?

A recipient of the DPOP Student Survey Award shall:

1. Cooperate with DPOP to collect the survey data (via Lucid Theorem) within 180 days of official email notification, by the DPOP Awards Committee Chairperson, of having won the award.
2. Present findings from their study at the annual DPOP membership meeting at the following year's ASC meeting. (For instance, an award recipient named in Fall 2024 is required to present their findings at the ASC meeting held in November 2025).
3. Submit an article for publication, based on the collected survey data, to a peer-reviewed academic journal within 365 days of receipt of the data.
4. Acknowledge DPOP as a funder for any presentations and/or manuscripts related to the data collection.