

APA POLICY ON RESEARCH SURVEYS

About: APA members may be interested in surveying APA's membership for various reasons. Access to APA's membership for research purposes is a membership benefit and proposals to survey the membership will be considered. Guidelines are below.

APA leadership may be interested in surveying APA's membership for various reasons. Membership surveys should be conducted at least every three years to determine member needs and measure member satisfaction. Membership surveys are not subject to the Guidelines on Sanctioned/Endorsed Surveys below but must be approved by the APA Executive Committee.

APA Guidelines on Sanctioned/Endorsed Surveys

1. Researcher/surveyor must be an APA member. The APA may also consider sanctioning a survey proposed by a liaison organization, e.g. SHM,, AAP, etc.
2. Researcher/surveyor is responsible for all costs related to the survey, including collating responses, analyzing data and writing up the results. The funding and methods must be specified in advance. There must be a clear intent to publish the results. APA may request to share the results with APA members.
3. There must be a clearly stated research or needs assessment hypothesis. "It would be interesting to know....." is not sufficient. The research hypothesis or needs assessment must be clearly related to the APA mission.
4. There will be a goal of a **MAXIMUM** of four member surveys a year per communication channel (i.e. APA listserv, email, app or website). The APA office will track the surveys, communication channel and goals of the survey.
5. Survey proposals will be reviewed by the appropriate APA Committee. It may include other APA members or Board members with specific expertise
6. Surveys will be reviewed to ensure response bias is mitigated.
7. The survey will be sent from the APA office and up to two reminders may be sent. APA member information will not be shared with the surveyor. APA reserves the right to edit all communications to the membership.
8. Surveys sent out to SIGs or Regions are not limited or regulated.

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