

Academic Job Market Preference Questionnaire

Signaling Mechanism for New Statisticians

Instructions: Please complete this questionnaire thoughtfully and honestly. Your responses will be used to help departments identify mutual fit and will *not* affect the evaluation of your academic qualifications. You may choose to share this completed questionnaire with any subset of departments to which you apply. Answer each question based on your genuine preferences—there are no “correct” answers. For each question, select the single best response unless otherwise indicated.

Section A: Geographic and Location Preferences

Q1. What is your preferred geographic setting for your position?

- (A) Major metropolitan area (population > 1 million)
- (B) Mid-sized city (population 250,000–1 million)
- (C) Small city or college town (population 50,000–250,000)
- (D) Rural or small-town setting (population < 50,000)
- (E) No preference

Q2. Which geographic region(s) of the United States would you prefer?

Select all that apply.

- (A) Northeast (New England, Mid-Atlantic)
- (B) Southeast (South Atlantic, East South Central)
- (C) Midwest (East North Central, West North Central)
- (D) Southwest (West South Central, Mountain West)
- (E) West Coast (Pacific)
- (F) No preference

Section B: Teaching and Mentoring

Q3. What is your preferred cumulative teaching hours per academic year?

For reference, under a semester system, one course corresponds to approximately 45 teaching

hours.

- (A) Minimal (fewer than 100 hrs)
- (B) Light (100–150 hrs)
- (C) Moderate (150–200 hrs)
- (D) Substantial (more than 200 hrs)
- (E) No strong preference

Q4. What type of courses would you prefer to teach?

- (A) Primarily graduate-level courses in my research area
- (B) Mix of graduate and advanced undergraduate courses
- (C) Primarily undergraduate service courses (e.g., introductory statistics)
- (D) Flexible; willing to teach across all levels

Section C: Research Environment

Q5. What is your preferred ratio of Ph.D. students to faculty in the department?

- (A) Small program (fewer than 2 students per faculty member)
- (B) Medium program (2–3 students per faculty member)
- (C) Large program (more than 3 students per faculty member)
- (D) No strong preference

Q6. How important is proximity to a medical school or health sciences center?

- (A) Essential (my research requires regular collaboration)
- (B) Very important (would significantly benefit my research)
- (C) Moderately important (beneficial but not essential)
- (D) Not important (my research does not require such access)

End of Questionnaire