



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) about ESQ, GSQ, and AQ

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1. What are the differences between ESQ, GSQ, and AQ?

In addition to demographic data and student debt, the ESQ, GSQ, and AQ each collect different information important to particular stakeholders at your school. The ESQ asks about students' reasons for attending seminary in general and your school in particular, as well as their plans for ministry. The GSQ asks about student levels of satisfaction with academic and extracurricular resources and professional plans; the AQ revisits many of these questions, allowing for longitudinal comparison between GSQ and AQ results. Deans, faculty, and directors of student services find these data useful.

2. We have our own in-house version of a student survey. Why use ATS's version?

It is important for any school to gather information about their students and to check their institutional well-being against these data. ATS instruments have the benefit of having been developed alongside the Commission standards, and many of the tables and charts relate directly to the standards. We provide you with full-color, graphic reports and the chance to compare your school's data against the Total School Profile compiled from all the ATS member schools using these instruments—all at a cost much lower than that of developing a new instrument. Furthermore, you can [include 15 additional questions](#) to the end of the questionnaire to collect information important for your particular school.

3. When are the ESQ, GSQ, and AQ typically administered?

Most schools administer the ESQ during the orientation period for new students (either fall or spring term), and the GSQ is given just prior to graduation. The AQ can be administered to alums at any time. Be sure to leave yourself enough time to prepare and inform students about the questionnaire and to do follow-up as necessary.

4. How are the questionnaires administered?

The ESQ, GSQ, and AQ are administered to students and graduates as online surveys.

5. How will students access the questionnaire?

School coordinators will email students the URL allowing them to access the questionnaire for their school. The URL should appear as a live link within the text of the email; students can click on the link and immediately enter the questionnaire. The questionnaire is compatible with Microsoft Explorer (versions 6 and 7) and Firefox (versions 1.5 and 2.0) browsers, and students can use any Internet connection. Suggestions for what to include in the email can be found in the online [Web tutorial](#).

6. My students are calling me and saying they can't get into the online questionnaire. What is the problem?

In most cases, the problem is due to the students NOT disabling the pop-up blockers. When they launch the questionnaire, it appears as a pop-up window; if they have not disabled the blocker, it will not launch. Instructions for disabling the blockers are included in the coordinator's manual and should appear as a window when students attempt to access the questionnaire.

Occasionally, students might try to access the questionnaire from a browser that does not support the questionnaire. Make sure they are using either Microsoft Explorer (versions 6 and 7) or Firefox (versions 1.5 and 2.0).

7. How long does it take to complete the survey?

Each questionnaire takes about twenty minutes to complete.

8. It seems complicated to set up and submit an online batch. Is it?

Setting up an online batch of questionnaires and inviting your students to participate takes just two emails and a few clicks of your mouse. Simply fill in the Web-based order form for either the [ESQ](#), [GSQ](#), or [AQ](#). In three to five business days, you will receive your password and user ID, along with instructions for accessing the questionnaire administration site and setting up electronic batches. Submitting the completed batch to ATS for processing takes just one additional click. View the online Web tutorial for more detailed instructions on [batch setup and submission](#).

The online versions of the questionnaires are entirely paperless, from placing the order to receiving the completed report.

9. Why is my online password not working? It worked last year.

Passwords change from year to year so that we can keep each academic year's data separate. New passwords are available each August 1. Separate passwords are required for the ESQ, GSQ, and AQ. To get your new password, fill out the appropriate Web-based order form and the password will be emailed to you. For further [instructions on ordering](#), view the online Web tutorial.

10. How do I guarantee that students respond to an online questionnaire?

As school coordinator, you will have access to information through the [Questionnaire Management Interface](#) (QMI) that will enable you to hold your students accountable. When your students complete the survey and click “FINISH,” they will be given a numeric completion code that they can print and submit to you as proof of completion. School coordinators will also have the option to view online the names of those students who have completed the questionnaires. Equipped with that information, you can determine the best way to follow up with your students and encourage them to complete the questionnaire.

Please note: questionnaires must be at least **60 percent** complete to be included in the processing of the report.

11. What do the reports look like? And how do I interpret the data?

The reports include full color graphs and charts in addition to tabular data. They are emailed as PDF documents to the school coordinator, allowing for easy circulation of data within the school. It is fairly easy to read the charts for basic information. If you are interested in more in-depth interpretation of the data, especially as it informs the self-study process, we strongly recommend that you attend one of our ESQ/GSQ/AQ workshops, offered twice a year. Archived copies of the ESQ and GSQ Total School Profiles can be downloaded from the [Student Information resource page](#) on the Web site.

12. How much does it cost to use the questionnaires? And how do we pay for the services?

Our [current price list](#) includes costs for the online questionnaire, in addition to any special services you might require. The base fee includes online access to one instrument (ESQ, GSQ, or AQ) for one academic year and the generation of one report, as well as access to the Total School Profile and any denominational reports that include your school’s data. We will invoice your school when we send you your reports—not when you place your order.

13. Our school has a number of extension sites. Can we still use the questionnaires?

Absolutely! In fact, the online questionnaires make it even easier to gather data from your extension sites. The pricing for extension sites and custom reports is included in our price list.