



# APPLICATION STATEMENT FEEDBACK PROGRAM

## 2021 REPORT

*This report is intended for potential ASFP applicants. It summarizes the outcome of the 2021 program and gives a sense of applicants' experience.*

### ASFP 2021 AT A GLANCE

October  
8, 2021

332	applications received
272	applications successfully matched with editors*
184	Editors provided feedback
2	editors reviewed each statement**
684	total statement reviews completed
5	days between submission and return of feedback

October  
14, 2021

\*Applicants from underrepresented minority backgrounds were prioritized, and then those who had limited access to informed mentors.

\*\* All reviews were solicited in a double-blind format, meaning that **neither editors nor applicants** had any identifying information about each other.



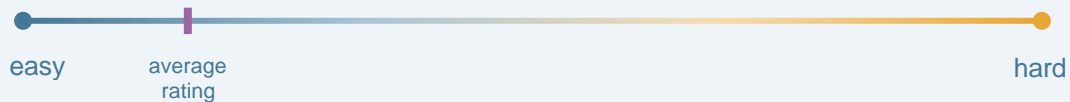
## FALL FEEDBACK

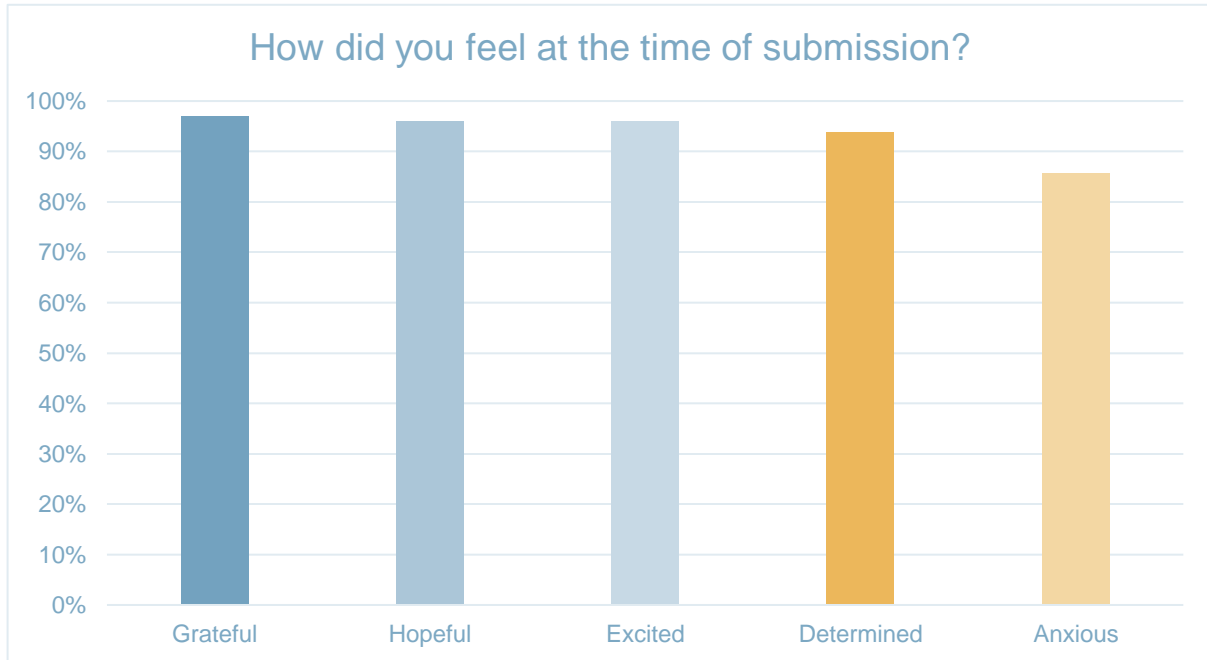
97 (35.6%) of served applicants responded to a call for feedback in October 2021, shortly after receiving their feedback from ASFP editors. Here is what they told us:

### THE SUBMISSION PROCESS

Most applicants found the submission process **easy**. Many stated that they appreciated the **simplicity** of submission as well as the **double-blind editing process** for respecting the privacy of applicants.

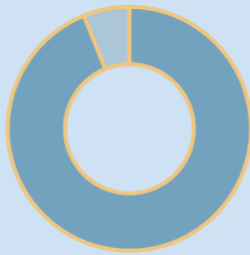
*How easy was the submission process?*



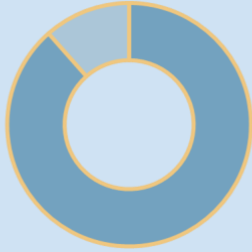


## RESPONSE TO REVIEWS

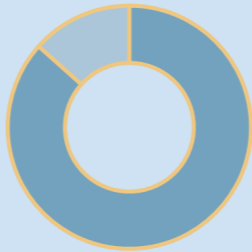
All respondents read their feedback at least once.  
**97.9%** read their feedback multiple times.



**93.9%** felt supported by their editors



**88.5%** felt feedback exceeded their expectations



**86.6%** believed ASFP feedback would be useful or critically useful in their application process

**98%**  
would recommend or strongly recommend ASFP to future applicants



We also asked respondents to tell us in their own words about their experiences with ASFP. Here are a few of their responses:

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*“ASFP is great for receiving feedback on all stages of your statements. Having professionals, whether students or faculty, in the field provide helpful advice on the written portion of the graduate application process immensely helps with the daunting process of graduate school applications.”*

*“As someone who has not had as much psychology-related experiences as most applicants, ASFP has given me the validation and the constructive feedback I needed to go into the application process with more confidence. While I have a few people to help me through the grad app process, having anonymous feedback helped me see how to improve my statement from a more objective viewpoint. Many students, especially underrepresented folks, would benefit from this initiative, and after having my essay reviewed by the volunteers, I hope to give back by reviewing future students’ personal statements via this program.”*

*“ASFP is doing critical work to level the playing field for applicants to PhD programs in psychology. This feedback is valuable for minoritized students and students without mentors.”*

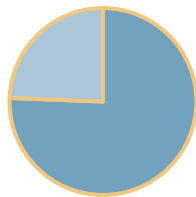


## SPRING FEEDBACK

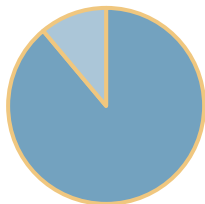
45 (16.5%) of served applicants responded to a call for feedback after the 2021-2022 admissions cycle, in August 2022. Here is what they told us.

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### SUBMITTING APPLICATIONS

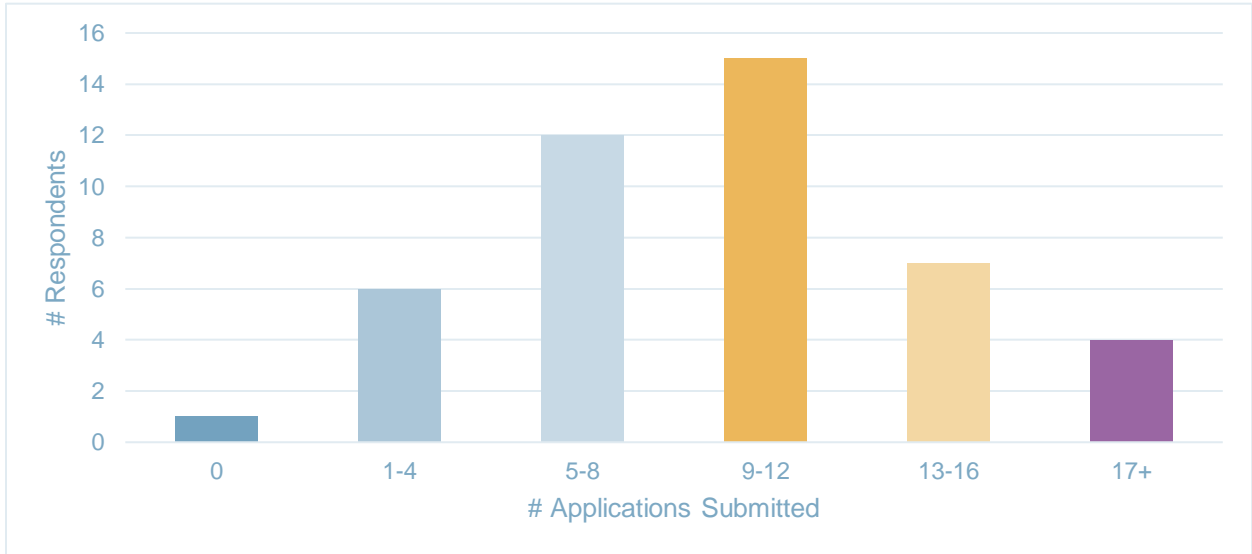


**75.6%** of respondents felt confident or very confident when submitting their entire applications.



**88.9%** of respondents felt confident or very confident in their statement(s) when submitting their applications.

**97.8%** of respondents applied to at least 1 PhD program, and most applicants (60%) applied to between 5-12 programs.





## ADMISSIONS OUTCOMES

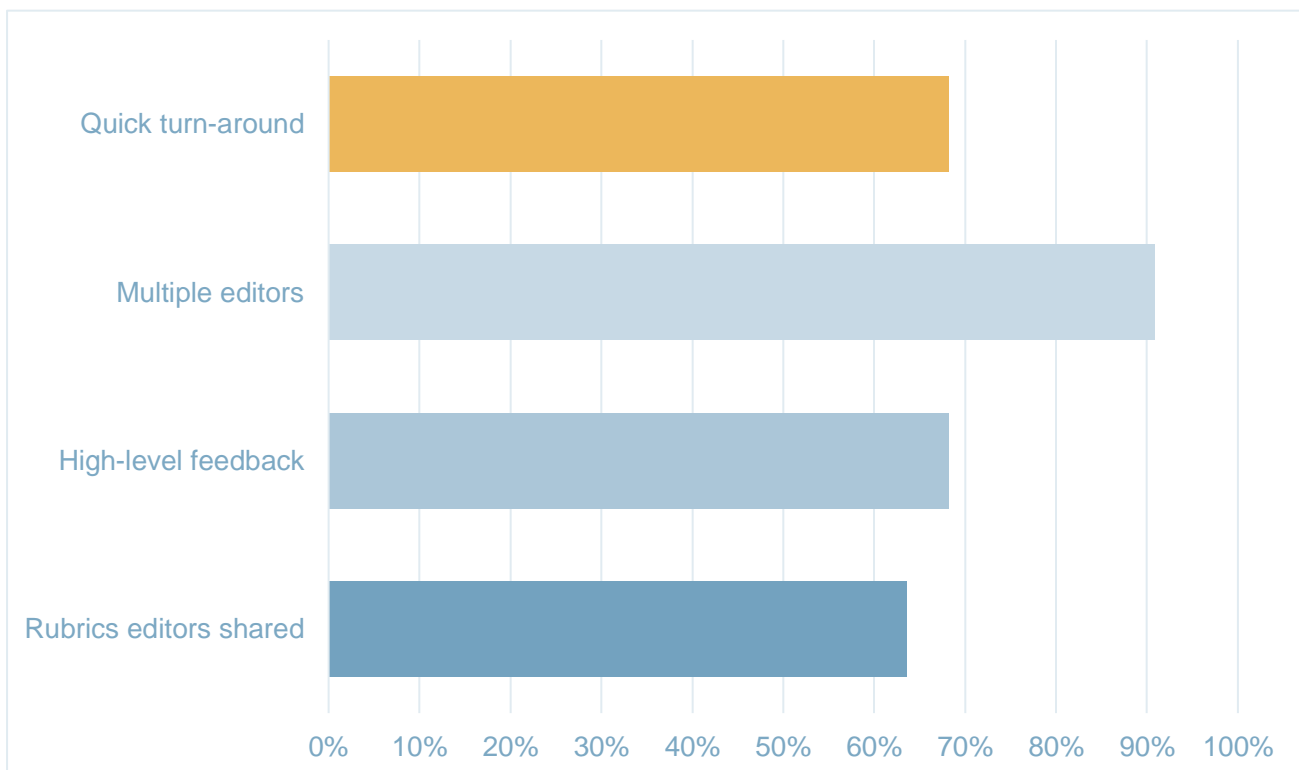
Of the 44 respondents who reported applying to at least 1 PhD program, 39 (88.6%) received at least one interview invitation.

**77.8%** of respondents received at least one offer of admission to a PhD program.

## ASFP FEEDBACK

Taking everything into account, 82.2% of respondents rated ASFP editor feedback as useful or critically useful in their admission process.

Respondents found the multiple editors, quick turn-around, and high-level feedback to be the most useful parts of ASFP.







**92.1%** respondents would recommend or highly recommend ASFP to future applicants. Here is what they told us:

*“The feedback was fantastic, it **greatly improved my essays and also made me feel more confident** after submitting my applications.”*

*“**Having multiple reviewers give me feedback on my statements was SO helpful in refining my application.** I was able to see the major critiques that all the reviewers identified in their responses... I think having reviewers from different career stages was also helpful because I got a wider range of feedback.”*

*“This is a critical program for **helping students from underrepresented backgrounds or those who do not have appropriate mentors** for applying to graduate school.”*

*“**ASFP is a program that might change students’ lives.**”*



## ADVICE TO FUTURE APPLICANTS:

Prepare specific questions for your editors and try to submit as complete and polished of a statement as possible:

- *“If you plan on submitting an essay for feedback from ASFP, make sure you have a good draft already done. This will allow you to get the most out of the feedback!”*
- *“I would recommend that they put together a full version of their personal statement for their #1 school and submit that to ASFP so they can get specific feedback on that version.”*

However, if you aren't there yet, **submit whatever you have:**

- *“... definitely apply to ASFP as the feedback is helpful”*
- *“It's useful to have people on admissions committees, editors, and first year PhD students go over your application because what an applicant prioritizes in their application and what is actually prioritized during the admissions process may be different.”*

**TL; DR: APPLY TO ASFP!  
It's worth it.**