

TABLE 7-27

Primary source of support for U.S. citizen and permanent resident S&E doctorate recipients, by disability status: 2017  
(Percent distribution)

Primary source of support	All recipients <sup>a</sup>	Without disability	With disability
All recipients (number)	24,025	20,076	1,788
All sources	100.0	100.0	100.0
Personal or family funds	12.7	13.6	18.3
Loans	5.7	6.0	8.9
Savings	1.1	1.1	2.4
Other earnings in graduate school	2.6	2.8	2.9
Other family earnings or savings	3.4	3.6	4.1
Teaching assistantship	17.0	18.4	20.2
Research assistantship, traineeship, or internship	30.7	33.9	31.0
Research assistantship	27.6	30.5	28.0
Traineeship	2.1	2.3	1.7
Internship or clinical residency	0.2	D	D
Other assistantship	0.8	D	D
Fellowship, scholarship, or grant	27.1	30.0	26.6
Fellowship or scholarship	25.2	27.9	24.6
Grant <sup>b</sup>	1.8	2.0	2.0
Employer reimbursement or assistance	2.8	3.2	2.2
Other	9.7	1.0	1.6

D = suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information.

S&E = science and engineering.

<sup>a</sup> Includes doctorate recipients for whom disability status is unknown. As a result, detail may not sum to total.

<sup>b</sup> In 2017, survey response option was changed from "grant" to "dissertation grant."

**Note(s)**

American Indian or Alaska Native doctorate recipients with unknown or refused citizenship status are counted as U.S. citizens and thus are included. Other source of support includes foreign and unknown source of support. Doctorate recipients could report more than one disability. Survey asks degree of difficulty—none, slight, moderate, severe, or unable to do—an individual has in seeing (with glasses), hearing (with hearing aid), walking without assistance, lifting 10 pounds, or concentrating, remembering, or making decisions. Those respondents who answered "moderate," "severe," or "unable to do" for any activity were classified as having a disability. Data in this table refer to research doctorates only and differ from doctoral degree data in this report that are based on the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System Completions Survey. The greatest differences are in psychology, education, and medical or health sciences.

**Source(s)**

National Science Foundation, National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, Survey of Earned Doctorates, 2017.