Dear Graduate Student,

I am inviting you to participate in a research study that I am conducting for my dissertation that involves surveying graduate students in mental healthcare fields.

I am interested in learning about the prevalence and correlates of explicit weight bias in trainees who are involved in mental healthcare fields. Not much is currently known about the role the prevalence of weight bias and clinician characteristics associated with this form of stigma.

**If you are interested in participating in this survey, please take the online survey available at:**

<https://rutgers.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8HtT8DKiUuTCgm2>

It should take approximately 15 minutes to complete. Your participation is voluntary. You may choose to withdraw at any point without any penalty to you. In addition, you may skip any questions you choose. Your answers will remain anonymous. There are no foreseeable risks to participation in this study.

If you choose, you may be entered into a raffle drawing to win one of four $25 Amazon gift cards.

I appreciate your participation and feedback in order to provide meaningful and useful data for my dissertation and for future knowledge in the field.

If you have any questions, please email me at if122@gsapp.rutgers.edu

**Research Project Title:** Weight bias among mental health trainees

**Potential for Benefits to Subjects:** Results of this survey may be used in order to inform decisions about incorporating weight bias into graduate training in mental healthcare fields. Additionally, results of this survey may be used to inform decisions about interventions to reduce weight bias in graduate students the future. Finally, by participating in the study, you will be contributing to a growing body of research which examines the ways in which clinical doctoral programs can better support their trainees to improve therapeutic relationships and outcomes with overweight or obese patients.

**Eligibility:** Trainees who are 18 years and older who are enrolled in an accredited psychology graduate program in the United States

Thank you,

Idil Franko, Psy.M., M.A. (Principal Investigator)

152 Frelinghuysen Road

Piscataway, NJ 08854

[if122@gsapp.rutgers.edu](mailto:sng40@gsapp.rutgers.edu)

Kristen Riley, Ph.D.

152 Frelinghuysen Road

Piscataway, NJ 08854

[kristen.riley@rutgers.edu](mailto:kristen.riley@rutgers.edu)