### Questions to help students evaluate program and advisor fit

| To ask everyone | • What makes this graduate program unique from other graduate programs in community psychology?  
  o *How is the training here different from other community psychology programs? What is unique?*  
• What would advising during my first year as a graduate student look like?  
• What type of mentorship model does your program use?  
• What are the key strengths of this graduate program?  
  o *What are the strengths of the curriculum?*  
  o *What are the strengths of the faculty?*  
• What are the core competencies that your program aims to provide to students?  
  o *What key methodological competencies does the program aim to provide?*  
  o *What key theoretical competencies does the program aim to provide?*  
  o *What professional development skills does the program aim to provide?*  
• How long do students typically receive funding?  
• What is your program’s placement record like? In what academic and practice settings do alumni receive jobs?  
• Are there current major initiatives or changes planned for your graduate program? What are they?  
• What qualities describe a successful student?  
• What are the conferences that are particularly relevant for students in the program?  
• How do you use your work to engage in social justice issues?  
• What do you love about what you do?  
| To ask current graduate students | • What do you like the most about this graduate program?  
• What do you like the least about this graduate program?  
  o *What areas could be improved in the program’s curriculum? Mentorship model? Climate? Etc.*  
• What organizations or groups around campus have you found to be good supports?  
• Are there certain faculty members who you would recommend as an advisor?  
• Are there certain faculty members I should avoid selecting as an advisor?  
• Are there certain elective courses that you would recommend?  
• How much should I expect to pay for housing?  
  o *What housing options are popular with students?*  
  o *What are costs I should expect to pay outside of rent?*  
| To ask potential | • Can you describe your mentorship style?  
  o *How do you typically work with students to help them meet major program milestones? (very hands off ↔ very involved)*  

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| advisor | How willing are you to advise students whose research interests may differ from your own?  
|         | How often do you typically meet with your graduate students?  
|         | How would you describe your mentoring process for publishing scholarly work?  
|         | What skills might I develop or strengthen by working with you?  
|         | How do you feel about students working with other faculty (within and outside the department?)  
|         | **What is your preferred form of communication?**  
|         | **What is your research/teaching philosophy?**  
|         | **How many students are you currently advising?**  
|         | **How often have you graduated Ph.D. students? Where do the students that you’ve mentored typically work?**  
|         | **How often do students co-author papers with you?**  
|         | **Would you be willing to provide feedback on a CV draft?**  
|         | **What does your funding situation look like for the next few years?**  
|         | | **Would I expect to have the opportunity to work on your research team?**  
|         | **Are you currently working on any career milestones?**  
|         | | **If so, how might this impact your advising in the next 1-3 years?**  
|         | **What are your expectations for a workday?**  
|         | **How do you envision the ideal role of academia in the community?**  
|         | **What is your idea of work life balance?**  
| Questions specific to first generation students | **Have you advised first generation students before?**  
| | | **If so, what were some of the things you learned? If not, what challenges do you anticipate?**  
| | | **How might your advising style shift when supporting first generation students? (Or other relevant identities)**  
| | | **Who has experience with first generation graduate students in this program/dept that we could consult?**  
| | | **Do you know if there are currently first generation graduate students in the program?**  
| | | **How might you support conference preparation for someone new to conferences?**  
| | | **How might you support CV preparation for someone new to academia?**  
| Questions specific to international students | **Have you ever advised international students before?**  
| | | **If so, what were some of the things you learned? If not, what challenges do you anticipate?**  
| | | **Who should I contact with questions as I consider the program?**  
| | | **Who has experience with international graduate students in this program/dept that we could consult?**  
| | | **Are there other international students in the program currently?**  
| | | | **If not, when was the last time there was an international student in the program?**  
| | | **What financial support differences are there for international students?**  
| | | | **Am I eligible for the same types of funding support as domestic students?**  

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