

# The Changing Landscape of Graduate Education: Preparing for an Uncertain Future

Derived from the Iowa State University  
Graduate College Operations Project

Council of Graduate Schools 2023 Annual Meeting

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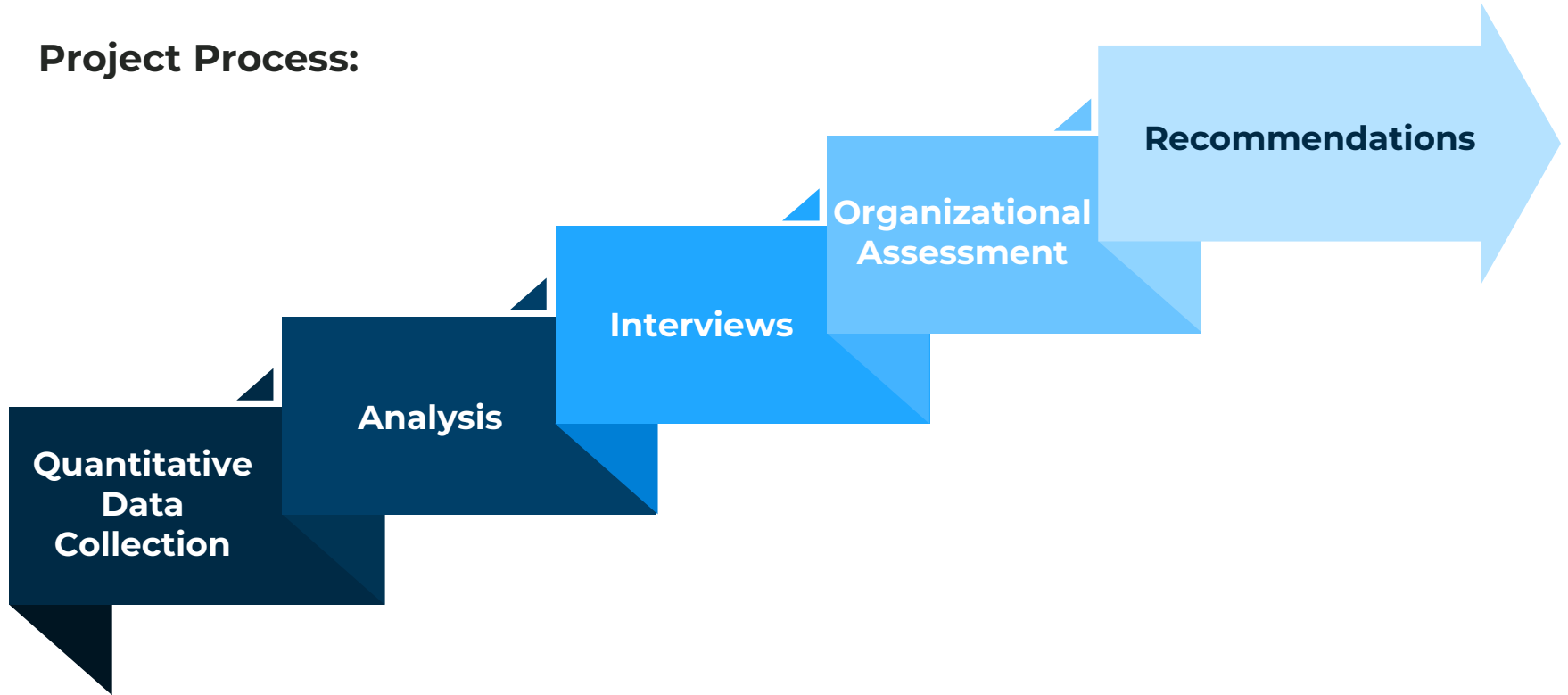


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# ISU Project Goals and Scope

## Project Process:



# Environmental Scan

The following trends have impacted the market for, and nature of, graduate education:



The **academic market** for tenure/tenure track faculty **has declined**



Demand for “**professional masters**” programs that enhance professional credentials **has increased**



Changes in **collective bargaining rules for graduate students** (per NLRB<sup>2</sup>) has **reignited unionization efforts** among this population

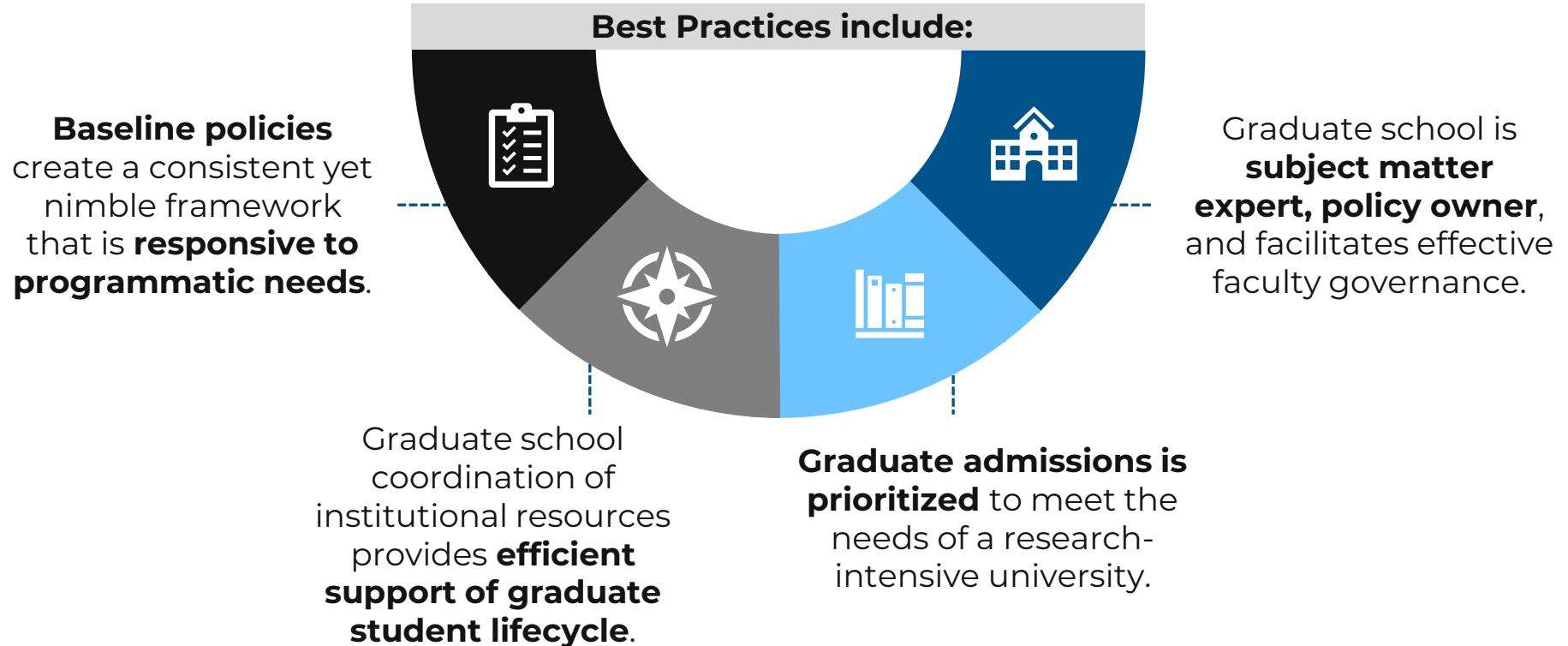


COVID-19 underscored **concerns about pay, working conditions and financial support.**

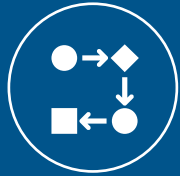


The graduate school must be **empowered and aligned with institutional strategy** to be effective.

# Peer Best Practice Takeaways



# Institutional Governance



**Accountability**



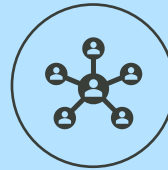
**Guidelines  
&  
Policy**



**Faculty Senate**



**Transparency**



**Graduate  
Council**

# Unified Graduate Student Ecosystem

## Graduate School

Policy, Student Experience, Professional Development, General Support

## Infrastructure

Admissions, Human Resources, Registrar, Financial Aid, Information Technology

## Academics

Curriculum, Coursework, Teaching, Mentoring

## Well-Being

Ombuds, Office of Equal Opportunity, Student Counseling Services

## Research and Training

Research, Innovation, Professional Development

## Leadership & Governance

Board of Regents or Trustees, President, Provost, Graduate Council, Faculty Senate

