

## Fall 2021 HEDS New Student Survey

*This is a PDF representation of the online version of the survey. It includes all questions and response options, as well as notes (in italics) about how questions will display to survey takers.*

[Institution Name] and the Higher Education Data Sharing Consortium, a non-profit organization that supports colleges like yours, are collaborating to learn more about what helps students get the most out of their college education. This survey is part of a larger project to help colleges better understand the experiences, goals, and concerns of their new students. We also hope this survey will help you reflect on your long-term goals and the ways that your experiences in college can help you achieve those goals.

We designed this survey to give you an opportunity to have a conversation with someone at [Institution Name] about your goals and strategies for success. At the end of the survey, you'll have a chance to forward your survey responses to specific people at [Institution Name] so you can talk to them about what you've written. Faculty and staff at [Institution Name] would like to learn more about you and find out how they can help you get the most out of your time in college. We hope you take advantage of this opportunity to have a conversation with someone at [Institution Name].

The survey will take 5-10 minutes to complete. When you're done, you'll be able to see a summary of how other students at [Institution Name] responded to the survey.

Your survey results will be shared with a handful of people at [Institution Name] who work to help students succeed and improve teaching and learning. Anyone who has access to your responses is legally obligated to keep them confidential.

By clicking "Next," you indicate that you've agreed to participate in the survey. Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts. We appreciate it.

*Students will see a "Next" button here.*

### 1. Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the following statements.

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
I am willing to work hard in a course to learn the material even if it won't lead to a higher grade.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
When I do well on a test, it is usually because I am well-prepared, not because the test is easy.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
In the past, I frequently did more reading than was required in a class simply because it interested me.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
In the past, I frequently talked to my teachers outside of class about ideas presented during class.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Getting the best grades I can is very important to me.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I enjoy the challenge of learning complicated new material.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
My academic experiences (i.e., courses, labs, studying, discussions with faculty) will be the <b>most important</b> part of college.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
My academic experiences (i.e., courses, labs, studying, discussions with faculty) will be the <b>most enjoyable</b> part of college.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**2. Please rate your confidence in the following.**

	Very confident	Fairly confident	Somewhat confident	Not confident
Choosing to attend [Institution Name]	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Knowing what I want to major in	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**3. How much do the following statements apply to you?**

	Very much like me	Mostly like me	Somewhat like me	Not much like me	Not like me at all
Setbacks don't discourage me. I don't give up easily.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I am a hard worker.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I finish whatever I begin.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I am diligent. I never give up.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I have overcome setbacks to conquer an important challenge.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**4. People go to college to achieve many different goals. In order for you to feel like you've had a successful college experience, which of the following must happen by the time you graduate from [Institution Name]? (Check all that apply)**

- I'm prepared to begin a meaningful career.
- I've learned new things that will help me in my life after college.
- I feel prepared to deal with intellectual and interpersonal challenges that will come my way.
- I've built friendships that will last long beyond college.
- I've figured out what I want to do with my life.
- I feel confident that I will be able to financially support myself in the future.
- I feel prepared to build a good life for my family.
- I've made my family proud.
- I'm in a position to give back to my community.
- I've been accepted to a graduate school program (e.g., law school, medical school, business school).
- I'm better prepared to make a positive impact on the world.
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**5. How often do you worry about the following?**

	Very often	Often	Sometimes	Never
Doing well academically in college	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Making friends	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Paying bills (tuition, books, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Meeting the expectations of others	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Balancing class, social, family, and other life responsibilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maintaining my mental health and well-being	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Figuring out what I want to do with my life	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
National/global issues that impact society at large (e.g., climate change, the political environment, social inequality, COVID-19)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Having enough to eat day-to-day	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Having a safe and secure place to sleep every night	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**6. Are there other worries or concerns that you'd like people at [Institution Name] to know about?**

**7. How many hours per week, on average, do you plan to spend on the following activities at [Institution Name]?**

	0 hours	1–3 hours	4–6 hours	7–10 hours	11+ hours
Studying, doing homework, or preparing for classes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Extracurricular activities (sports, music, drama, media, clubs, organizations, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Working for pay	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

To help us better understand what you'd like to get out of your college education, we'd appreciate it if you would write short responses to the two questions below.

**8. Imagine some point in the future, after you're done with school and you're leading a successful life. What does your life look like? What are you doing? How are you living? Don't be afraid to think big!**

**9. What could [Institution Name] faculty and staff do this year to support you and help you be successful?**

*Question 10 asks students whether they would like to share their survey responses with someone on campus for a follow-up conversation. Institutions may list up to three people or offices—such as a student's academic advisor, a class dean, staff in the advising office, a coach, staff in career services, the chaplain, student affairs staff, the chief diversity officer—that students can choose to forward their survey responses to. We will automatically forward students' survey responses to the individuals/offices that students select.*

*We suggest that institutions give students the option of forwarding their survey results to their academic advisor. We've provided several other examples below, but you can add in the names of any people or offices at your institution that you think students might benefit from talking to. You can provide the same list of people/offices to all of your students, and you can also link specific people/offices with particular students, e.g., academic advisors or coaches. If you include an office in Question 10, please provide a link to a website, or a Microsoft Word document, with a list of the people in that office. We want to make sure students know who will see their responses if they select an office.*

**10. Would you like to have a conversation about your goals and how to accomplish them with any of the people or offices listed below? If so, please check the box next to their name. We will forward your survey responses to them and ask them to contact you to set up a conversation. You may select as many options as you want from the list below.**

- Person/office that the institution identifies (e.g., Jane Smith, your academic advisor)
- Optional additional response option – Person/office that the institution identifies (e.g., Staff in Career Services – click [here](#) to see a list of the people in this office)
- Optional additional response option – Person/office that the institution identifies (e.g., Mary Wright, First Year Class Dean)
- No, I don't want to have a follow-up conversation with anyone at this time.

*If you'd like the default to be that students have a conversation with someone at your institution, please ask us to include the alternate version of Question 10 shown below in your survey instead of the question above. We can customize the alternate version of Question 10 so that the default is anyone at your institution – that is, it doesn't have to direct students to their academic advisor.*

**Alternate 10. One of the goals of this survey is to set up a conversation between you and [your academic advisor], [Academic Advisor's Name], where you can discuss your goals for college and life, your worries and concerns, and anything else that would help you get the most out of your time at [Institution Name]. To that end, we will forward your survey responses to [Academic Advisor's Name], and they will contact you to set up a meeting. If you don't want to have this conversation, please check the box below to opt out. Or if you'd like to talk to someone other than [your advisor], you can also note that below.**

- I don't want to have a follow-up conversation with anyone at this time.
- I'd like to talk to someone else at [Institution Name]. Their name or title/office is: \_\_\_\_\_

*[The following message appears after students click the "Submit" button.]*

Thank you for taking the time to answer these survey questions. We will forward your responses to the person(s) that you've identified for a conversation, and they will contact you to schedule a time to talk. If you do not hear from them in the next few weeks, please feel free to reach out to them to initiate a conversation. We will email you a copy of your survey responses, so you can remember what you said and share it with others.

If you'd like to see how your answers compare to the responses of other new students at [Institution Name], please click [here](#). These results will be updated as more students complete the survey. We'll also include this link in the email with a summary of your survey results, so you can check back as more students respond.