

Below is an example of the automatic email students will receive after they complete the HEDS Returning Student Survey with a copy of their survey responses. We've noted sections that you can customize below.



HEDS Survey Administrator <returningstudentsurvey@hedsconsortium.org>
to returningstudentsurvey@hedsconsortium.org

Dear Kathy,

Thank you for taking the HEDS Returning Student Survey. I've included a list of the survey questions along with a summary of your responses at the bottom of this note.

I've also sent a summary of your responses to the person(s) you asked us to forward them to in Question 11 (see below). If you asked to have your responses forwarded to anyone else on campus in Question 12 (see below), I will do that shortly. If I run into problems forwarding your responses, I'll let you know.

I expect that the person(s) who received your survey results will contact you soon to set up a time to talk. If they don't, please feel free to reach out to them. Sometimes people get busy and things unintentionally slip through the cracks. When this happens to me, I appreciate a gentle reminder.

You can find summary results for all Higher Ed Data Sharing College students who have completed the survey [here](#). This report updates as students take the survey, and you can use the link to access the report at any time.

Thank you again for participating in the survey. I hope it was helpful to think about your longer-term goals for college and life. If you think of other ways that people at HEDS College can support you as you work towards your goals, please let me know. And if you have any questions or concerns about this survey, don't hesitate to reach out.

All the best,

Jane Administrator
Higher Ed Data Sharing College
555-123-4567

Your Survey Results

Question 1. 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? Please think big!

You responded as follows:

I'm out of school and have paid back all my loans from undergrad and grad school. I have a job I enjoy, where I'm helping people, and making enough money to support myself and my family. I'm married with 2-3 kids. We don't have to worry about the things I had to worry about growing up - paying the bills, getting enough food, moving all the time. If possible, I'd love to own my own home.

Question 2. Looking ahead to the upcoming term, what key areas would you like some help with? (Check all that apply)

- Getting more out of online classes if we have to transition back to online learning
- Accessing internships, research opportunities, study abroad, or other out-of-class opportunities
- Doing labs, studios, clinicals, practicums, or other face-to-face work that's necessary for my major if classes go back online
- Financial concerns (e.g., finding ways to pay for college, questions about my financial aid or on-campus jobs)

We provide sample email messages that you may use as is or modify. You can also create your own email messages.

You can see a sample of the report with aggregated real-time survey responses by clicking on the hyperlink in the fourth paragraph.

The student's survey responses are shown in blue font in the email.

- Accessing mental health services
- Thinking about what I'm going to do immediately after college (employment, graduate school, etc.)
- Other: _____

Your responses were as follows:

Getting more out of online classes if we have to transition back to online learning, Accessing internships, research opportunities, study abroad, or other out-of-class opportunities, Financial concerns (e.g., finding ways to pay for college, questions about my financial aid or on-campus jobs)

Question 3. Given the uncertainty around what may happen with HEDS College's teaching and learning environment in the fall, what could we do to help you be successful?

You responded as follows:

Keep us informed and let us know as soon as possible if things are going to change. And if they do, give us all time to adjust to the changes.

Question 4. Taking into account what you've learned and experienced in the spring, what are the most important reasons to stay in college to complete your degree? (Check all that apply)

- To get a job that provides financial security
- To get a job that helps me start a meaningful career
- To learn new things and expand my horizons
- To become a more thoughtful and better-informed citizen
- To make life-long friendships
- To prepare for post-graduate education
- To honor the support my family has given me while I am in college
- To build a better life than my parents and/or my family had
- To build a good life for my children and/or family
- To improve my ability to give back to my community
- Other: _____

Your responses were as follows:

To get a job that provides financial security, To get a job that helps me start a meaningful career, To prepare for post-graduate education, To build a better life than my parents and/or my family had

Question 5. What are your biggest worries or concerns as you think about what's coming up in college and beyond? (Check all that apply)

- Getting the right courses, internships, and experiences in college to set me up for my career
- Taking a leave of absence or a gap year after college and losing momentum
- Getting into the graduate school I need to build my career
- Paying off my student loans
- Finding a job that's meaningful
- Finding a job that gives me the resources I need to be comfortable
- Settling for a job I don't enjoy because it pays the bills
- National/global issues that impact society at large (e.g., climate change, the political environment, social inequality, COVID-19)
- Maintaining my mental health and well-being
- Creating balance between work, family, friends, and my personal interests/hobbies
- Knowing how to do "life stuff" (e.g., managing my finances, finding a good place to live, getting the right kinds of insurance)
- Other: _____

Your responses were as follows:

Getting the right courses, internships, and experiences in college to set me up for my career, Getting into the graduate school I need to build my career, Paying off my student loans, Settling for a job I don't enjoy because it pays the bills

Question 6. Changes from COVID-19 have disrupted the lives of people across the country, including many students, staff, and faculty at colleges and universities. Looking back on your academic

experience in the spring after your classes moved to an online format, please rate how well you did each of the following (Good, Fair, or Poor):

- I set concrete goals for my readings, papers, and other assignments to ensure that I stayed on top of my classes

You responded that you did a [Fair](#) job.

- I pushed myself to stay motivated even when it was hard to do

You responded that you did a [Fair](#) job.

- I reminded myself that working hard and maintaining my studies, even in a new environment, would pay off in the long run

You responded that you did a [Good](#) job.

- I found healthy ways to manage the stress of all the changes

You responded that you did a [Poor](#) job.

- I tried to bounce back when things didn't work out

You responded that you did a [Fair](#) job.

Question 7. Going forward, which two of the actions listed in the previous question would you most like to improve? (Choose two)

- Setting concrete goals for my readings, papers, and other assignments
- Pushing to stay motivated
- Reminding myself that working hard and maintaining my studies will pay off
- Finding healthy ways to manage stress
- Bouncing back when things don't work out

Your responses were as follows:

[Setting concrete goals for my readings, papers, and other assignments](#), [Finding healthy ways to manage stress](#)

Question 8. Suppose HEDS College has to resume some form of online learning for a time because of COVID-19, which of the following might be useful strategies to help you be successful and get the most out of your education? (Check all that apply)

- I would work harder
- I would be more active in seeking help from faculty with my courses
- I would try to think of new solutions like changing my schedule, getting help from other students, or reviewing my notes more thoroughly
- I would think of the situation as a challenge to overcome
- I would remind myself that the situation is temporary
- I would try to create a space to work in that was more distraction free
- I would try to do things during breaks to relax
- I would limit my exposure to news and other media
- I would think more about my strengths and weaknesses to help me work better
- I would seek encouragement from my family and friends
- I would seek encouragement from faculty or someone else at my institution
- I would start to monitor and evaluate my achievements and effort
- I would celebrate my successes and hold myself accountable when my performance isn't where I want it to be

Your responses were as follows:

I would be more active in seeking help from faculty with my courses, I would remind myself that the situation is temporary, I would think more about my strengths and weaknesses to help me work better, I would celebrate my successes and hold myself accountable when my performance isn't where I want it to be

Question 9. Please choose your favorite color.

- Red
- Blue
- Other (please specify): _____

Your responded as follows:

Anything with sparkles!

Question 10. What is your favorite thing about going to HEDS College?

Your responded as follows:

The people

Question 11. Would you like us to send your responses on this survey to any of the people or offices listed below, so you can have a conversation with them about your goals and how to accomplish them? Please select "yes" or "no" for each.

Nicole Seidler, your official academic advisor - **You responded as follows: Yes**
Staff in the Career Center (click [here](#) to see a list of the people in this office) - **You responded as follows: Yes**
John Smith, Dean of the Junior Class - **You responded as follows: No**

Question 12. Is there anyone else at HEDS College, other than the people/offices listed in the previous question, that you'd like to talk about your plans with?

You responded as follows:

Yes
Mary Baker at the front desk of the library. She's so supportive every time I stop by to say hi.

Institutions may add up to two supplemental questions to the survey. We will include supplemental questions and responses in the emails to students.

Institutions may identify up to three people/offices with whom students may choose to share their survey responses.