

## 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.*

*If the survey is being administered via the authentication method, students will see the following message:*

Please enter your [Institution Name] [student ID/email] and click “Next” to continue to the survey:

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*All students will see the following introduction text:*

[Institution Name] and the Higher Education Data Sharing Consortium, a non-profit organization that supports colleges like yours, are working on a project to learn more about what helps students succeed in college. This survey is part of a larger project to help colleges better understand the experiences, goals, and concerns of their new students. It should take 5-10 minutes to complete the survey. If you decide to take this survey, you will be able to see how other students at [Institution Name] answered the questions when you’re done with the survey.

Your survey results will be shared with a handful of people at [Institution Name] who work on student success, retention, and efforts to improve teaching and learning. Anyone who has access to your responses will keep them confidential and abide by the standards of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). At the end of this survey, we’ll ask whether you’d like us to forward your responses to specific people at [Institution Name] so you can talk to them about your goals and strategies for success. If you choose to do this, they will also see your survey responses.

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
It is important for me to graduate from college.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I am confident that I made the right decision in choosing to attend [Institution name].	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
It is likely that I will continue at [Institution name] next fall.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
It is <i>not</i> important to me to graduate from [Institution name].	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I have no idea at all what I want to major in.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Getting good grades is <i>not</i> important to me.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**2. 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"/>

**3. 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 am 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 am 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 am better prepared to make a positive impact on the world.
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

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

	Very often	Often	Sometimes	Never
Doing well 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"/>

**5. In high school, how many hours per week, on average, did you spend on the following activities?**

	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"/>

**6. Compared to what you did in high school, do you plan to increase, decrease, or spend around the same amount of time on the following activities?**

	Increase time	Spend around the same amount of time	Decrease time
Studying, doing homework, or preparing for classes	<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"/>
Working for pay	<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.

**7. 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!**

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

*Question 9 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, or staff in the advising office—in Question 9 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. If you include an office in Question 9, please provide a link to a website, or a 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.*

**9. 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
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*Message that appears after student clicks “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 agreed may see them. 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 send 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 students take 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.