

2019–2020 HEDS Research Practices Survey

The [HEDS Research Practices Survey](#) assesses first-year and senior students’ research experiences and their skills in finding, evaluating, and citing sources. Over 100 colleges and universities have used the HEDS Research Practices Survey since 2008.

The HEDS Research Practices Survey consists of two sections. The first section of the survey, “Perceptions of Research,” measures students’ experiences with research and the degree to which they experience difficulty in:

- Finding Sources – 7 questions, Cronbach’s $\alpha = 0.79$
- Using Information from Sources – 7 questions, Cronbach’s $\alpha = 0.78$
- Citing Sources – 3 questions, Cronbach’s $\alpha = 0.76$

The second section of the HEDS Research Practices Survey, “Familiarity with Research Terms and Strategies,” tests students’ knowledge in three areas of research skills:

- Finding Sources – 5 questions
- Evaluating Sources – 12 questions
- Citing Sources – 12 questions

Depending on how institutions administer the HEDS Research Practices Survey, they can use the results to assess:

- Entering first-year students’ research skills and precollege research experiences.
- First-year students’ research skills and experiences after one year of college.
- Senior students’ research skills and experiences after four years of college.
- Students’ growth in research skills over time.
- Students’ research skills and experiences compared with those of students at other institutions.

Faculty and librarians can use information from this survey to develop pedagogies and materials to advance students’ research skills.

Survey Administration

You may administer the survey to a cohort of students once or multiple times. You may administer a fall survey to first-year students; and you may administer a spring survey to first-year students, seniors, or both. The survey only takes about 15 minutes to complete. A single administration of the HEDS Research Practices Survey provides a snapshot of your students’ skills in finding, evaluating, and citing sources. You can use multiple administrations of the survey to gauge how those skills change over time.

Single Administration

| Purpose | Administration Period | Administration Duration | Earliest Possible Start Date | Must Be Completed By |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|---|--|
| Measure entering first-year students’ research experiences and skills | Beginning of first term | 3–6 weeks | August 1, 2019 | End of the third week of the first term |
| Measure first-year or senior students’ research experiences and skills after their first year or four years of college | End of spring term | 3–6 weeks | Six weeks prior to the last day of spring classes | Two weeks after the last day of spring classes |

Multiple Administrations

| Purpose | Administration Periods | Administration Logistics |
|--|--|---|
| Measure the growth in research skills in the first term of college. This approach is especially helpful for institutions that have a first-term course for entering students with a research or information literacy component. | Beginning and end of the first term of college | <u>1st administration</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same as beginning-of-first-term single administration <u>2nd administration</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey same first-year students at the end of first term • Duration: 2–4 weeks • Earliest possible start date: Two weeks prior to the last day of fall classes • Must be completed by: Start of the next academic term |
| Measure growth in research skills over the first year of college. | Beginning and end of the first year of college | <u>1st administration</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same as beginning-of-first-term single administration <u>2nd administration</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same as end-of-spring-term single administration |

You can opt to administer the HEDS Research Practices Survey outside of these standard administration periods, or recommended cohorts. However, we cannot provide comparative data for nonstandard administrations. If you are interested in a nonstandard administration, please contact us.

Also, it is possible to administer a 4-year longitudinal survey with your student population(s). If you are interested in this type of administration, please contact us.

Administration Methods

- **Email method** – A member of the HEDS staff sends your students an individualized email invitation with a unique link to the survey. If your students do not complete the survey, we will send reminders via email. You may customize both the invitation and the reminders, and each message appears to come from your institution.
- **Authentication method** – You provide students with a general survey link, and they use a unique password, such as their student ID or school email address, to log into the survey. We suggest this method when administering the survey in a classroom or computer lab.

For an additional fee, you can select both the email and authentication administration methods. To ensure consistency in the administration process and the integrity of the comparative data, we do not allow institutions to administer any HEDS survey through their own survey engines.

Reports and Data Files

| Standard single administration reports and data files | HEDS institutions | Institutions not in HEDS |
|--|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Summary reports that compare your students to students at (1) all other participating institutions and (2) the highest scoring institutions on key indicators in the HEDS Research Practices Survey. | ✓ | ✓ |

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| Frequency report that compares your first-year students' and/or seniors' responses to those of students from the same class year(s) at all other participating institutions. | ✓ | ✓ |
| SPSS and Microsoft Excel file with your participants' responses. (We will add variable and value labels to SPSS files.) | ✓ | ✓ |
| <i>New this year:</i> Post-survey phone consultation with a member of the HEDS staff about your institution's survey data | ✓ | |

If you administer the HEDS Research Practices Survey multiple times to the same cohort of students in order to assess their growth in research skills, you have the option to request an additional report comparing scores for all students who take the survey during the first administration to scores for all students who take the survey during the second administration.

We will send institutions that participate in a nonstandard administration a data file with their students' responses, but due to the lack of comparative data, we cannot send any reports.

Base Survey Costs

| | HEDS Institutions | Institutions not in HEDS |
|--|--|--|
| Base cost – single administration to one cohort (first-year students in the fall or spring; senior students in the spring) Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● One 3–6 week survey administration ● One administration method: authentication, email, or paper ● Up to 1,000 responses ● One survey invitation and up to three reminders for email method ● 10 supplemental questions ● Report and data files as specified above | \$500 | \$1,900 |
| Base cost – single administration for both first-year and senior students in the spring (two cohorts) Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● One 3–6 week survey administration ● One administration method: authentication, email, or paper ● Up to 1,000 responses ● One survey invitation and up to three reminders for email method ● 10 supplemental questions ● Report and data files as specified above | \$875 (\$500 for first-year students + \$375 for seniors) (25% discount on original base cost of survey for seniors) | \$3,325 (\$1,900 for first-year students + \$1,425 for seniors) (25% discount on original base cost of survey for seniors) |

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| <p>Base cost – multiple administrations (first-year students at the beginning and end of the fall term or beginning and end of their first year)</p> <p>Includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One 3–6 week survey administration in the spring • One 3–6 week survey administration in the fall • Up to 1,000 responses for each administration • One survey invitation and up to three reminders for each email administration • 10 supplemental questions per administration • Report and data files as specified above for each administration | <p>\$1,250</p> <p>(\$500 for 1st administration + \$500 for 2nd administration + \$250 for optional additional report tracking growth)</p> | <p>\$4,050</p> <p>(\$1,900 for 1st administration + \$1,900 for 2nd administration + \$250 for optional additional report tracking growth)</p> |
|--|--|--|

Additional Fees (the following fees apply for each administration and each cohort)

| | HEDS Institutions | Institutions not in HEDS |
|---|---|---|
| Using both the authentication and email administration methods | + \$250 | + \$250 |
| Using different invitations, reminders, and/or supplemental questions for subpopulations (e.g., different programs, majors, campuses) within a cohort of first-years or seniors | + \$250 for each additional subpopulation | + \$250 for each additional subpopulation |
| 11 to 20 supplemental questions | + \$250 | + \$250 |
| Additional responses (after first 1,000 responses; count includes all administration methods, incomplete responses, and duplicate responses; invoiced after the survey closes) | + \$0.50 per extra response | + \$0.50 per extra response |
| Late registration fee (see explanation in registration section below) | + \$250 | + \$250 |

Other HEDS Research Practices Survey Information

- **Survey liaison** – You will need to identify one individual from your institution to serve as the survey liaison to handle survey logistics, communicate with the HEDS staff, etc.
- **IRB approval** – The HEDS Research Practices Survey has been [approved](#) by the Wabash College Institutional Review Board (IRB) for use as a voluntary survey. We encourage your institution’s survey liaison to contact the IRB at your institution to determine whether their approval is needed prior to administering the survey.
- **Mandatory participation** – Institutions should not make the survey mandatory or use survey incentives that may affect voluntary participation without consulting their institution’s IRB. In addition, the introduction to the HEDS Research Practices Survey, which informs participants that the survey is voluntary, cannot be altered.



- **Embedding institution names in the survey** – We will configure the survey so that your institution’s name appears prominently on each page.
- **Supplemental questions** – You can add up to 20 supplemental questions, the first 10 of which are free, related to the HEDS Research Practices Survey’s subject matter at the end of the survey. Each subquestion on a multipart or matrix question counts as one supplemental question. Our [Supplemental Question Guide](#) provides more detail. We ask that you submit finalized questions during registration. Your data file will include participants’ responses to these questions, but the HEDS reports will not.
- **Qualtrics** – HEDS administers its surveys via the commercial survey engine Qualtrics.

Registering for the HEDS Research Practices Survey

You can register for the 2019–2020 HEDS Research Practices Survey using our [online registration form](#). At the time of registration, you may choose to pay with a credit card or receive an invoice and pay with a check. We send out invoices at the end of the month in which you register.

You must register at least three weeks prior to the date on which you plan to begin administering the survey. We will make decisions about accepting late registrations on a case-by-case basis. If we can accommodate a late registration, we will charge an additional \$250 late fee.

HEDS Research Practices Survey Administration Contact

Please contact Lisa Kidd (lisa.kidd@hedsconsortium.org or 765-361-6170) if you have any questions. You can download a copy of the survey from our website at: <https://www.hedsconsortium.org/heds-research-practices-survey/>.