

# 2014 Your First College Year Survey

**Note: All key punching fields, font, logos, etc. are to be brought in line with the 2014 CSS and 2013 TFS formatting.**

**1. For Spring 2014, were you still enrolled at \_\_\_\_\_?**

Yes  
No

(skip logic—if Yes, then go to #2; If No, then go to RETENTION #1a below)

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## RETENTION

*These questions will only be included for students marking NO in #1.*

**1a. In Spring 2014, did you take classes at a different college/university?**

Yes  
No

(skip logic, if yes, then go to #1b below; if No, then go to #1c)

**1b. Which of the following best describes your situation in Spring 2014?**

(Mark one)

Enrolled full-time in a four-year college/university  
Enrolled part-time in a four-year college/university  
Enrolled full-time in a two-year college/university  
Enrolled part-time in a two-year college/university

**1c. Did you do any of the following in the Spring of 2014?**

(Mark all that apply)

Worked for pay full-time  
Worked for pay part-time  
Volunteered full-time  
Volunteered part-time  
Looked for work but did not find a job  
Sought medical attention  
Traveled  
Stayed at home to be with or start a family  
None of the above

**1d. Indicate the importance to you personally of each of the following reasons for leaving:**

(Mark one for each row)

[Response choices Very Important, Somewhat Important, Not at all important]

Academic probation/suspension/expulsion

Dissatisfied with grades

Not challenged academically

Courses were too difficult

Preferred major was not offered

Too many required courses

(next page)

**Indicate the importance to you personally of each of the following reasons for leaving:**

(Mark one for each row)

[Response choices Very Important, Somewhat Important, Not at all important]

I did not feel a sense of belonging to the campus

There is a lot of tension on campus (e.g., racial/ethnic, sexual orientation, gender)

Location of the college not right for me

Size of the college not right for me

Dissatisfied with social/cultural opportunities

(next page)

**Indicate the importance to you personally of each of the following reasons for leaving:**

(Mark one for each row)

[Response choices Very Important, Somewhat Important, Not at all important]

Felt I was not ready for college

Experienced health problems

Did not feel welcome due to my race/ethnicity

Did not feel welcome due to my sexual orientation

Did not feel welcome due to my gender

Family crisis

Always intended to transfer

Felt lonely or homesick

Wanted to be closer to home

(next page)

**Indicate the importance to you personally of each of the following reasons for leaving:**

(Mark one for each row)

[Response choices Very Important, Somewhat Important, Not at all important]

- My awarded financial aid was inadequate
- Could not afford to continue to attend
- Encountered unexpected expenses
- Needed to make more money
- Could not find a job to help pay for college

(next page)

**Indicate the importance to you personally of each of the following reasons for leaving:**

(Mark one for each row)

[Response choices Very Important, Somewhat Important, Not at all Important]

- Too difficult to balance having a job and going to college
- Wanted work experience
- Wanted to start or focus on my own business
- Did not need a degree for my current or intended job

**1e. Do you plan to return to \_\_\_\_\_?**

- Yes
- No

**1f. What do you plan to be doing in Fall of 2014?**

(Mark all that apply)

- Attending a four-year college/university full-time
- Attending a four-year college/university part-time
- Attending a two-year college/university full-time
- Attending a two-year college/university part-time
- Working for pay full-time
- Working for pay part-time
- Volunteering
- Looking for work
- Receiving medical treatments
- Traveling
- Staying at home to be with or start a family
- I have no plans for Fall 2014
- None of the above



**2. Your sex:**

Male  
Female

**3. Are you:**

(Mark all that apply)

White/Caucasian  
African American/Black  
American Indian/Alaska Native  
Asian American/Asian  
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander  
Mexican American/Chicano  
Puerto Rican  
Other Latino  
Other

**4. Are you currently a full-time or part-time student?**

Full-time  
Part-time  
Not enrolled

**5. What year did you first enter:**

(Mark one in each column)

[Response Choices: This College, Your 1st College]

2013 or 2014  
2012  
2011  
2010  
2009 or earlier

**6. How often in the past year did you:**

(Mark one for each item)

[Response Choices: Frequently, Occasionally, Not at all]

Ask questions in class

Support your opinions with a logical argument

Seek solutions to problems and explain them to others

Revise your papers to improve your writing

Evaluate the quality or reliability of information you received

Take a risk because you felt you had more to gain

Seek alternative solutions to a problem

Look up scientific research articles and resources

Explore topics on your own, even though it was not required for a class

Accept mistakes as part of the learning process

Seek feedback on your academic work

Integrate skills and knowledge from different sources and experiences

**7. Since entering this college, how often have you interacted with the following people (e.g., by phone, e-mail, text, or in person):**

(Mark one for each item)

[Response Choices: Daily, 2 or 3 times per week, Once a week, 1 or 2 times per month, 1 or 2 times per term, Never]

Faculty during office hours

Faculty outside of class or office hours

Academic advisors/counselors

Close friends at this institution

Close friends not at this institution

Your family

Graduate students/teaching assistants

Close friends from your high school

**8. Do you have any concern about your ability to finance your college education?**

(Mark one)

None (I am confident that I will have sufficient funds)

Some (but I probably will have enough funds)

Major (not sure I will have enough funds to complete college)

**9. Since entering this college, how often have you felt:**

(Mark one for each item)

[Response Choices: Frequently, Occasionally, Not at all]

Lonely or homesick

Isolated from campus life

Unsafe on this campus

Worried about your health

That your courses inspired you to think in new ways

That your job responsibilities interfered with your schoolwork

That your family responsibilities interfered with your schoolwork

Family support to succeed

That faculty provided me with feedback that helped me assess my progress in class

That my contributions were valued in class

That faculty encouraged me to ask questions and participate in discussions

**10. Please rate your satisfaction with this institution on each of the aspects of college life listed below:**

(Mark one for each item)

[Response Choices: Very Satisfied, Satisfied, Neutral, Dissatisfied, Very Dissatisfied, Can't Rate/No Experience]

General education and core curriculum courses

Your overall academic experience

Classroom facilities

Computer facilities/labs

Library facilities

Laboratory facilities and equipment

Computing assistance

Academic advising

Student housing (e.g., res. halls)

Financial aid office

Financial aid package

Student health services

Student psychological services

Orientation for new students

Opportunities for community service

First-year programs (e.g., first-year seminar, learning community, linked courses)

**11. Since entering this college, how often have you utilized the following services:**

(Mark one for each item)

[Response Choices: Frequently, Occasionally, Not at all]

Study skills advising  
Financial aid advising  
Student health services  
Student psychological services  
Writing center  
Disability resource center  
Career services  
Academic advising

**12. Rate yourself on each of the following traits as compared with the average person your age. We want the most accurate estimate of how you see yourself.**

(Mark one for each item)

[Response Choices: Highest 10%, Above Average, Average, Below Average, Lowest 10%]

Academic ability  
Artistic ability  
Competitiveness  
Computer skills  
Cooperativeness  
Creativity  
Drive to achieve  
Emotional health  
Leadership ability  
Mathematical ability  
Physical health  
Popularity  
Public speaking ability  
Risk-taking  
Self-confidence (intellectual)  
Self-confidence (social)  
Self-understanding  
Spirituality  
Understanding of others  
Writing ability

**13. Since entering this college, how has it been to:**

(Mark one for each item)

[Response Choices: Very Easy, Somewhat Easy, Somewhat Difficult, Very Difficult]

Understand what your professors expect of you academically

Develop effective study skills

Adjust to the academic demands of college

Manage your time effectively

Develop close friendships with other students

**14. How would you characterize your political views?**

(Mark one)

Far left

Liberal

Middle-of-the-road

Conservative

Far right

**15. How would you currently rate yourself in the following areas:**

(Mark one for each item)

[Response Choices: A Major Strength, Somewhat Strong, Average, Somewhat Weak, A Major Weakness]

Ability to see the world from someone else's perspective

Tolerance of others with different beliefs

Openness to having my own views challenged

Ability to discuss and negotiate controversial issues

Ability to work cooperatively with diverse people



**16. Since entering this college, how often have you:**

(Mark one for each item)

[Response Choices: Frequently, Occasionally, Not at all]

Attended a religious service

Been bored in class

Demonstrated for a cause (e.g., boycott, rally, protest)

Tutored another student

Studied with other students

Been a guest in a professor's home

Smoked cigarettes

Drank beer

Drank wine or liquor

Felt overwhelmed by all you had to do

Felt depressed

Performed volunteer work

Asked a professor for advice after class

Voted in a student election

Worked on a local, state, or national political campaign

Socialized with someone of another racial/ethnic group

Come late to class

Posted on a course-related on-line discussion board

Performed community service as part of class

Discussed religion

Discussed politics

Maintained a healthy diet

Had adequate sleep

Helped raise money for a cause or campaign

Publicly communicated your opinion about a cause (e.g., blog, email, petition)

**17. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements:**  
(Mark one for each item)

[Response Choices: Strongly Agree, Agree, Disagree, Strongly Disagree]

I have felt discriminated against at this institution because of my race/ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, or religious affiliation

I see myself as part of the campus community

Faculty showed concern about my progress

There is a lot of racial tension on this campus

I have been able to find a balance between academics and extracurricular activities

The admission/recruitment materials portrayed this campus accurately

Faculty empower me to learn here

If asked, I would recommend this college to others

At least one staff member has taken an interest in my development

I feel valued at this institution

Faculty believe in my potential to succeed academically

My college experiences have exposed me to diverse opinions, cultures, and values

Staff encouraged me to get involved in campus activities

In class, I have heard faculty express stereotypes based on race/ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, or religious affiliation

Staff recognize my achievements

Faculty encouraged me to meet with them outside of class

I am interested in seeking information about current social and political issues

I feel a sense of belonging to this campus

At least one faculty member has taken an interest in my development

I feel I am a member of this college

I have effectively led a group to a common purpose

It's important for me to be thinking about my career path after college

I have a clear idea of how to achieve my career goals

**18. Please rate your satisfaction with this institution on each of the aspects of college life listed below.**

(Mark one for each item)

[Response Choices: Very Satisfied, Satisfied, Neutral, Dissatisfied, Very Dissatisfied, Can't Rate/No Experience]

Amount of contact with faculty  
Racial/ethnic diversity of faculty  
Racial/ethnic diversity of student body  
Class size  
Interaction with other students  
Relevance of coursework to everyday life  
Relevance of coursework to future career plans  
Overall quality of instruction  
Respect for the expression of diverse beliefs  
Availability of campus social activities  
Your social life  
Overall sense of community among students  
Overall college experience

**19. What is your overall grade average (as of your most recently completed academic term)?**

(Mark one)

A or A+  
A-  
B+  
B  
B-  
C+  
C  
D  
I did not receive grades in my courses

**20. Think about your current abilities and tell us how strong or weak you believe you are in each of the following areas:**

(Mark one for each item)

[Response Choices: A Major Strength, Somewhat Strong, Average, Somewhat Weak, A Major Weakness]

General knowledge  
Knowledge of a particular field or discipline  
Knowledge of people from different races/cultures  
Understanding of the problems facing your community  
Understanding of national issues  
Understanding of global issues  
Ability to conduct research  
Ability to work as part of a team  
Critical thinking skills  
Problem-solving skills  
Foreign language ability

**21. Where did you primarily live while attending college this past year?**

(Mark one)

**On campus**

Special interest housing  
First-year student housing  
Cultural or minority student housing  
Single-sex housing  
Special academic program housing  
Other special interest housing  
Regular college housing  
Residence hall  
Apartment  
Fraternity or sorority housing  
Other residential housing

**Off Campus**

At home with family  
Fraternity or sorority  
Rented apartment or house  
Other

**22. Indicate the importance to you personally of each of the following:**

(Mark one for each item)

[Response Choices: Essential, Very Important, Somewhat Important, Not Important]

Becoming accomplished in one of the performing arts (acting, dancing, etc.)

Becoming an authority in my field

Obtaining recognition from my colleagues for contributions to my special field

Influencing the political structure

Influencing social values

Raising a family

Being very well off financially

Helping others who are in difficulty

Making a theoretical contribution to science

Writing original works (poems, novels, etc.)

Creating artistic works (painting, sculpture, etc.)

Becoming successful in a business of my own

Becoming involved in programs to clean up the environment

Developing a meaningful philosophy of life

Participating in a community action program

Helping to promote racial understanding

Keeping up to date with political affairs

Becoming a community leader

Improving my understanding of other countries and cultures

Adopting "green" practices to protect the environment

**23. To what extent have you experienced the following with students from a racial/ethnic group other than your own?**

(Mark one for each item)

[Response Choices: Very Often, Often, Sometimes, Seldom, Never]

Dined or shared a meal

Had meaningful and honest discussions about race/ethnic relations outside of class

Had guarded, cautious interactions

Shared personal feelings and problems

Had tense, somewhat hostile interactions

Had intellectual discussions outside of class

Felt insulted or threatened because of your race/ethnicity

Studied or prepared for class

Socialized or partied

**24. Since entering this college, how much time have you spent during a typical week doing the following activities?**

(Mark one for each item)

[Response Choices: Hours per week: None, Less than 1 hour, 1-2, 3-5, 6-10, 11-15, 16-20, Over 20]

Attending classes/labs

Studying/homework

Socializing with friends

Exercising or sports

Partying

Working (for pay) on campus

Working (for pay) off campus

Student clubs and groups

Watching TV

Household/childcare duties

Commuting

Online social networks (Facebook, Twitter, etc.)

**25. Since entering this college have you:**

(Mark Yes or No)

- Decided to pursue a different major
- Remained undecided about a major
- Changed your career choice
- Participated in student government
- Held a full-time job (approx. 40 hours) while taking classes
- Joined a social fraternity or sorority
- Played club, intramural, or recreational sports
- Played intercollegiate athletics (e.g., NCAA or NAIA-sponsored)
- Participated in student groups/clubs
- Sought personal counseling
- Strengthened your religious beliefs/convictions
- Failed one or more courses
- Participated in leadership training
- Taken an honors course
- Taken a remedial or developmental course
- Enrolled in a formal program where a group of students takes two or more courses together (e.g., FIG, learning community, linked courses)
- Participated in an academic support program
- Had a roommate of a different race/ethnicity
- Accumulated excessive credit card debt
- Taken a course or first-year seminar designed to:
  - Connect faculty and students in focused academic inquiry
  - Help students adjust to college-level academics
  - Help students adjust to college life
- Been a leader in an organization
- Communicated regularly with your professors
- Taken courses from more than one institution simultaneously
- Taken a course exclusively online:
  - At this institution
  - At a different institution
- Participated in an ethnic/racial student organization
- Joined a student-run political club

**26. Since entering this college, indicate how often you:**  
(Mark one for each item)

[Response Choices: Frequently, Occasionally, Not at all]

Turned in course assignment(s) late  
Contributed to class discussions  
Discussed course content with students outside of class  
Skipped class  
Received tutoring  
Worked on a professor's research project  
Turned in course assignments that did not reflect your best work  
Had difficulty getting along with your roommate(s)/housemate(s)  
Received from your professor advice or guidance about your educational program  
Witnessed academic dishonesty/cheating  
Went home for the weekend  
Received advice/counseling from another student  
Fell asleep in class  
Had difficulty getting the courses you need  
Instant messaged/texted during class  
Worked with classmates on group projects:  
    During class  
    Outside of class  
Accessed your campus' library resources electronically  
Made a presentation in class  
Applied concepts from courses to everyday life  
Used the institution's course catalog (paper or online)

**27. Think back over the past two weeks. How many times in the past two weeks, if any, have you had five or more alcoholic drinks in a row?** (A drink can be a 12-ounce beer, a 4-ounce glass of wine, or a shot of liquor either straight or in a mixed drink.)

None  
Once  
Twice  
3-5 times  
6-9 times  
10 or more times

**28. Are you currently registered to vote?**

Ineligible  
Yes  
No



**29. If you could make your college choice over, would you still choose to enroll at your current (or most recent) college?**

(Mark one)

Definitely yes

Probably yes

Probably not

Definitely not

Not sure yet

**30. What do you think you will be doing in Fall 2014?**

(Mark one)

Attending your current (or most recent) institution

Attending another institution

Don't know/have not decided yet

Not attending any institution

**31. Did you transfer into this institution from another college/university?**

Yes

No

**32. Is English your native language?**

Yes

No

**The remaining ovals are provided for additional questions that may be supplied by your institution.**

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**Thank You!**