

The Parents Survey

This survey is being sent to parents by 22 college and universities. It is part of an extensive effort to serve both parents and students more effectively. A high response from each institution's parents will help us identify both problem areas and model programs. Thank you very much for your assistance in these efforts.

Either parent may fill out the questionnaire. Please answer the questions about "your child's college/university" in reference to the liberal arts college or the university that sent you this questionnaire. If you have more than one child at this college/university, please answer questions about "your child" in reference to the oldest daughter or son who is enrolled there.



THE PARENTS SURVEY

MARKING DIRECTIONS

- Use a No. 2 pencil.
- Fill in the circle completely.
- Erase cleanly any marks you wish to change.
- Do not make any stray marks on this form.

CORRECT MARK



INCORRECT MARKS



1. How have you obtained information about your child's college/university this year that has been of value to you?
Mark all that apply.

Publications

- Parents' handbook
- Parents' newsletter
- Student newspaper
- Alumni magazine
- Other college publication(s)

Visits to college/meetings

- Parents' Weekend visit
- Other visit(s) to the campus
- Off-campus college-sponsored events

From your child

- Phone calls
- E-mail
- Letters
- Visit(s) home

From other people

- Other student(s) at the college
- Other parent(s)
- Alumni of the college
- Letter(s) from college personnel
- Conversation(s) with college personnel

Other

- The college's home page on the Internet
- Parents' fund solicitors
- Media/press
- Other (specify) _____

2. How would you rate the information that your child's college/university provides to parents about:

- Don't know
- Excellent
- Very good
- Good
- Fair
- Poor

- Academic life and policies
- Social life and policies.....
- Residential life and policies
- Religious life
- What graduates do after college
- Student support services
- Athletic opportunities
- Student organizations
- Off-campus programs
- Financing (installments, pre-pay, etc.) ...
- Financial aid
- Why college costs what it does
- Other

Please make suggestions here for improving the provision of information to parents about your child's college/university:

3. How well does your child's college/university deal with the following?

- Don't know
- Very well
- Well
- Neither poorly nor well
- Poorly
- Very poorly

- Parents' general concerns about sending a child to college.....
- Specific college-related problems parents encounter

4. Have you attended a Parents' Weekend at your child's college/university?
 No
 Yes → If yes, how would you rate the following aspects?

Excellent
 Very good
 Good
 Fair
 Poor

Organization
 Content (activities, events)

Please make any suggestions for improvements in parents' weekends:

5. Please answer the following if your child is a first year student - otherwise skip to Q. 6. How would you rate your child's college/university in the following areas?

Don't know
 Excellent
 Very good
 Good
 Fair
 Poor

The admissions process
 Communications between admission and fall enrollment
 Arrival/orientation activities for parents ...

6. Have you had any personal interactions with the following offices or individuals at your child's college/university since he or she enrolled? If you have had contact, how would you rate your most recent experience?

	<u>Interaction</u>		<u>Experience</u>				
	No	Yes	Very negative	Negative	Neither negative nor positive	Positive	Very positive
Academic							
Admissions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
An academic/faculty advisor	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other faculty	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Academic administration (Dean, Provost)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Student services							
Housing office	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Staff in residence halls	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Student affairs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Student health	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Psychological counseling	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Minority affairs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Financial aid	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Public safety	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Athletic program (coaches, staff)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Religious life	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other offices/areas							
Registrar	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Billing/bursar's office	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Alumni affairs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Parents' association	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fundraising/development	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other (specify)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

7. On a visit to your child's campus, how interested would you be in the following presentations and activities?

Very interested
Interested
Slightly interested
Not interested

Presentations on:

- The undergraduate curriculum
- Extra-curricular activities
- Campus social life
- Campus religious activities
- Student financial aid
- Student career advising
- Student academic advising
- Student health services
- Off-campus programs
- Research by faculty
- Why college costs what it does
- Other (specify) _____

Activities:

- Student musical or drama performance
- Classes with your child
- Sports event
- Reception with other parents or students
- Library tour
- Other (specify) _____

8. How likely is it that you would attend one of the following events sponsored by your child's college/university if it were in your local area?

Very likely
Likely
Possibly
Would not

- Discussion with a college representative
- Student musical or drama performance
- Faculty lecture
- Sports event
- Social gathering with local alumni/ae
- Social gathering with other parents and students
- Fundraising event
- Other (specify) _____

9. How satisfied are you with your child's college/university?

- Very dissatisfied
- Generally dissatisfied
- Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
- Generally satisfied
- Very satisfied

10. Would you encourage a student who is similar to your child to attend your child's college/university?

- Definitely would NOT
- Probably would NOT
- Maybe
- Probably would
- Definitely would

11. How has paying for your child to attend college affected your family?

- Extreme sacrifice
- Great sacrifice
- Moderate sacrifice
- Slight sacrifice
- No sacrifice

12. In the list below, please mark all sources of funds that have been used to pay at least 10 percent of this year's charges for your child to attend the college/university that sent you this questionnaire.

Parent's funds (incl. step-parents)

- A. Current parental income
- B. Parents' savings/assets
- C. Home equity loan
- D. Other loans to parent
- E. Employer benefits

Student's funds

- F. Student income
- G. Student's savings
- H. Scholarship/grants from college
- I. Other scholarship/grant funds
- L. Student loans

Other funds

- M. Contributions from other relatives (grandparents, etc.)
- N. Other (trust, etc.), specify _____

If ONE source listed in Question 12 has provided significantly more funds than any other, please mark it here (mark only ONE source):

(A B C D E F G H I L M N)

13. Do you expect your child to obtain a degree beyond the bachelor's, either at this college/university or another?

- No
- Yes → If yes, what is it most likely to be?
 - Arts and Sciences Graduate degree → Master's
 - Ph.D.
 - Professional degree → Business Medical
 - Engineering Other
 - Law
 - Specific degree not known

13. (Continued)

Which of the following sources of funds do you expect will contribute significantly to paying for an advanced degree?

Mark all that apply.

- Parental income/savings
- Loans to parents
- Child's income/savings
- Fellowships/scholarships
- Loans to child
- Contributions from other relatives (incl. trusts)
- Other (specify)

14. Please rate your child's college/university in each of the following areas:

	Don't know	Excellent	Very good	Good	Fair	Poor
Academic						
Quality of teaching	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Students' access to faculty	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Academic qualifications of students ..	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Emphasis on undergraduate education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Services/facilities						
Undergraduate advising	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dining services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Residential facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Computing and technology for students	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Library resources and services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Access to religious services and activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Career counseling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Job placement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Opportunities for						
Recreational athletic activity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Artistic and cultural involvement on campus	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Involvement in volunteer service activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Interaction with students from different racial/ethnic backgrounds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Interaction with students from different countries	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Developing leadership and other life skills	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Internships	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Off-campus study	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other						
Intellectual atmosphere outside classroom	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Social environment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Attention given to intercollegiate athletics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

15. What has most pleased you about your child's college/university?

16. What has most disappointed you about your child's college/university?

17. What terms would you use to describe your impression of the city or town in which your child attends college?

Reminder: in the following questions *this child* refers to the oldest, or only, daughter or son who is enrolled at the college or university that sent you this questionnaire.

18. How much have you been concerned this year about the following things in the life of this son or daughter?

Very much
Quite a bit
Moderately
Somewhat
Not at all

A. Your child's development:

- 1. Intellectual
- 2. Social/interpersonal
- 3. Religious/moral
- 4. Political

B. Your child's behavior:

- 5. Eating habits
- 6. Use of alcohol
- 7. Use of illegal drugs
- 8. Sexual activity
- 9. Study habits

C. Child's future:

- 10. Admission to graduate/professional school
- 11. Child's career choice
- 12. Getting a job after college
- 13. Repaying student loans

D. College environment:

- 14. Academic stress/pressure
- 15. Social stress/pressures
- 16. Relations with roommate
- 17. Behavior in child's residence
- 18. Use of alcohol by other students
- 19. Safety in campus neighborhood

E. Other: (specify)

Referring to the list above, please use the following answer bubbles to mark any areas in which the college/university seems especially well prepared to help students.

- A. Development B. Behavior C. Future
- D. Environment E. Other

Please mark any areas in which you believe the college/university needs to improve its capacity to help students.

- A. Development B. Behavior C. Future
- D. Environment E. Other

19. Is *this child* your:

- Oldest or only child
- Youngest
- In-between

20. What is *this child's* year in college:

- First year
- Second year
- Third year
- Fourth year
- Fifth year

21. Where does *this child* live this academic term:

- Residence hall
- Fraternity/sorority
- Other college housing
- With parents
- Other private housing
- Foreign study or other off-campus program

22. In which of the following areas is *this child* majoring?

Mark all that apply.

- Arts/humanities
- Business
- Engineering
- Natural sciences
- Social sciences
- Other
- No major declared
- Don't know

23. Sex:

- | | You | This child |
|--------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Male | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Female | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

24. Your relation to *this child*:

- Parent
- Step-parent
- Other

25. Racial/ethnic background (*Mark all that apply*)

- | | You | This child |
|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Asian | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Black | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Hispanic | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Native American | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| White | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Other | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

26. Your educational level. Mark the highest degree you have completed.

- High school diploma or less
- Bachelor's degree
- Arts and Science Graduate degree → Master's
- Ph.D.
- Professional degree → Business
- Engineering
- Law
- Medical
- Other

27. Has a parent or other close relative of this child attended either the college/university that sent you this questionnaire or another private college or university?

- | | Parent | Other close relative | No one |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| This college | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Another private college | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

28. In what zip code do you live? Please write the number and darken the corresponding circles.

Write the number here →

0	0	0	0	0
1	1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2	2
3	3	3	3	3
4	4	4	4	4
5	5	5	5	5
6	6	6	6	6
7	7	7	7	7
8	8	8	8	8
9	9	9	9	9

Darken corresponding circles →

If the college that sent you this questionnaire has included some supplemental questions, please answer them in the following spaces.

29. A B C D E F
30. A B C D E F
31. A B C D E F
32. A B C D E F
33. A B C D E F
34. A B C D E F
35. A B C D E F
36. A B C D E F
37. A B C D E F
38. A B C D E F
39. A B C D E F
40. A B C D E F
41. A B C D E F
42. A B C D E F
43. A B C D E F
44. A B C D E F
45. A B C D E F
46. A B C D E F
47. A B C D E F
48. A B C D E F

Thank you very much for your assistance with this inquiry. Please use the back page to make additional comments about this questionnaire, your child's college/university, higher education in general, or being a parent of a college student.