



2025
NSSE

National Survey of
Student Engagement



Invitation to **Participate**

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Undergraduate Learning



“NSSE should be a key instrument for every college and university that wants to improve its undergraduate education. The NSSE indicators are sound surrogates for learning and signposts of good practice.”

—Thomas Ehrlich,
Senior Scholar, The
Carnegie Foundation
for the Advancement
of Teaching

Your Invitation to Participate in NSSE 2005

We invite you to participate in the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) 2005. Now in its sixth year, the NSSE (pronounced “nessie”) has been used by more than 850 colleges and universities across the country. The results of the survey yield important information about the quality of undergraduate learning on your campus and contribute to national benchmarks of effective educational practice.

The NSSE instrument, *The College Student Report*, is short, reliable and easy for students to complete. The survey asks undergraduates about how they spend their time, what they feel they have gained from classes, their assessment of the quality of their interactions with faculty and students, and other educationally important activities.



What is NSSE?

- An alternative view of collegiate quality that focuses on learning.
- A versatile research-based tool that provides usable information for institutional improvement.
- Reliable, credible information about the quality of the undergraduate experience that can be used by prospective students, accreditors and others.
- An annual assessment of how colleges are engaging in five areas of effective teaching and learning activities.

National Benchmarks of Effective Educational Practice
NSSE results fall into five key clusters of activities that research studies show are linked to desired outcomes of college.

Level of Academic Challenge

Active and Collaborative Learning

Student-Faculty Interaction

Enriching Educational Experiences

Supportive Campus Environment

NSSE Survey Administration

- The survey is administered each spring to random samples of first-year and senior students at four-year colleges and universities. Two-year colleges may use the Community College Survey of Student Engagement (www.ccsse.org).
- The survey questions can be answered via a paper questionnaire or on the Web.
- Institutions provide a student data file and customized invitation letters to NSSE. All aspects of survey administration are handled by NSSE (drawing random samples, mailing surveys, follow-up with non-respondents, data collection and analysis).



“NSSE is one of the most powerful tools available to stimulate and guide intellectually powerful and credible conversations to focus on what needs to be changed and how.”

—John Gardner,
Executive Director,
Policy Center on the
First Year of College

“NSSE, because it’s quite efficient, quite elegantly simple, gets at key issues and allows a campus to look at itself in total.”

—Daryl Smith,
Professor, Claremont
Graduate University

Getting Your Results

NSSE schools receive a detailed analysis that includes:

- Institutional report – Individual student responses can be linked to other institutional data; customized reports of how first-year students and seniors respond to all survey items; statistical comparisons against a peer group and the national norms; and examples of how colleges and universities are using their engagement data.
- Annual report – An in-depth discussion of national benchmarks of effective educational practice and institutional improvement initiatives.
- Benchmark report – A comparison of your institution to national benchmarks.
- Institutional engagement index – A comparison of actual benchmark results to predicted results produced by regression models
- PowerPoint presentation – A customizable presentation template to use in reporting NSSE results.
- Information Video – A short video that outlines the importance of student engagement, provides information on how the survey is administered, and includes examples of putting NSSE data to use.

Using NSSE Data

NSSE provides campuses with information that they can use almost immediately to improve various aspects of their performance and help students get the most out of their college experience. In doing so, NSSE is changing the conversation about what constitutes collegiate quality. Schools are using their survey results in many ways, including:

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|------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| ■ Assessment and improvement | ■ Accreditation and self-studies | ■ Recruitment |
| ■ Benchmarking | ■ Retention | ■ Faculty development |
| ■ Accountability | ■ Curricular reform | ■ State system comparisons |
| ■ Institutional research | ■ Alumni outreach | |
| | ■ Grant writing | |



NSSE Institute for Effective Educational Practice

The NSSE Institute for Effective Educational Practice works with institutions and other organizations to collect and disseminate research on promising practices and to use data for institutional improvement and student success initiatives.

Institute associates provide information and consultations in person or via telephone to help interpret and apply student engagement and related information. In addition, the Institute conducts workshops and retreats and assists campuses with other institutional improvement initiatives including:

- Using NSSE and related data for accreditation and self studies.
- Adapting promising educational practices for your campus.
- Conducting campus audits focused on improvement.
- Evaluating curricular innovations and student success initiatives.
- Working with institutional consortia and other organizations to improve educational practice.

Please contact us to discuss how the NSSE Institute can be helpful to you.

“Without persuasive evidence of the patterns of student engagement, administrators and faculty remain blind to important aspects of the undergraduate experience.”

—Lee S. Shulman,
President,
The Carnegie
Foundation for
the Advancement
of Teaching



“We are engaged in a reform of general education and NSSE measures are informing our discussions and proposals. I personally find NSSE very helpful as we seek to create an undergraduate environment where students are more actively engaged in the learning process.”

—Loren Crabtree,
Chancellor, University
of Tennessee-Knoxville

NSSE 2005 Registration

- Please register for NSSE 2005 online at www.iub.edu/~nsse.
- Register early as space is limited. The deadline for registration is September 20, 2004.
- To register, you need to:
 - Provide information about your primary and secondary institutional contact (address, e-mail, phone, fax).
 - Select your mode of survey administration and corresponding sample size.
 - Indicate if you want to oversample or participate in a consortium or state system.
 - Electronically sign the NSSE 2005 Institutional Participant Agreement.

NSSE 2005 Institutional Participant Agreement

By registering and participating in NSSE 2005, your institution agrees to the following:

- NSSE staff will use the data in the aggregate for national and sector reporting purposes and other undergraduate improvement initiatives. NSSE may also make data in which individual institutions cannot be separately identified available to researchers interested in studying the undergraduate experience.
- Your institution can use your own NSSE data for institutional purposes.
- NSSE results specific to each institution and identified as such will not be made public except by mutual agreement between the NSSE and the institution.



Costs

Required

Institutional participation fee \$300 (*non-refundable*)

Survey administration mode

- **Paper.** Students receive paper copies of the survey with the option of completing a Web version. This mode requires an accurate list of student mailing addresses.
- **Web+.** Students receive their first three contacts by e-mail. For the fourth contact a sample of non-respondents will receive a paper version of the survey while the rest of the non-respondents will continue to receive e-mail. This mode requires an accurate list of both student e-mail and student mailing addresses.
- **Web-only.** Students receive all correspondence by e-mail and complete the Web version of the survey. This mode requires an accurate list of student e-mail addresses.

Sampling fee (*required*)

Undergraduate Enrollment	Sample Size: Paper / Web+ / Web-only	Fee
Less than 4,000	450 / 1,350 / All First-years & Seniors . . .	\$3,375
4,000 to 15,000	700 / 2,100 / 2,800	\$5,250
More than 15,000	1,000 / 3,000 / 4,000	\$7,500

Small School Sampling Fee

The fee structure below is for small schools that have less than 400 students in their combined first-year and senior classes. The fee applies for paper, Web-only or Web+ administration and includes surveying all first-year and senior students.

Combined First-year and Senior Enrollment	Fee
Less than 200	\$1,500
201 to 300	\$2,250
301 to 400	\$3,000

Optional

Oversampling fee

(*Highly recommended if your institution is interested in school or department level analysis.*)

Mode	Fee (<i>per student</i>)
Paper (NSSE administrators)	\$7.50
Web-only (NSSE administrators)	\$1.50
Local (Institution administrators)	\$2.00

Consortium and State or University Systems

A consortium is a group of six or more participating NSSE colleges or universities sharing comparative, aggregated data within their group. State or university systems may also elect this option. Consortium schools may ask up to 20 additional questions developed and agreed upon by member institutions.

Undergraduate Enrollment	Fee (<i>per institution</i>)
Less than 4,000	\$200
4,000 to 15,000	\$350
More than 15,000	\$500

Additional NSSE Services

In addition to its undergraduate survey, NSSE and its Institute for Effective Educational Practice offer a number of services to assist schools in maximizing their results.

These include:

- Peer comparisons and special analyses
- Faculty Survey of Student Engagement
- Law School Survey of Student Engagement
- NSSE technical and norms report
- Workshops, consultations and retreats
- NSSE informational videos and college pocket guides

Please visit our Web site or contact NSSE for more information on these additional services and other NSSE quality-improvement initiatives.



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