

BCSSE Quick Facts:

- Administered via paper or Web by institutions to their entering first-year college students.
- Administered during new student orientation or the first two weeks of the fall term, depending on academic calendar and assessment needs.
- Results, including data file, are delivered to institutions after BCSSE surveys have been returned and tabulated. Institutions participating in both BCSSE 2009 and NSSE 2010 will receive a BCSSE-NSSE *Combined Report* and a combined BCSSE-NSSE data file with their NSSE *Institutional Report* the following August.
- Registration opens March 2, 2009.
Early registration ends June 5, 2009.



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2009 Invitation to Participate

"BCSSE and NSSE results have helped guide our thinking and planning over the past two years as the campus engaged in a broad-based strategic planning process."

— Marianne Kennedy, Associate VP for Assessment,
Planning and Academic Programs,
Southern Connecticut State University

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A project of the National Survey of
Student Engagement



What Is BCSSE?

The Beginning College Survey of Student Engagement collects data about entering college students' high school academic and co-curricular experiences, as well as their expectations for participating in educationally purposeful activities during the first college year. BCSSE administration usually takes place prior to the start of fall classes and is designed to be paired with a NSSE administration at the end of the first college year, providing an in-depth understanding of first-year student engagement on your campus.

How Is the BCSSE Survey Administered?

BCSSE is locally administered in both paper and Web-based formats. Institutions may administer BCSSE as part of new student orientation programs in the summer or during the first two weeks of the fall term, depending on academic calendar and assessment needs.

Why Participate in BCSSE?

BCSSE data can aid the design of pre-college orientation programs, student service initiatives, and other programmatic efforts aimed at improving student learning during the first year of college. BCSSE results, especially when linked with NSSE data, can be used to shape initiatives that align the first-year experience with recognized effective educational practices.

BCSSE results may be used in many ways, including:

- Recruitment
- Retention
- First-Year Program Evaluation
- Faculty and Staff Development
- Academic Advising
- Accreditation and Self-Studies

What Will a Participating Institution Receive?

Within six weeks of receiving completed surveys (Web survey closed and/or paper surveys returned to BCSSE) and payment, institutions will receive detailed analyses and information, including:

- An electronic report containing summary data results.
- A template to produce individual student advising reports.
- A BCSSE data file (SPSS format).
- A codebook that describes the information in the data file.

Institutions participating in both BCSSE 2009 and NSSE 2010* will receive a BCSSE-NSSE *Combined Report* and a combined BCSSE-NSSE data file with their NSSE *Institutional Report* the following August. Examples of BCSSE and the BCSSE-NSSE *Combined Report* can be found at: www.bcsse.iub.edu. To find out more about NSSE, go to: www.nsse.iub.edu.

*The \$300 NSSE 2010 Participation Fee will be waived for all BCSSE 2009 participating institutions.

What Does It Cost?

There are three methods for administering BCSSE surveys: paper, Web, or mixed. Institutions should consider these options carefully and choose the option that will maximize their completion rate.

Paper Administration

1. Participation fee: \$300 if registered by June 5, 2009 (after June 5, 2009: \$400)
2. Fee per survey shipped: \$2.50

Web

1. Participation fee: \$300 if registered by June 5, 2009 (after June 5, 2009: \$400)
2. Web fees are based on the institution's estimated first-year enrollment:
 - \$1.00/student for first 500 students enrolled
 - \$0.90/student for next 1,000 students enrolled beyond 500
 - \$0.80/student for next 1,500 students enrolled beyond 1,500
 - \$0.70/student for number of students enrolled beyond 3,000

Mixed (Paper and Web)

1. Participation fee: \$300 if registered by June 5, 2009 (after June 5, 2009: \$400)
2. Paper fee per survey shipped: \$2.50
3. Web fees will be as above, based on first-year enrollment minus paper surveys shipped.

Examples of Participation Costs	First-Year Enrollment	Paper Surveys Shipped	Total Cost*
<i>Institution A</i> (Paper only)	N/A	1,200	\$3,300
<i>Institution B</i> (Web only)	800	N/A	\$1,070
<i>Institution C</i> (Mixed)	2,000	500	\$2,950

* Add \$100 for registrations after June 5

How Do I Register for BCSSE 2009?

Register for BCSSE 2009 at www.bcsse.iub.edu. Registration begins March 2, 2009. Please register during the early registration period to assure we can deliver your reports in a timely manner.