SENSE 2011 Colleges Can Benefit from Special Study and Discounts

There are now two more great reasons for community and technical colleges to administer the Survey of Entering Student Engagement (SENSE): free additional special-focus survey items and a new discount program.

Special Focus on Promising Practices

For an additional fee, colleges that administer SENSE always have the option of electing and/or creating up to two sets of additional survey items (up to 12 items each) that focus on topics pertinent to entering student success. The newest standard SENSE Special-Focus Module, Promising Practices for Community College Student Success, will be offered free of charge to colleges that participate in the SENSE 2011 administration.

This module is part of a special study being conducted by the Center and was adapted from the item sets that will be administered at participating colleges in conjunction with the spring 2011 administration of the Center’s Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE) and the Community College Faculty Survey of Student Engagement (CCFSSE).

Through the study, the Center intends to build on emerging knowledge about “promising practices” in promoting student success in community colleges – knowledge built through the efforts of the Community College Research Center, Achieving the Dream, other foundation- and federally-funded projects, and the Center’s own work, including both the quantitative surveys and many student focus groups conducted since 2003.

The Center’s record is one of producing data that are credible, useful, and actionable. Once the data analysis work for this study is complete, the next steps will be publication of a national report on high-impact practices.

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and development/facilitation of a new version of the Center’s trademark Student Success Institutes – this one focused on using institutional and survey data to strengthen implementation of high-impact practices in participating colleges. Findings from the special study will also be incorporated in statewide workshops, national conferences, and other Center-sponsored activities.

Another new SENSE module option
Research tells us that the more connected students feel to their instructors, their peers, and the college itself, the more likely they are to persist. Helping students build these relationships is especially important during the earliest weeks of their first academic term. New to the fall 2011 SENSE administration, the Building Relationships Special-Focus Module provides colleges the opportunity to dig more deeply into their findings from the core survey, particularly the Early Connections SENSE benchmark.

More Ways to Save on SENSE 2011
More colleges are turning to SENSE to better understand students’ critical early experiences and improve institutional practices that affect student success in the first college year. Now gearing up for its third SENSE national administration, the Center is making it more economical for colleges to commit to student success. For colleges that have never participated in CCSSE and SENSE, the Center is offering a one-time 25% discount off the base fee for the first survey administration.

All colleges are still eligible for the Center’s regular joint-participation discount program: commit to join both CCSSE and SENSE in either the same academic year or in the same calendar year and receive a 20% discount for both CCSSE and SENSE administrations.

Colleges are only eligible for one discount; the discount of the highest value applies.