Student FAQs

1. What is SENSE?

SENSE is the Survey of Entering Student Engagement. The survey is taken by thousands of students across the nation each year, and is designed to help colleges learn more about students' earliest college experiences. The survey is an initiative of the CCCSE, which is part of the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy at the University of Texas at Austin. For more information about *SENSE*, visit http://www.ccsse.org/sense/.

2. Why are you surveying me?

College presidents and other administrators make the decision for their colleges to participate in *SENSE*. For the online administration, all students enrolled in entry-level courses are invited to participate. For the in-class administration, classes at each college are chosen for surveying through a random sampling process.

3. What if I have already participated?

If you have already completed the survey, you should not take it again. As classes for the in-class administration are randomly selected for *SENSE*, it is possible that you may be in more than one course selected for the survey. However, we ask that you remain in the classroom during the time of administration.

4. Will my college see my responses?

The college will receive a data file containing all of the information provided by student survey respondents. However, there is no intention to examine individual responses. The survey requests student ID numbers or an access code to enable the college to link its *SENSE* data to other institutional research initiatives.

5. How will the survey results be used?

Results may be shared with faculty, staff, administrators, and student leaders to inform future planning and improvement initiatives. The information may also be used in reports to external authorities such as community college boards, accrediting agencies, and the general public.

6. Are you surveying students from other colleges?

Yes, colleges from all over the country participate in this survey. All participating colleges are listed at http://www.ccsse.org/sense/aboutSENSE/colleges.cfm.

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7. When will the survey results be released?

The results will be released in March following the fall survey administration.

8. What if I feel uncomfortable answering a specific item?

Please feel free to skip any item you are not comfortable answering.

9. What if I'm taking all my classes online?

SENSE asks about your early experiences with the college. You may skip any items that do not pertain to you.

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