Beginning College Survey of Student Engagement
Frequently Asked Questions and Instructions for RAs

What

The Beginning College Survey of Student Engagement (BCSSE) is a national study of entering first-year college students’ high school experiences and their expectations for engagement in educational practices during their first year of college. Each fall, thousands of new freshmen complete the BCSSE across the United States.

The survey is conducted by the Center for Survey Research at Indiana University-Bloomington. The BCSSE is designed to be paired with an administration of the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) at the end of the first college year to provide an in-depth understanding of first-year student engagement.

Why

As part of the accreditation process for the university, we are required to participate in a national study. This particular survey was selected because Texas State University can use the information to identify areas in which additional institutional effort is needed to improve the college experience for undergraduate students.

How

Freshman will receive an email message sent to their Texas State email address after 5:00 p.m. on Monday, August 18 – after the last hall floor meetings end. The email message will contain details about the survey and include a link to the survey for the students to click.

Freshmen will be asked to provide their Texas State ID number at the beginning of the survey.

When

The survey will be open for response from August 18 until August 29.

Your responsibility

1. You must read the script at your floor meeting on Monday, August 18.
2. After the hall meeting, post the reminder flyer on your floor.

Incentive

Freshmen who complete the survey have a chance to win 1 of 100 coupons to the University Bookstore, each worth $50. 10 names will be drawn at the end of each day while the survey is open for response.

Questions?

Contact Susan Thompson in the Office of Institutional Research at susan@txstate.edu or 512-245-2386.
Script for Announcing Freshman Survey
at Hall Meetings on August 18, 2014

Please read the following statement to your students:

“Early this evening, you will receive an email message from the Institutional Research office here at Texas State University, and it will be sent to your Texas State email address.

The message will ask you to take part in the Beginning College Student Survey of Engagement. This is a very important survey that will be completed by thousands of new freshmen at colleges and universities all across the United States as they begin their classes this fall. Information from the freshman survey is used by Texas State faculty and administrators and by other higher education leaders to improve the college experiences of undergraduate students. Your participation in the survey is voluntary.

The survey will take about 20 minutes to complete. Texas State freshmen who complete the survey will be entered into a drawing to win a $50 coupon to the University Bookstore. One hundred students will be chosen to receive a coupon!

You will need to enter your Texas State ID number before starting the survey, so be sure to have your ID card with you for reference.

The earlier you complete the survey, the better your chances are to win a Bookstore coupon. The first drawing for 10 winners will be made tomorrow morning, so check your email this evening and complete your survey!”
We Are Listening

Beginning College Survey of Student Engagement

Submit by Friday, August 29th

10 University Bookstore Coupons valued at $50.00 each will be drawn daily from those students completing the survey. Look for the survey invitation in your Texas State email and complete the survey today for the best chance to win!