

University of California, Los Angeles
2010 COOPERATIVE INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH PROGRAM (CIRP) FRESHMAN SURVEY INFORMATION SHEET

PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

You are asked to complete this survey as part of a national study conducted by the Higher Education Research Institute (HERI) at the University of California, Los Angeles. This study is designed to determine what happens to students when they attend college. Since 1965, over 15 million students at over 1,900 colleges and universities have participated in this research. The data gathered are used in studies designed to better understand student learning and development and to help improve the quality of college education. Your participation in this research study (or decision not to participate) will not affect your relationship with your college nor your grades.

PROCEDURES

If you volunteer to participate in this study, we would ask you to complete the attached survey and return it to the designated person at your campus (if you complete a paper form) or submit it via the Internet (if you complete an on-line form). Most respondents can complete this questionnaire in about 25 minutes, although individual progress will vary by how quickly you move through the questions.

If you volunteer to complete this survey, you may decide not to complete the survey for any reason at any time without consequence of any kind. The Higher Education Research Institute does not offer payment for participation. Your completion and return of the enclosed questionnaire indicate your consent to participate in the study.

POTENTIAL BENEFITS TO SUBJECTS AND/OR SOCIETY

You may have the opportunity to reflect on your prior academic experiences and your expectations for college as you complete the survey, which may enhance self-understanding. Your responses to the survey also will be directly beneficial to your college or university, and may benefit future generations of college students as well.

POTENTIAL RISKS AND DISCOMFORTS

There could be survey items that you are uncomfortable answering or to which you would simply prefer not to respond. Your participation in this study is strictly voluntary, and you will be under no obligation whatsoever to answer any questions that you are not inclined to answer. You may choose not to answer any specific questions you do not want to answer and still remain in the study.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Please note that your responses will be used for research purposes only and will be strictly confidential. Any information that is obtained in connection with this study and that can be identified with you will remain confidential. All your confidential responses in the questionnaire will be returned to your institution for local statistical analysis, except that we will not include your name, address, or phone number in that information. Further, before receiving student information your institution is required to certify that the data will only be used for research purposes and will not be used to investigate specific individuals. Your student ID # on the form will be returned to your institution in order to facilitate institutional assessment, but again, your institution has pledged not to examine individual responses.

IDENTIFICATION OF INVESTIGATORS

If you have any questions or concerns about the research, please contact the Managing Director of HERI, John H. Pryor at this address:

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Los Angeles, CA 90095-1521
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RIGHTS OF RESEARCH SUBJECTS

You may withdraw your consent at any time and discontinue participation without penalty. You are not waiving any legal claims, rights or remedies because of your participation in this research study. If you have questions regarding your rights as a research subject, contact the UCLA Office for Protection of Research Subjects, 11000 Kinross Avenue, Suite 102, Box 951694, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1694, (310) 825-7122.

