



## Student Persisting in Engineering Survey

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please **PRINT** your first and last name.)

Student Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ (e.g. Penn State)

Your major as of today (Check one):

- |                          |                          |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Gender:

- Male  
 Female

Ethnicity / Citizenship: (Check a maximum of two)

- Black / African American  
 American Indian/Alaskan Native  
 Asian & Pacific American  
 Latina/Latino/Hispanic American  
 White American  
 Foreign National on student visa  
 Foreign National/U.S. Resident (green card)  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

As of today, I am a: (Choose one)

- First-year Student  
 Second-year Student  
 Third-year Student  
 Fourth-year Student  
 Fifth-year Student and above

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Today's date \_\_\_\_\_

1. Where were you immediately before your first semester/term at this institution? (Check one)
- High school                       2-year college                       Vocational /technical school
- 4-year college                       Military                       Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- Working a full-time job

1a. If you checked 2-year college or 4-year college, tell us the name of institution:

\_\_\_\_\_

2. What was your cumulative college GPA at the end of the most recent academic semester/term?  
Cumulative GPA: \_\_\_\_\_ on a system where the maximum GPA is \_\_\_\_\_

3. When did you first enroll in our college/school of engineering (month / year)? \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

4. Why did you initially decide to major in engineering? (Check all that apply)
- Attracted by the challenge of a difficult curriculum                       Parents, other relatives or friend is an engineer
- Good at math or science                       Parents, siblings or other relatives recommended it
- High school adviser or teacher recommended it                       Received or anticipated possibility of good college scholarship
- Like to solve problems                       Wanted to be able to get a well-paying job after I graduate
- Like the design work that engineers do                       Wanted to use engineering solutions to address social problems
- Participated in engineering camp or workshop that influenced me                       Not Sure
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Using the table below, check **Yes** or **No** to indicate if you completed any of these **honors** or **advanced courses** you completed during high school.

	Honors/Advanced?	
	Yes	No
Algebra		
Biology		
Computer science		
Pre-calculus		
Calculus		
Chemistry		
English		
Geometry		
History		
Physics		
Trigonometry		

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6. Do you feel your high school coursework adequately prepared you to be successful in an engineering curriculum?  Yes  No

Please explain your response:

7. When you began your engineering degree, how confident were you that you would complete it? (Check one)

- Not very confident; I was already unsure of my plan to study engineering  
 I felt there was about a 50% chance that I would complete a degree in engineering  
 I was fairly confident that I would complete a degree in engineering  
 I was very confident that I would complete a degree in engineering  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

8. At the present time, how confident are you that you will complete a degree (in any major) at this institution? (Check one)

- Not very confident; it is highly likely I will not complete an engineering degree at this institution  
 There is about a 50% chance that I will complete an engineering degree at this institution  
 I am fairly confident (greater than 50%) that I will complete an engineering degree at this institution  
 I am very confident that I will complete an engineering degree at this institution  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

9. My plans for the future are to: (Check all that apply):

- Work in industry  
 Work in government lab or agency  
 Go on to graduate school  
 Go on to professional school (e.g. medicine, law)  
 Teach at the college or university level  
 Teach in K-12 schools  
 Participate in a business start up or start my own business  
 Enter (or re-enter) the military  
 Undecided  
 Other: Please specify \_\_\_\_\_

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10. The following is a list of engineering activities (co-curricular and academic). For each activity indicate your level of involvement during the most recent academic year (e.g. August to May).

	Not Involved	1-2 time/year	3-5 times/year	More than 5 times/year
a. An engineering society (e.g. American Society of Mechanical Engineers)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. An engineering fraternity or sorority	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. A professional or student group for women or minority engineers (e.g. SWE, NSBE,)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Minority / Multicultural Engineering Program sponsored activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Women in Engineering Program or Women in Science and Engineering sponsored activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Activities (social or academic) sponsored by your department or major	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. Design competition teams	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. Undergraduate research experiences	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i. Co-op or Professional Internship position	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

11. The following is a list of academic and/or academic preparation activities. Check all the activities in which you engaged during the last academic year (e.g. August to May).

- Attended engineering orientation prior to beginning classes
- Attended summer program designed to prepare me to begin the engineering curriculum
- Attended review sessions before exams
- Called or emailed parents or others close friends about difficulties I was experiencing in classes or school
- Got advice from a mentor in a formal mentoring program
- Lived in honors or other non-engineering special interest dorm
- Participated in engineering-focused living arrangement (e.g. dorm, engineering fraternity)
- Participated in formal or informal study groups
- Received tutoring for courses where I was experiencing difficulty
- Scheduled an appointment with a professor and / or graduate assistant outside of his or her office hours
- Sought help from other engineering students when I experienced difficulties in classes
- Visited a professor and / or graduate assistant in her or his office hours
- Visited or emailed an adviser or advising center
- Visited the Career Center or Co-op Office to seek assistance with job search (e.g. permanent, internship or co-op)

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12. Do you currently participate in any college / university athletic activities (intramural or official)?  
(check one) \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

13. Do you work during the academic year? (check one ) \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

14. If you answered "yes" above, approximately how many hours per week are you employed?

	Less than 5	6 - 10	11 - 15	16 - 20	More than 20
On-campus	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Off-campus	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

15. When you have an academic problem in engineering, what do you do? (Rank your top 3 choices)

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| _____ Do something social or something that relaxes me (e.g. exercise, read a novel) | _____ Talk to a faculty member                           |
| _____ Form or join a student study group   | _____ Talk to a mentor                                   |
| _____ I never feel this way  | _____ Talk to engineering adviser and/or advising staff  |
| _____ Nothing  | _____ Talk to other students and/or friends              |
| _____ Seek academic help at a tutoring center  | _____ Talk to my parents or siblings                     |
| _____ Spend more time studying   | _____ Visit the Women in Engineering or Minority offices |
|  | _____ Other _____  |

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15. The following are factors associated with you persisting in your engineering education. For each factor, choose a column ranging from No Influence to Significant Influence to indicate the degree to which that factor influences your persistence in engineering.

How much is each of these a factor in your persistence?	No Influence	Small Influence	Moderate Influence	Significant Influence
a. Sufficient opportunities for financial aid or scholarships	0	2	3	4
b. Engineering faculty/departmental personnel show an interest in me	0	2	3	4
c. Reasonable workload of the engineering classes	0	2	3	4
d. Friendly climate in engineering classes	0	2	3	4
e. Satisfactory performance on my grades in engineering	0	2	3	4
f. Faculty help me understand what practicing engineers do	0	2	3	4
g. Good teaching by engineering faculty, instructors, or graduate assistants	0	2	3	4
h. Effective academic advising by engineering faculty or advisors	0	2	3	4
i. Ability to find satisfactory Co-ops and/or internships	0	2	3	4
j. My personal abilities/talents "fit" the requirements in engineering	0	2	3	4
k. Confident of succeeding in engineering future classes	0	2	3	4
l. Positive interactions with other engineering students	0	2	3	4
m. Positive experiences in design teams or other collaborative learning experiences in engineering	0	2	3	4

16. What is the **one biggest factor** that helps you persist in your study of engineering?

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17. How supportive are your parents/guardians in your decision to study engineering? (Check one)

- Very supportive of my decision
- Somewhat supportive of my decision
- Did not have a preference in my decision
- Somewhat against my decision
- Firmly against my decision
- Did not discuss decision with them

18. What could the college or your engineering department do to make the study of engineering more enjoyable or satisfying?

**Thank you!**