



Institution Name	Survey Type	Year	Number of Respondents (N)
All Enrolled Students	Postsecondary	1 st year in college	182

Response Rates by Institution:

Surveys Administered	478
Postsecondary Surveys Received from Partner Institutions	160
Partner Institution Response Rate (%)*	33.5%

*Summary tables below include an additional 22 postsecondary surveys from “non-partner” institutions.

Results (Percentages) by Section and Survey Question

Section I: Demographics

1. What is your gender?

	(%)
Male	28.6%
Female	70.3%
Other	1.1%
No Response	0.0%

2. What is your race?

	(%)
White	92.9%
Black or African American	4.9%
Asian	0.0%
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.0%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0.0%
Two or more races	2.2%
Other	0.0%
No response	0.0%

3. What is your ethnicity?

	(%)
Hispanic or Latino	2.7%
Not Hispanic or Latino	83.5%
Other	0.0%
No Response	12.7%

4. What is the main language you speak at home?

	(%)
English	100.0%



Spanish	0.0%
Other	0.0%
No Response	0.0%

5. What is the highest level of education obtained by your parent(s)/guardians?

	(%)
Some high school	2.7%
High school diploma/GED	31.9%
Some college (less than a 2- or 4-year degree, e.g., certificate or career/tech. cert.)	29.7%
2-year college degree (Associate's)	13.7%
4-year college degree (Bachelor's)	14.8%
Master's degree	5.5%
Ph.D. or higher	0.5%
Don't know	1.1%
No Response	0.0%

6. Are you enrolled in college or in the military?

	(%)
Yes, I attend a college/university.	99.5%
Yes, I am enrolled in the military.	0.0%
No, I am not enrolled in a college or the military.	0.0%
No Response	0.5%

7. What was the primary reason for not attending college?

	(%)
My grades aren't good enough to get accepted	0.0%
It costs too much/I can't afford it	0.0%
I need to work	0.0%
Other (please write in reason):	NA

Section II: Current Educational Status

8. What is your current status as a student?

	(%)
I'm a full-time student.	91.8%
I'm a part-time student.	3.8%
I'm unsure if I am a full-time or part-time student.	4.4%
No Response	0.0%



9. What degree are you currently pursuing?

	(%)
4-year Bachelor's degree	57.7%
2-year Associate's degree	31.3%
Postsecondary certificate	0.0%
I haven't decided on a degree yet	3.8%
I'm unsure which degree I'm pursuing	6.6%
No Response	0.5%

10. How many courses are you currently enrolled in?

	(%)
1	1.1%
2	1.1%
3	1.1%
4	20.9%
5 or more	75.8%
No Response	0.0%

11. Have you dropped any courses since starting college?

	(%)
No	71.4%
Yes, after discussing my decision with my GEAR UP coordinator and/or a staff member from my college	25.8%
Yes, but I did not discuss it with my GEAR UP coordinator or a staff member from my college	2.7%
No Response	0.0%

12. Please select all of the items that helped you determine which college to enroll in this semester.

	(%)
GEAR UP/high school counselor/high school teacher	46.2%
Someone else from your high school	23.6%
College staff	35.7%
Family member	65.9%
Friends or peers	44.0%
CFWV.com	15.4%
Other college planning website	4.9%
Other	Upward Bound Director; I knew that Glenville State College had paired with the FBI for its criminal justice program from news; College counselor' Baseball; It was a College that was close to



(%)

the city I lived in, which was important as I was running for City Council earlier this year.

*Total may exceed 100% because respondents were able to select multiple items.

Section III: College Experience

13. During the summer did you...

	Yes (%)	No (%)	No Response (%)
Attend a college orientation?	91.2%	8.8%	0.0%
Speak with your transition coordinator/college counselor?	65.4%	33.5%	1.1%
Receive career counseling?	37.4%	59.9%	2.7%
Discuss your degree and/or major with someone from your college?	80.8%	18.1%	1.1%

14. Please indicate the activities you have participated in since you started college.

	Yes (%)	No (%)	No Response (%)
Spoke with your academic advisor	91.8%	8.2%	0.0%
Sought tutoring, academic help, or went to your school's writing center	44.0%	53.8%	2.2%
Met one-on-one with at least one of your professors	76.9%	20.9%	2.2%
Spoke with a staff member from your school's office of financial aid	81.9%	17.0%	1.1%
Spoke with someone from your school's student support services	60.4%	37.4%	2.2%
Spoke with your transition coordinator/college counselor regarding your current schedule/course load	73.6%	24.2%	2.2%
Spoke with your transition coordinator/college counselor about financial aid	62.6%	35.2%	2.2%
Spoke with your transition coordinator/college counselor about the transition from high school to college	52.7%	45.1%	2.2%
Spoke with someone from your school regarding registering for classes next semester	91.8%	7.7%	0.5%



15. If you are attending Bluefield State College, Concord University, Marshall University, Southern West Virginia Community & Technical College, West Virginia University, or West Virginia University Institute of Technology, please also answer the following question:

Please indicate the activities you have participated in since you started college

	Yes (%)	No (%)	No Response (%)
Spoke with your GEAR UP coordinator regarding your current schedule/course load	67.6%	27.5%	4.9%
Spoke with your GEAR UP coordinator about financial aid	54.4%	40.1%	5.5%
Spoke with your GEAR UP coordinator about the transition from high school to college	57.7%	36.3%	6.0%

16. How frequently do you communicate with each of these people?

	Transition Coordinator/ College Counselor (%)	Academic Advisor (%)	Student Support Services Staff (%)
Never; I'm not sure who this is.	21.4%	4.4%	15.9%
Never; I know who this person is, but I do not need to speak to them.	11.5%	6.0%	18.7%
Less than once a month	29.1%	40.1%	29.7%
1–2 times a month	18.1%	26.4%	15.4%
3–4 times or more a month	8.2%	10.4%	10.4%
At least once a week	10.4%	11.0%	7.7%
No Response	1.1%	1.6%	2.2%

17. Select all of the ways you have received postsecondary counseling since graduating high school.

	(%)
Face-to-face meetings	73.1%
Text messages	32.4%
Email	73.1%
Phone	23.1%
Instagram	1.6%
Facebook	12.6%
Other	0.0%
*Total may exceed 100% because respondents were able to select multiple items.	



18. How many hours do you study each week?

	(%)
None	1.1%
1–5 hours	34.6%
6–10 hours	47.3%
11–15 hours	11.0%
More than 15 hours	5.5%
No Response	0.5%

19. If you currently have a job, how many hours a week do you work?

	(%)
10 or less	6.6%
11–20 hours a week	9.3%
20–39 hours a week	14.8%
40 or more hours a week	6.0%
I do not currently have a job	62.1%
No Response	1.1%

20. How are you paying for college? Check all that apply.

	(%)
WV Promise Scholarship	35.7%
Other scholarship(s)	45.6%
Federal Pell Grant	58.8%
Federal student loan	24.7%
Private loan	6.6%
The state pays my tuition because I am/was in the foster care system	3.3%
WV Higher Education Grant	40.7%
WV Invests Grant	8.2%
College savings plan/529	1.1%
Federal work-study financial aid program	9.3%
I am using my own money to pay for tuition	15.4%
My family helps pay my tuition	23.1%
Other:	FAFSA; Cruise scholarship; Homegrown scholarship; It's a free college you are paid to go to.

*Total may exceed 100% because respondents were able to select multiple items.



21. Where are you currently living?

	(%)
In a dorm on campus	33.5%
At home with my parents/guardians	54.9%
In an apartment/house near campus (alone or with roommates/housemates)	9.3%
Other:	1.6%
No Response	0.5%

22. Think about the time since you started college. Is the following statement true for you?

	Often True (%)	Sometimes True (%)	Never True (%)	No Response (%)
Since starting college, I have worried whether my food or meal plan would run out before I got money to buy more	6.6%	15.4%	76.4%	1.6%

23. Since you started college, have hunger problems caused you to do any of the following?

	Yes (%)	No (%)	No Response (%)
Miss a class	7.8%	91.8%	1.1%
Miss a study session	6.6%	91.8%	1.6%
Miss a club meeting	1.6%	96.7%	1.6%
Opt to not join an extracurricular activity	3.3%	95.1%	1.6%
Not buy a required textbook	2.2%	96.2%	1.6%
Drop a class	2.7%	95.6%	1.6%

24. How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	Strongly Agree (%)	Agree (%)	Disagree (%)	Strongly Disagree (%)	No Response (%)
I feel welcome at my college.	56.0%	39.6%	1.6%	1.6%	1.1%
Since starting college, it has been easy to make new friends.	36.3%	44.0%	11.5%	6.6%	1.6%
I have the motivation to do what it takes to succeed in college.	42.3%	48.4%	6.6%	1.1%	1.6%
My high school prepared me for college.	19.2%	39.0%	22.0%	18.7%	1.1%
My family is supportive of me pursuing a college education.	72.5%	22.5%	0.5%	2.7%	1.6%



25. In the past 12 months, how often have you...

	Never (%)	Rarely (%)	Sometimes (%)	Most of the time (%)	Always (%)	No Response (%)
...had a hard time staying focused on your homework or other things you had to do?	6.6%	19.8%	41.2%	24.2%	7.1%	1.1%
...been so worried about something that you could not sleep at night?	17.0%	24.7%	35.2%	12.6%	9.3%	1.1%

Section IV: Education Future

26. What are your plans for the spring 2020 semester?

	(%)
Remain enrolled at the same school	94.5%
Enroll at a different school	1.6%
I do not plan to be enrolled at any school	0.5%
I am unsure of my plans	2.7%
No Response	0.5%

27. In the previous question, if you indicated that you are planning to remain enrolled at the same school or that you are planning to enroll in a different school in the spring, how many courses do you plan to enroll in?

	(%)
The same as this semester	62.1%
Fewer than this semester	8.8%
More than this semester	25.3%
No Response	0.0%

28. In the previous question, if you indicated that you are not planning to enroll at any school in the spring, please select the reason(s) why below. Select all that apply.

	(%)
I cannot afford to pay for my next semester	100.0%
I am not doing well in my classes	0.0%
I am about to lose my financial aid	0.0%
I don't like being in college	0.0%
Other	0.0%

*Total may exceed 100% because respondents were able to select multiple items.



29. The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) can be completed as early as October 1, 2019.
Have you or your student completed the FAFSA yet?

	(%)
No, and I do not plan to complete the FAFSA this academic year because I do not plan to be enrolled in postsecondary education next year.	1.1%
No, but I plan to complete the FAFSA this academic year.	49.5%
Yes	48.4%
No Response	1.1%

30. What kind of assistance/resources could have helped you have a better experience this semester?

- A financial aid staff that is willing to offer better assistance. Along with visiting the beckley branch more frequently. Communication between the beckley campus and the bluefield campus is very poor.
- Being at home instead of being away.
- Better help finding scholarships to apply for next semester or fall semester, my schedule doesn't allow time to search for them.
- Better rooming situation and friends
- Clubs and fairs.
- college academic advisor
- Counseling
- Counseling, new friends, helpful professors.
- Getting the help I need to get help with my dyslexia.
- Going to a small college and being able to meet with my teachers 1 on 1
- I am very well satisfied.
- I can't think of anything that could've made my experience better, everyone at Southern is so helpful and makes your experience as a student there wonderful!
- I can't really think of any.
- I don't know in particular.
- I feel as if my experience went very well, no more assistance is needed.
- I had a great experience.
- I has the beet experience
- I have no idea as I don't have family currently in college or recently in college. I also rarely speak with friends outside of school hours, never have, though my closest friends from High School are more frequent now.
- I honestly feel pretty prepared and like I don't need anything else!
- I'm not sure.
- It was a great first year experience!!!
- just a talk through with everything going on campus



- Just the financial aid office communicating with me properly, they suck
- Kara Plummer
- Less worrying about expenses.
- more help with applying to fafsa
- More money
- More scholarships
- More sessions for TEAS Test
- more support from program leaders
- More than a week to study and prepare for finals ??
- N/A
- None honestly, I studied hard and passed all my classes!
- None, I feel very prepared!
- Not sure
- Nothing I just need to figure out how to focus more.
- Nothing!
- PRAXIS Core test prep and help.
- professors being more helpful
- Semester has been good, everything has went smooth.
- Student Support Services
- The hell around campus and all the professors being helpful. Also my academic advisor and success coach.
- Unsure, the assistance given has been thorough.
- Welfare
- WV Works