



Student Well-being and Belonging Question Set

A number of studies* have examined the influence of sense of belonging on student well-being. In contrast, SWISS looks at how student well-being influences sense of belonging. By combining this question set with the core SWISS instrument, institutions receive a fuller picture of how well-being influences the student experience on their campuses. The items below align with dimensions of well-being and give institutions a sense of which supports are most influential on student sense of belonging.

WBB1. How much do each of the following help you feel like you belong at your institution? (Response options: Very much (4), Quite a bit (3), Some (2), Very little (1), Not applicable (5))

WBB1_1. Connecting with others in your place of residence

WBB1_2. Availability of mental health resources on campus

WBB1 3. Opportunities to attend events on campus

WBB1_4. Safety of campus buildings and outdoor spaces

WBB1 5. Campus traditions

WBB1 6. Availability of physical health care resources on campus

WBB1_7. Opportunities to be part of student clubs or organizations

WBB1_8. Having meaningful interactions with people from different backgrounds than yours

WBB1 9. Intercollegiate athletic events

WBB2. How much do each of the following help you feel like you belong at your institution? (Response options: Very much (4), Quite a bit (3), Some (2), Very little (1), Not applicable (5))

WBB2 1. Faculty who take a personal interest in you

WBB2 2. Courses that are engaging

WBB2 3. Availability of courses in your major area(s)

WBB2 4. Opportunities to conduct research with faculty

WBB2 5. Earning high marks in your coursework

WBB2 6. Availability of tutoring services for your courses

WBB2 7. Opportunities to study in person with friends or classmates

WBB2_8. Opportunities to study virtually with friends or classmates

*References

Karaman, Ö., & Tarim, B. (2018). Investigation of the correlation between belonging needs of students attending university and well-being. *Universal Journal of Educational Research*, 6(4), 781-788.

Moeller, R. W., Seehuus, M., & Peisch, V. (2020). Emotional intelligence, belongingness, and mental health in college students. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 11, 1-10.

Strayhorn, T. L. (2021). Exploring ethnic minority first-year college students' well-being and sense of belonging: A qualitative investigation of a brief intervention. *American Journal of Qualitative Research*, 6(1), 42-58.

Suhlmann, M., Sassenberg, K., Nagengast, B., & Trautwein, U. (2018). Belonging mediates effects of student-university fit on well-being, motivation, and dropout intention. *Social Psychology*, *49*(1), 16-28.

Updated: 8/22/2023