

## What I Want From College

(Created by William H Johnson Jr, Student Success Coordinator, School of Health and Human Sciences, UNCG)

Why are you in college? What do you want from college? What do you hope to gain by being here? This activity will have you select your top FIVE (5) reasons for attending college. Completing this survey will assist the facilitators in guiding the curriculum to best support you and help make your college experience the best it can be. There are no wrong or write answers; just choose the answers that describe best what you want from college.

What do you, as a first-year student, want most from college? (Place a check or an "X" next to your top 5 choices)

- ☐ I want to figure out what to do with my life.
- ☐ I want to get better grades.
- ☐ I want to improve my study/note-taking skills.
- ☐ I want to find the right major/career for me.
- ☐ I want to make sure I have a good job after I graduate.
- ☐ I want to help people and serve my community.
- ☐ I want to find my purpose in life.
- ☐ I want to make my parents/my family proud.
- ☐ I want to get a college degree.
- ☐ I want to have practical experiences that lead to jobs.
- ☐ I want to make new friends.
- ☐ I want to have fun.
- ☐ I want to learn and grow.
- ☐ I want to become a better person.
- ☐ I want to speak and write well.
- ☐ I want to find a way to reduce my costs/payments.
- ☐ I want to find an advisor/coach/mentor who can guide me.
- ☐ I want to find scholarships to help pay for college.
- ☐ I want to get good grades so I can transfer to another school.
- ☐ I want to manage my money better.
- ☐ I want to feel like I belong in college.
- ☐ I want to network with alumni and employers.
- ☐ I want to know what gets me excited about life.
- ☐ I want to strengthen my relationship with my higher power.
- ☐ I want to identify my gifts in service to something bigger than myself.
- ☐ I want to get into graduate school/professional school (i.e., Law School, Medical School, etc).
- ☐ I want to continue to play my sport while in college.
- ☐ I want to sustain/improve my health and well-being.
- ☐ I want to find a good full-time or part-time job while in college.
- ☐ I want to find ways to balance school and work.
- ☐ I want to know how I can be more involved on campus through my major and outside of my major.
- ☐ I want to learn more about the local community.
- ☐ I want to develop strong relationships with my professors.
- ☐ I want to prove to others that I could be successful in college.
- ☐ Other (please specify here): \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for taking this survey. Have a great semester!

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### Top 10 Results

- \_\_1\_\_ I want to make sure I have a good job after I graduate. – 165 (43.0%)**
- \_\_2\_\_ I want to get a college degree. – 159 (41.4%)**
- \_\_3\_\_ I want to learn and grow. – 150 (39.1%)**
- \_\_4\_\_ I want to make my parents/my family proud. – 147 (38.3%)**
- \_\_5\_\_ I want to figure out what to do with my life. – 114 (29.7%)**
- \_\_6\_\_ I want to improve my study/note-taking skills. – 98 (25.5%)**
- \_\_7\_\_ I want to find my purpose in life. – 106 (27.6%)**
- \_\_8\_\_ I want to help people and serve my community. – 87 (22.7%%)**
- \_\_9\_\_ I want to get better grades. – 78 (20.3%)**
- \_\_10\_\_ I want to find the right major/career for me. – 75 (19.5%)**

### Additional results over 10%

- \_\_11\_\_ I want to have fun. – 66 (17.2%)**
- \_\_12\_\_ I want to make new friends. – 64 (16.7%)**
- \_\_12\_\_ I want to get into grad school/professional school (i.e., Law School, Medical School, etc). – 64 (16.7%)**
- \_\_14\_\_ I want to become a better person. – 53 (13.8%)**
- \_\_15\_\_ I want to find scholarships to help pay for college. – 50 (13.0%)**
- \_\_16\_\_ I want to sustain/improve my health and well-being. – 43 (11.2%)**
- \_\_17\_\_ I want to find ways to balance school and work. – 40 (10.4%)**

### Pursuing Purpose

- 82.7% - Percentage that chose at least one response centered around purpose (316 responses):
  - What should I do with my life (#5 and #10)
  - How I can become a better person (#3, #14, and #16)
  - How do I serve others (#7 and #8)
  - Note: If we include the 17 responses to “I want to know what gets me excited about life,” the percentage would increase to 87.2%

### Getting a College Degree/Steps to Get a College Degree

- 41.4% - Focused on getting a college degree (#2)
- 25.5% - Improve study/note-taking skills (#6)
- 20.3% - Get better grades (#9)
- 13.0% - Find scholarships to help pay for college (#15)
- 10.4% - Find ways to balance school and work (#17)

### Life After Graduation

- 43.0% - Focused on getting a job after graduation (#1)
- 16.7% - Focused on going to graduate/professional school (#12)

### Connection Matters

- 38.3% - Focused on making parents/family proud (#4)
- 16.7% - Want to make new friends (#12)