

***To be used for viewing purposes only. Please submit your answers on the website.***

**<http://fiske.sourcebookscollege.com/index.php/studentquestionnaire>**

***The Fiske Guide to Colleges 2026***  
**A publication of Sourcebooks**

Dear College Student,

Remember how complicated it was to pick just the “right” college when you were a high school senior? For more than 40 years, the *Fiske Guide to Colleges* has been helping students do just that. It contains profiles of the “best and most interesting” colleges in the nation—based in large part on perspectives and quotes from the students who attend them. Perhaps you used it yourself during your own college search!

We are now preparing the 2026 edition of the *Fiske Guide*, and we need your help. We want to find out as much as we can about your college—its academic strengths and weaknesses, what sort of students attend, the social life, extracurricular activities, and so forth. What, in short, makes your future alma mater a special place?

You have been selected by your school as one of a small number of current students to provide us with such information using an online questionnaire. The questions are open-ended—thus allowing you maximum freedom to express your ideas. If you feel that you are not in a position to answer any particular question, just skip it and move on to the next one.

We would appreciate receiving your thoughts by **May 24, 2024**.

Thanks in advance for your help. We appreciate your assistance—and so will the tens of thousands of high school students and their families who may read your responses in the *Fiske Guide*.

Sincerely,

Edward B. Fiske  
Editor-in-Chief  
April 2024

1. Why did you choose to attend your college or university? Has it met your expectations?
2. What is your single most important aspiration for your four years of college? How would you define a “successful” college experience?

3. How does your school define an **educated person**.

4. How would you describe the **academic climate** and **quality of instruction** at your school?

5. Please suggest any **special academic programs** or **learning opportunities** that prospective students ought to know about. We're thinking of anything from living/learning communities and study abroad to interesting undergraduate research opportunities. Have any of these been important to you?

6. How would you rate the quality of **student support services**, such as career advising and mental health services, that your school offers? Are any of these services particularly strong? Or weak?

7. How would you characterize your fellow students?

8. How **diverse is the student body**—socioeconomically, politically, geographically, and otherwise? Who might have a tough time fitting in? Are there any hot button social or political issues on your campus?

9. Tell us about **housing and dining**. How are the accommodations? Is there any trouble getting a room? How is the food on campus?

10. Please describe the **social scene** on campus. Is there a party culture? What does the surrounding area offer?

11. What are the annual **festivals, athletic rivalries, or other traditions** that make your school unique and interesting?

12. What are the students' **biggest complaints** about your school? Is there anything you would like to improve?

13. Like students themselves, colleges have special institutional cultures that differentiate them from other schools that may seem similar. How would you characterize the **unique institutional personality** of your school?

What is your **major**?

What is your **current year**?

Freshman  
Sophomore  
Junior  
Senior  
Other

**Thanks again for your help!**