

Proposed Community College Question Module for Cognitive Interviews

Questions with * are the proposed questions that are being pretested. Other questions are either probing or reference questions to better understand the responses to the pretest questions.

***Q1. Have you ever taken courses at a community college? [Core question]**

Yes

No —> **Skip to Q5**

***Q2. Did you take courses at a community college during any of the following time periods? [New module question]**

Mark (X) Yes or No for each item.

	Yes ↓ ▼	No ↓ ▼
1. While still enrolled in high school.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. After high school, but before ever attending a 4-year college or university.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. While enrolled in a 4-year college or university.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. After attending a 4-year college or university, but before earning a first bachelor's degree.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. After earning a first bachelor's degree, but before earning another bachelor's or higher degree	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. After earning a second bachelor's or a higher degree.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

***Q3. For which of the following reasons did you take courses at a community college?
[Revised module question from 1999]**

Mark (X) Yes or No for each item.

	Yes ↓	No ↓
1. To earn college credits while attending high school.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. To prepare for college, or increase chance of being accepted into a 4-year college or university.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. To complete course requirements for a bachelor's degree.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Financial reasons (e.g. 4-year college more expensive, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. To complete an associate's degree.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. To gain <u>further</u> skills or knowledge in your academic or occupational field.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. To facilitate a change in your academic or occupational field.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. To increase opportunities for promotion, advancement, or higher salary.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. For leisure or personal interest.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Other- <i>Specify</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

[PROBE IF R ANSWERED YES TO CATEGORY 3 IN Q3]

Why did you take these bachelor's degree requirement courses at a community college?

***Q4. Which two reasons in Q3 were your most important reasons for taking courses at a community college? [New module question]**

Enter number of appropriate reason from Q3 above.

1. _____ Most important reason
2. _____ Second most important reason
(Enter '0' if no second reason)

***Q5. Do you have an associate's degree? [Core question]**

- Yes
- No → **Skip to Q9**

***Q6. Was your associate's degree from a 2-year community college? [Possible new core question]**

- Yes
- No

***Q7. What was the name of the college where you received an associate's degree, and in what city and state was it located? [New module question]**

Name of College

City/Town

State

***Q8. Please specify type and the field of associate's degree that you have. [New module question]**

Type of Associate's Degree

Specific Field of Associate's Degree

Q9. Do you have a bachelor's degree from a 4-year college or university?

- Yes
- No → **Skip to Q13**

Q10. From what school did you receive your first bachelor's degree, and in what city and state was that school located?

Name of College or University

City/Town

State

Q11. In what month and year did you receive your first bachelor's degree?

<i>Month</i>		<i>Year</i>			

Q12. What was the major field of study and second major (if any) for your first bachelor's degree?

Major Field of Study

Second Major

Q13. There is a wide range of classes that can be taken at community colleges. Please indicate whether you earned credits from a community college in each of the following areas of study.

Mark (X) Yes or No for each item.

	Yes ↓	No ↓
1. Biological, Agricultural, Physical, Earth, or Other Natural Sciences.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Health, Nursing, or Medical Fields.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Engineering, Computer Sciences, or Mathematical Sciences.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. History, Arts, or Humanities.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Psychology, Economics, or Other Social Sciences.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Business or Management.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Education or Education Administration.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Some other major field – <i>Specify</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

***Q14. How influential was your community college experience on each of the following aspects of your educational and career pathways? [New module question]**

Mark (X) one answer for each item.

	Not at all influential ↓	Slightly influential ↓	Moderately influential ↓	Very Influential ↓
1. Decision to pursue a bachelor's degree.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Choice of major for your first bachelor's degree.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Decision to pursue another bachelor's or higher degree..	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Choice of major for another bachelor's or higher degree..	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Decision to pursue a specific occupational field.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q15. We are interested in learning more about how community college influences educational pathways. As you think back to your experience in a community college(s), how influential was it in your choosing the major in which you earned your first bachelor's degree? Please explain aloud.

- Q16. In what ways, if any, did community college influence your choice of major for your bachelor's degree and any other degrees you have since pursued? Please explain aloud.**
- Q17. Community college experiences may also influence career pathways. Thinking ahead, how influential do you believe your community college experience will be in your decision to pursue a particular career? Please explain aloud.**
- Q18. We would also like to hear more about this in your own words. In what ways has your community college experience influenced your career plans? Again, please explain aloud.**