

What is SOSE?

The Survey of Online Student Engagement (*SOSE*) is an online companion to the Community College Survey of Student Engagement (*CCSSE*). *SOSE* helps community and technical colleges gather engagement data from students enrolled solely in online courses. The survey focuses on aspects of student engagement unique to online learning environments.

When is the survey administered?

The survey is administered during the spring academic term, concurrent with *CCSSE* and *CCFSSE*. See the *SOSE* [Survey Administration Timeline](#) for further details.

How is the survey administered?

SOSE is administered as an online survey: participant colleges will receive a link to the survey from the Center, and are responsible for using an email merge or the college's LMS to invite online-only students to complete the survey.

How much does SOSE administration cost?

For information on *SOSE* pricing, please visit:
<https://www.ccsse.org/join/options.cfm#SOSE>

Can someone other than our CCSSE Campus Coordinator be in charge of SOSE?

Center policy is that institutions maintain one point of contact with the Center for *CCSSE*, *CCFSSE*, and now *SOSE* administration. While the Campus Coordinator may work closely with another staff member (i.e. someone from the institution's IT or online education departments) to plan and facilitate *SOSE* administration, *CCSSE* Liaisons and Center staff will direct all *SOSE*-related communications to the *CCSSE* Campus Coordinator.

Should we administer SOSE and online CCSSE?

No. Online student responses can be captured through the online *CCSSE* so there is no need to administer both online surveys.

How does the Center define 'online-only' students?

Online-only students are those who are enrolled only in online courses at the college during the spring academic term in which *SOSE* is administered. Note that the survey should not be shared with incarcerated students as they may not be exposed to the full breadth of the online student experience.

How should we make the SOSE survey link available to students?

The best way to distribute the *SOSE* link depends on how your college usually contacts its online-only students. During previous *SOSE* administrations, some colleges have e-mailed the link to students and others have posted the link using course management software.

Can the Center email SOSE invitations to our students?

No. Member colleges are responsible for making the *SOSE* link available to their

students either via email or by posting the link on relevant course management system pages.

What happens if we accidentally provide the SOSE link to some students who are also enrolled in on-campus courses?

This is fine. SOSE includes an item that asks whether students are taking any on-campus courses during the current academic term and filters out those who, are taking on-campus courses and therefore are eligible for CCSSE sampling and participation.

How will we know whether students are actually completing the survey?

Shortly after Campus Coordinators receive their SOSE link, CCSSE Liaisons will email Campus Coordinators access to a Responder Tool that can be used to monitor student survey access and completion. Note that individual students who completed the survey will not be identified (please see the [Optional SOSE Access Codes](#) document for information about how to include access codes to track responses).

How long does the survey take to complete?

Data from the SOSE indicate that the survey takes 20 to 25 minutes to complete.

Can the survey be administered to incarcerated populations?

No. Incarcerated students may not be exposed to the same breadth of experiences as other students.