

# SPECIAL-FOCUS MODULE

## Culture of Caring

### **SENSE Special-Focus Modules**

Colleges have the option to add up to two special-focus modules of 12 items each using a custom special-focus module or choosing from our collection of standard special-focus modules for an additional fee:

- » Academic Advising and Planning
- » Building Relationships
- » Commitment and Support
- » Early Self-Reported Outcomes
- » Financial Assistance
- » Guided Pathways
- » Promising Practices for Community College Student Success
- » Student Success Courses
- » The Working Learner

Frequently, we offer a specific special-focus module free of charge, as part of an initiative exploring a topic of interest to the community college field. This free module is provided to all colleges administering *SENSE* that do not add two special-focus modules of their own choosing. Students are asked to mark their responses under “Additional Items” at the end of the survey. The results from these items are provided as frequency distributions with colleges’ standard *SENSE* reports.

### **Culture of Caring Module**

Colleges that administer *SENSE* 2024 and do not add two special-focus modules of their own choosing will receive 12 free items about culture of caring (shown below). This item set explores students’ perceptions of the social and emotional support they receive from their college community.

*Mark only one response for each item*

#### **STIGMA AND HELP-SEEKING BEHAVIORS**

1. It intimidates me to ask my instructors for help with coursework.
  - a. Strongly disagree
  - b. Disagree
  - c. Agree
  - d. Strongly agree

2. Asking for help with my classes makes me feel weak.
  - a. Strongly disagree
  - b. Disagree
  - c. Agree
  - d. Strongly agree

## SELF-EFFICACY

3. My instructors have high expectations of me.
  - a. Strongly disagree
  - b. Disagree
  - c. Agree
  - d. Strongly agree

## SENSE OF BELONGING

4. I feel invisible to faculty and staff.
  - a. Strongly disagree
  - b. Disagree
  - c. Agree
  - d. Strongly agree
  
5. College staff (other than my instructors) care about me.
  - a. Strongly disagree
  - b. Disagree
  - c. Agree
  - d. Strongly agree

## BASIC NEEDS

6. Since registering for classes, have you been asked if you need assistance obtaining food?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No, and I needed this kind of assistance
  - c. No, but I did not need this kind of assistance
  
7. Since registering for classes, have you been asked if you need assistance maintaining or securing affordable housing (rent, utility bills, etc.)?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No, and I needed this kind of assistance
  - c. No, but I did not need this kind of assistance

8. Since registering for classes, have you been asked if you need support getting to campus?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No, and I needed this kind of support
  - c. No, but I did not need this kind of support
  
9. Since registering for classes, have you been asked if you need support as a parent or caregiver?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No, and I needed this kind of support
  - c. No, but I did not need this kind of support

## MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

10. Students' mental health and emotional well-being is a priority at this college.
  - a. Strongly disagree
  - b. Disagree
  - c. Agree
  - d. Strongly agree
  
11. If you needed to seek professional help for your mental or emotional health while attending this college, you would know where to go.
  - a. Strongly disagree
  - b. Disagree
  - c. Agree
  - d. Strongly agree
  
12. If you needed help with your mental health and emotional well-being, what would be the greatest barrier that would keep you from seeking that help?
  - a. Lack of resources (money, time, transportation)
  - b. I worry about what others will think of me
  - c. I do not know where to seek help
  - d. I do not know what kind of help I need
  - e. Other