

African-American Student Study



Completed in April 2003

Response Rate: 62% (142/ 229)

Berea College
Survey of African-American Students
April 2003

The following survey asks various questions related to your experiences at Berea College. All responses will be kept strictly confidential by the Berea College Institutional Research Office.

Having your name allows us to compare the survey results to future outcomes such as graduation rates.

We appreciate your honest responses.

Your Name: _____

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Purpose: To understand factors related to African-American student needs, retention and graduation, and general well-being at Berea College.

Gender:

- 1 Male
- 2 Female

Classification:

- 1 Freshman
- 2 Sophomore
- 3 Junior
- 4 Senior

Where do you live?

- 1 Residence Hall
- 2 College Specialty Housing
- 3 College Apartment
- 4 Off-Campus Apartment

Mark the circle that best describes the high school from which you graduated. Mark one for each box.

- 1 Predominantly white
- 2 Predominantly African-American
- 3 Other _____

- 1 Urban (city or metropolitan area)
- 2 Small or mid-size town
- 3 Rural

Status: Please check one:

- 1 Single, no children, under age 23
- 2 Single, no children, age 23 or older
- 3 Married with no children
- 4 Single with a child/ren for whom I am responsible
- 5 Married with a child/ren for whom I am responsible

Highest Educational Attainment of your Parents:

- | Father | Mother | |
|--------|--------|--|
| 1 | 1 | Some high school or less |
| 2 | 2 | High school diploma or GED Certificate |
| 3 | 3 | Some college, no degree |
| 4 | 4 | Vocational/technical degree |
| 5 | 5 | Associate degree |
| 6 | 6 | Bachelor's degree |
| 7 | 7 | Master's degree |
| 8 | 8 | Doctorate/Professional Degree (PhD, MD, etc) |

How often do you go home in a term?

- 1 Most weekends
- 2 Twice a month
- 3 Once a month
- 4 Only for major holidays/breaks
- 5 Never

If unknown, leave blank. You may interpret "father" or "mother" to be step parents if you identify them as your primary guardian.

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Tell us what you think:

What positive experiences have you had at the College that contributed to your sense of well-being or success at Berea?

What negative experiences have you had at the College (that have created a hardship for you)?

What experiences do you *need* to have to ensure your ultimate academic success?

What may hinder your chance of success?

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For each of the following areas, answer the following questions using the scale provided to the left. The NAs in the scales represent "Not applicable to me." If you need to explain a rating, or have an additional comment, please use the box below the items.

Black Cultural Center (BCC)

<p>5 Very often</p> <p>5 4 3 2 1</p>		<p>1 Not at all</p>	
			How often have you interacted with the BCC or participated in the programs it sponsors?

<p>5 Extremely important</p> <p>5 4 3 2 1</p>		<p>1 Not at all important</p>	
			How important is the BCC to your overall success and well-being at Berea College?

<p>5 To a great extent</p> <p>5 4 3 2 1</p>		<p>1 Not at all</p>	
			To what extent does BCC fulfill a need that you have personally?

<p>5 Extremely satisfied</p> <p>5 4 3 2 1</p>		<p>1 Not at all satisfied</p>	<p>Not applicable to me</p> <p>NA</p>	
				How satisfied are you with the services or programs of the BCC?

<p>5 A great Amount</p> <p>5 4 3 2 1</p>		<p>1 None</p>	<p>Not applicable to me</p> <p>NA</p>	
				How much has the BCC contributed to your overall success and well-being at Berea College?

Please comment on your experiences, if any, with the Black Cultural Center.

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On-Campus Opportunities for Worship or Spiritual Growth and Expression

5				1
Extremely				Not at all
important				important
5	4	3	2	1

How important are on-campus opportunities for worship or spiritual growth and expression to your overall success and well-being at Berea College?

5				1
A great				No
need				need
5	4	3	2	1

Rate your level of personal need for on-campus opportunities for worship or spiritual growth and expression.

5				1	
To a great				Not at	Not
extent				all	applicable
5	4	3	2	1	to me
					NA

To what extent is this need (on-campus opportunities for worship or spiritual growth and expression) being met by services at the College?

5				1	
Extremely				Not at all	Not
satisfied				satisfied	applicable
5	4	3	2	1	to me
					NA

How satisfied are you with the services or programs aimed at fulfilling this need (on-campus opportunities for worship or spiritual growth and expression)?

5				1	
A great				None	Not
Amount					applicable
5	4	3	2	1	to me
					NA

How much have on-campus opportunities for worship or spiritual growth and expression contributed to your overall success and well-being at Berea College?

Please comment on your experiences, if any, regarding worship or spiritual growth and expression at Berea College.

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Off-Campus Opportunities for Worship or Spiritual Growth and Expression

5				1
Extremely				Not at all
important				important
5	4	3	2	1

How important are off-campus opportunities for worship or spiritual growth and expression to your overall success and well-being at Berea College?

5				1
A great				No
need				need
5	4	3	2	1

Rate your level of personal need for off-campus opportunities for worship or spiritual growth and expression.

5				1	
To a great				Not at	Not
extent				all	applicable
5	4	3	2	1	to me
					NA

To what extent is this need (off-campus opportunities for worship or spiritual growth and expression) being met by services at the College?

5				1	
Extremely				Not at all	Not
satisfied				satisfied	applicable
5	4	3	2	1	to me
					NA

How satisfied are you with the services or programs aimed at fulfilling this need (off-campus opportunities for worship or spiritual growth and expression)?

5				1	
A great				None	Not
Amount				1	applicable
5	4	3	2	1	to me
					NA

How much have off-campus opportunities for worship or spiritual growth and expression contributed to your overall success and well-being at Berea College?

Please comment on your experiences, if any, regarding worship or spiritual growth and expression in the surrounding communities around Berea College.

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Basic Educational Skills (writing, reading, test-taking, public speaking, etc.)
 Support from the Learning Center (formerly the CEC)

<p>5 Extremely important</p> <p style="text-align: center;">5 4 3 2 1</p>	<p>1 Not at all important</p>	<p>How important are the development of basic educational skills to your overall success and well-being at Berea College?</p>
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<p>5 A great need</p> <p style="text-align: center;">5 4 3 2 1</p>	<p>1 No need</p>	<p>Rate your level of personal need for basic educational skill development.</p>
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<p>5 To a great extent</p> <p style="text-align: center;">5 4 3 2 1</p>	<p>1 Not at all</p>	<p>Not applicable to me NA</p>	<p>To what extent is this need (basic educational skill development) being met by services at the College?</p>
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<p>5 Extremely satisfied</p> <p style="text-align: center;">5 4 3 2 1</p>	<p>1 Not at all satisfied</p>	<p>Not applicable to me NA</p>	<p>How satisfied are you with the services or programs aimed at fulfilling this need (basic educational skill development)?</p>
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<p>5 A great Amount</p> <p style="text-align: center;">5 4 3 2 1</p>	<p>1 None</p>	<p>Not applicable to me NA</p>	<p>How much has basic educational skill development contributed to your overall success and well-being at Berea College?</p>
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Please comment on your experiences, if any, with the Learning Center services.

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Career and Educational Planning Skills
Career Development Office

5				1
Extremely important				Not at all important
5	4	3	2	1

How important are career and educational planning skills to your overall success and well-being at Berea College?

5				1
A great need				No need
5	4	3	2	1

Rate your level of personal need for career and educational planning skills.

5				1	
To a great extent				Not at all	Not applicable to me
5	4	3	2	1	NA

To what extent is this need (career and educational planning skills) being met by services at the College?

5				1	
Extremely satisfied				Not at all satisfied	Not applicable to me
5	4	3	2	1	NA

How satisfied are you with the services or programs aimed at fulfilling this need (career and educational planning skills)?

5				1	
A great Amount				None	Not applicable to me
5	4	3	2	1	NA

How much have career and educational planning skills contributed to your overall success and well-being at Berea College?

Please comment on your experiences, if any, with the Career Development Office services.

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Life Skills Development (leadership, conflict resolution, managing finances, etc.)

5
Extremely
important
5 4 3 2 1

1
Not at all
important

How important are life skills development to your overall success and well-being at Berea College?

5
A great
need
5 4 3 2 1

1
No
need

Rate your level of personal need for life skills development.

5
To a great
extent
5 4 3 2 1

1
Not at
all

Not
applicable
to me
NA

To what extent is this need (life skills development) being met by services at the College?

5
Extremely
satisfied
5 4 3 2 1

1
Not at all
satisfied

Not
applicable
to me
NA

How satisfied are you with the services or programs aimed at fulfilling this need (life skills development)?

5
A great
Amount
5 4 3 2 1

1
None

Not
applicable
to me
NA

How much has life skills development contributed to your overall success and well-being at Berea College?

Please comment on your experiences, if any, with College services aimed at life skills development. What kind of services should the College be providing?

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Psychological/Counseling Services

<p>5 Very often 5 4 3 2 1</p>	<p>1 Not at all 1</p>	<p>How often have you used Berea College psychological/counseling services?</p>
<p>5 Extremely important 5 4 3 2 1</p>	<p>1 Not at all important 1</p>	<p>How important are psychological/counseling services to your overall success and well-being at Berea College?</p>
<p>5 A great need 5 4 3 2 1</p>	<p>1 No need 1</p>	<p>Rate your level of personal need for psychological/counseling services.</p>
<p>5 To a great extent 5 4 3 2 1</p>	<p>1 Not at all 1</p>	<p>Not applicable to me NA</p> <p>To what extent is this need (psychological/counseling services) being met by services at the College?</p>
<p>5 Extremely satisfied 5 4 3 2 1</p>	<p>1 Not at all satisfied 1</p>	<p>Not applicable to me NA</p> <p>How satisfied are you with the services or programs aimed at fulfilling this need (psychological/counseling services)?</p>
<p>5 A great Amount 5 4 3 2 1</p>	<p>1 None 1</p>	<p>Not applicable to me NA</p> <p>How much have psychological/counseling services contributed to your overall success and well-being at Berea College?</p>

Please comment on your experiences, if any, with Berea College psychological/counseling services.

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Financial Assistance

5
Extremely
important
5 4 3 2 1

How important is financial assistance to your overall success and well-being at Berea College?

5
A great
need
5 4 3 2 1

Rate your level of personal need for financial assistance.

5
To a great
extent
5 4 3 2 1

1
Not at
all
1

Not
applicable
to me
NA

To what extent is this need (financial assistance) being met by services at the College?

5
Extremely
satisfied
5 4 3 2 1

1
Not at all
satisfied
1

Not
applicable
to me
NA

How satisfied are you with the services or programs aimed at fulfilling this need (financial assistance)?

5
A great
Amount
5 4 3 2 1

1
None
1

Not
applicable
to me
NA

How much has financial assistance contributed to your overall success and well-being at Berea College?

What role has financial assistance played in your overall experience in college?

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Inclusive Campus Learning Environment for African-American Students

Is the Berea College learning environment an inclusive one for African-American students? Please comment.

Experiences with Alumni

What role, if any, have African-American alumni (people who attended or graduated from Berea College) played in your decision to attend and/or remain enrolled at Berea College?

Products and Services

Please describe the retail products and services, if any, you are in need of that are not currently being met by the College or surrounding communities.

Off-Campus Community Organizations

Please comment on organizations in the surrounding communities that you may have been involved in and how these experiences have affected you.

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Admissions

How **IMPORTANT** were each of the following
 In your decision to enroll at Berea College?

5 Very important					1 Not at all important					Not applicable/ don't know	
5	4	3	2	1	5	4	3	2	1	NA	Admissions literature (Viewbook, pamphlets, etc.)
5	4	3	2	1	5	4	3	2	1	NA	Personal phone calls from Admissions staff
5	4	3	2	1	5	4	3	2	1	NA	Personal phone calls from Berea College faculty
5	4	3	2	1	5	4	3	2	1	NA	Discussions with Berea College students or alumni
5	4	3	2	1	5	4	3	2	1	NA	Carter Woodson weekend

Please rate your **EXPERIENCE** with each
 of the following.

5 Very positive					1 Very negative					Not applicable/ don't know
5	4	3	2	1	5	4	3	2	1	NA
5	4	3	2	1	5	4	3	2	1	NA
5	4	3	2	1	5	4	3	2	1	NA
5	4	3	2	1	5	4	3	2	1	NA
5	4	3	2	1	5	4	3	2	1	NA

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Orientation

	How WELCOME did each of the following make you feel at the College?					Not applicable/ don't know	How USEFUL was each to your initial adjustment?					Not applicable/ don't know	How INFORMATIVE was each of the following?					Not applicable/ don't know
	5 Very Welcome	4	3	2	1 Not at welcome		5 Very useful	4	3	2	1 Not at useful		5 Very informative	4	3	2	1 Not at informative	
Registration and Orientation Weekend (ROW) (in the summer before your Freshman year)	5	4	3	2	1	NA	5	4	3	2	1	NA	5	4	3	2	1	NA
Fall Orientation (the week before Freshman classes started.	5	4	3	2	1	NA	5	4	3	2	1	NA	5	4	3	2	1	NA
Black Cultural Center Freshman Social/Open House	5	4	3	2	1	NA	5	4	3	2	1	NA	5	4	3	2	1	NA

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Student Life

Please rate the extent to which each of the following has contributed to your overall Berea College experience.

	5 Very positively		4		3		2		1 Very negatively		Not applicable/ don't know
Living arrangements in the residence halls	5	4	3	2	1						NA
Collegium support	5	4	3	2	1						NA
Residence Hall staff (RAs, monitors, etc.)	5	4	3	2	1						NA
Labor assignments	5	4	3	2	1						NA
Intercollegiate sports programs	5	4	3	2	1						NA
Intramural sports programs	5	4	3	2	1						NA
Fitness opportunities	5	4	3	2	1						NA
Social clubs	5	4	3	2	1						NA
Entertainment events at the College	5	4	3	2	1						NA
Black Music Ensemble	5	4	3	2	1						NA
Unity Banquet	5	4	3	2	1						NA

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Academics

How **IMPORTANT** are each of the following to you?

5 Very important					1 Not at all important					Not applicable/ don't know				
5	4	3	2	1	5	4	3	2	1	5	4	3	2	1

- Academic advising
- Faculty instruction
- Faculty concern and encouragement
- Classroom learning environments
- Convocations
- Learning through service opportunities
- Basic Math instruction and support
- Writing support (Learning Center/CEC)
- Study skills (and other basic academic support through the Learning Center/CEC)

How **SATISFIED** are you with each of the following?

5 Very satisfied					1 Not at all satisfied					Not applicable/ don't know				
5	4	3	2	1	5	4	3	2	1	5	4	3	2	1

What general or specific comments would you like to relay to administrators, faculty and staff of the College?

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This is the last section of the written portion of the evening. We have allotted 20 minutes for you to write an essay answering the following questions.

Describe a specific and important incident that has occurred for you at Berea College. How has it affected your understanding or feeling for the College? How would you relay this to an African-American high school student who is considering attending Berea?

Thank you! You are now finished with the written portion of the evening. The discussion will begin at 7:55. Please hold onto your disk until the end of the evening.