

National Student Survey – the questions

Core questions

These questions are compulsory for students in all institutions and on all courses. Students respond on a Likert scale where: 5 - Definitely agree, 4 - Mostly agree, 3 - Neither agree nor disagree, 2 - Mostly disagree, 1 - Definitely disagree.

Teaching and learning

1. Staff are good at explaining things
2. Staff have made the subject interesting
3. Staff are enthusiastic about what they are teaching
4. The course is intellectually stimulating

Assessment and feedback

5. The criteria used in marking have been made clear in advance
6. Assessment arrangements and marking have been fair
7. Feedback on my work has been prompt
8. I have received detailed comments on my work
9. Feedback on my work has helped me clarify things I did not understand

Academic support

10. I have received sufficient advice and support with my studies
11. I have been able to contact staff when I needed to
12. Good advice was available when I needed to make study choices

Organisation and management

13. The timetable works efficiently as far as my activities are concerned
14. Any changes in the course or teaching have been communicated effectively
15. The course is well organised and is running smoothly

Learning resources

16. The library resources and services are good enough for my needs
17. I have been able to access general IT resources when I needed to
18. I have been able to access specialised equipment, facilities or rooms when I needed to

Personal development

19. The course has helped me present myself with confidence
20. My communication skills have improved
21. As a result of the course, I feel confident in tackling unfamiliar problems
22. Overall I am satisfied with the quality of the course

Free text (optional)

- Looking back on the experience, are there any particularly positive or negative aspects you would like to highlight?

NHS Work Placement questions

These questions are for NHS Funded students in England and Scotland only. Responses are on the Likert Scale given above.

23. I received sufficient preparatory information prior to my placement(s).
24. I was allocated placement(s) suitable for my course.
25. I received appropriate supervision on my placement(s).
26. I was given opportunities to meet my required practice learning outcomes/competences.
27. My contribution during placement(s) as part of the clinical team was valued.
28. My practice supervisor(s) understood how my placement(s) related to the broader requirements of my course.

Optional Scales

Institutions can choose to add up to 5 of these categories to the compulsory NSS questions. Again, responses are on the Likert Scale given above.

B1 - Careers

- As a result of my course, I believe that I have improved my career prospects
- Good advice is available for making career choices
- Good advice is available on further study opportunities

B2 - Course Content and Structure

- All of the compulsory modules are relevant to my course
- There is an appropriate range of options to choose from on my course
- The modules of my course form a coherent integrated whole

B3 - Work Placements

- I received sufficient support and advice from my institution about the organisation of my placements
- My placements were valuable in helping my learning
- My placements have helped me to develop my skills in relation to my course
- My placements have helped me to develop my general life skills
- The taught part of my course was good preparation for my placements

B4 - Social Opportunities

- I have had plenty of opportunities to interact socially with other students
- I am satisfied with the range of clubs and societies on offer
- I am satisfied with the range of entertainment and social events on offer

B5 - Course Delivery

- Learning materials made available on my course have enhanced my learning
- The range and balance of approaches to teaching has helped me to learn
- The delivery of my course has been stimulating
- My learning has benefited from modules that are informed by current research
- Practical activities on my course have helped me to learn

B6 - Feedback from Students

- I have had adequate opportunities to provide feedback on all elements of my course
- My feedback on the course is listened to and valued
- It is clear to me how students' comments on the course have been acted upon

B7 - The Physical Environment

- Security has been satisfactory when attending classes
- My institution provides an appropriate environment in which to learn

B8 - Welfare Resources and Facilities

- There is sufficient provision of welfare and student services to meet my needs
- When needed, the information and advice offered by welfare and student services has been helpful

B9 - Workload

- The workload on my course is manageable
- This course does not apply unnecessary pressure on me as a student
- The volume of work on my course means I can always complete it to my satisfaction
- I am generally given enough time to understand the things I have to learn

B10 - Assessment

- Teaching staff test what I have understood rather than what I have memorised
- Assessment methods employed in my course require an in-depth understanding of the course content

B11 - Learning Community

- I feel part of a group of students committed to learning
- I have been able to explore academic interests with other students
- I have learned to explore ideas confidently
- Within my course, I feel my suggestions and ideas are valued
- I feel part of an academic community in my college or university

B12 - Intellectual Motivation

- I have found the course motivating
- The course has stimulated my interest in the field of study
- The course has stimulated my enthusiasm for further learning