

Checklist for Honors Directors and Deans Interested in Having their Institutions Join the NSSE Honors Consortium

- _____ (1) Does your institution participate either annually or on an occasional basis in the National Survey of Student Engagement, and, if so, does your institution plan to participate in the spring 2020 administration of NSSE? (*You may be able to find the answer to the first part of this question by searching the NSSE participating institution search page at <http://nsse.indiana.edu/html/participants.cfm?>; select the NSSE box, enter your school in the institution name field, and click “Collect Results.”*)
- _____ (2) Is your institution already committed to another NSSE consortium (e.g., as part of a state university system) that might preclude joining the NSSE Honors Consortium?
- _____ (3) Is your institution already committed to using more than one of the optional NSSE “topical modules” that might preclude joining the Honors Consortium? (*CPR sets a limit of one “topical module” for those participating in a consortium.*)
- _____ (4) Is your honors program big enough to join the NSSE Honors Consortium? (*You won’t be restricted from the Honors Consortium based on program size, but you will probably want to consider program size when deliberating about whether your institution will join the NSSE Honors Consortium. Smaller programs may benefit less from the potential. If you have, say, 160 honors students, and if about one-fourth of those are seniors (40), and if those forty student respond at the regular rate of response for NSSE, which is about 25 to 30 percent, then that would be 10–12 honors students’ worth of senior data to compare to the rest of your senior NSSE respondents. If your honors students have big differences from non-honors students on a given set of survey item, those differences could show up as significant with sample sizes that small, but many people would probably raise doubts about data from samples that small. If, however, you have a program that’s closer to 300 (the average program size among NCHC members), and with 75 or 80 seniors, and thus could be fairly confident of about 20+ senior honors students in the final NSSE sample, it gets a little easier to justify a \$400 investment.*)
- _____ (5) Is your honors program/college or your institution administration able and willing to pay the additional \$400 consortium participation fee?
- _____ (6) Are you willing to work with your office of institutional research and reporting (and are they willing to work with you) to provide them with a list of your honors students for inclusion as an “optional group variable” in your institution’s NSSE “population file” (i.e., the mailing list NSSE uses to contact students)? (*There is no additional cost for doing so, and this variable will provide a useful way to cross-check and corroborate student responses to the survey question asking about honors participation.*)

For those interested in joining the NSSE Honors Consortium, please contact consortium coordinator **Dr. Andrew Cognard-Black**, chair of the Research Committee Honors Consortium Working Group (e-mail: ajcognardblack@smcm.edu).