2017 Best Colleges - Finance Survey

Introduction

BEST COLLEGES

Data Collection

U.S. News has begun collecting data for the 2018 edition of Best Colleges. The U.S. News surveys ask about many aspects of your institution that are important to potential college applicants across the country, other educational intuitions, and the public at large.

U.S. News’s statistical data collection system has been redesigned. As a result of this redesign, the surveys themselves now have significantly more validation built-in as part of the initial data entry process. This validation is intended to make the entering of incorrect or incomplete data more difficult. Also, new this year, U.S. News has changed the way we do the assessment and verification stage. The assessment and verification processes are now incorporated as separate steps in the data collection process and will no longer be done via paper. U.S. News hopes these improvements will make the data collection process shorter and easier.

There are 3 steps in the U.S. News data collection process:

Step 1: Data: Fill in as much of the survey as possible.

Step 2: Assessment: After filling in your data, navigate to the ‘Main Survey Assessment’ section. The assessment runs a comparison between your current data and the data submitted last year. The assessment will identify potential errors between the two years of data. For more information please go to the main assessment section.

Step 3: Verification: After reviewing the assessment and fixing any remaining errors, navigate to the section titled ‘Verification’. This is where the survey submission takes place. Please take some time to review your survey data one last time. When you are ready, please select the check box, fill out the identification information and hit the red ‘Submit Survey’ button.

Important Icons

* The red asterisk located next to a few question numbers indicated that the question is mandatory. If the question is not answered you will be unable to submit the survey. All assessment flags are mandatory and must be addressed.

✗ The red x indicates that you have not filled out the question correctly. There will be a line of text that accompanies the icon letting you know what the exact problem is. Once the issue is corrected, the x will disappear. All failed validations must be fixed before the survey can be submitted.

🛡️ The gold shield indicates that the question is used in the Best Colleges rankings calculation.