

5 WAYS TO INCREASE CES PARTICIPATION

Encouraging participation starts with helping students understand why their feedback matters. The following practices can help foster meaningful engagement with the Course Experience Survey.

1. EXPLAIN WHY STUDENT FEEDBACK MATTERS

Students are more likely to participate when they understand that their feedback contributes to improving courses and the learning experience. Briefly explain the purpose of the Course Experience Survey and reinforce that thoughtful responses help inform future course design and instruction. This approach aligns with LSU's emphasis on creating a transparent, improvement-focused culture of feedback.

2. SET ASIDE TIME DURING CLASS

When appropriate, consider providing a few minutes during class for students to complete the survey using their own devices. Making participation convenient can help improve completion rates while ensuring students have dedicated time to provide thoughtful feedback. *Keep in mind that participation should always remain voluntary.*

3. CLOSE THE FEEDBACK LOOP

Students are more likely to participate when they can see that previous feedback led to meaningful improvements. Consider sharing examples of changes you have made based on student input from prior semesters. Demonstrating that feedback leads to action reinforces the value of participation.

4. REASSURE STUDENTS THAT RESPONSES ARE CONFIDENTIAL

Students may hesitate to provide honest feedback if they are unsure how responses are handled. Remind them that Course Experience Surveys are confidential and that results are shared only after grades have been submitted. Providing this reassurance can encourage more candid and constructive participation.

5. ENCOURAGE THOUGHTFUL, CONSTRUCTIVE FEEDBACK

Rather than focusing solely on completion, encourage students to provide specific examples and balanced comments that faculty can use to improve future offerings. Emphasizing quality over quantity supports LSU's goal of gathering meaningful, actionable information that informs continuous improvement.