

## 2012 Parent Survey

Welcome Cornell Parent, Thank you for participating in the Cornell Parent Survey. This survey is being sent to parents of enrolled students by a select group of colleges and universities. The results will help us serve both parents and students better. All individual responses will be confidential -- only averages and other summary statistics will be reported. We hope you will complete the survey. A high response rate dramatically improves the usefulness of the results. Either parent may fill out the questionnaire or both parents may complete the survey together. If you have more than one child attending Cornell, please answer in reference to the older son or daughter who is enrolled as an undergraduate here. The survey consists of several sections, and the entire survey should take approximately 15 minutes to complete. Once you submit each page by hitting the "Next" button, your answers will be saved from that page. You may complete part of the survey and return at a later date to finish it. If you return to the survey, your previous answers will be displayed for you to review and edit if you wish. Remember your responses will be completely confidential, so please be candid. Your participation is very important and greatly appreciated!

### Tell Us How We Are Doing

1. Overall, how satisfied are you with your child's undergraduate education at Cornell so far?

- Very satisfied
- Generally satisfied
- Ambivalent
- Generally dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied

2. As a parent, how satisfied are you with each of the following aspects of Cornell?

	Very dissatisfied	Generally dissatisfied	Generally satisfied	Very satisfied	Don't know
Overall quality of instruction	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Emphasis on undergraduate education	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The administration's responsiveness to parent concerns	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Social life on campus	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sense of community on campus	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Intellectual atmosphere outside the classroom	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Your own sense of personal connection to Cornell	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Quality of academic advising	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

3. Please tell us how much you agree or disagree with the following statements:

	Disagree strongly	Disagree somewhat	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree somewhat	Agree strongly
I am happy my child attends Cornell.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
It has been very difficult for us to pay for my child's college education.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
My child is under too much academic stress.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Overall, my child is doing well at Cornell.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I am worried that my child will graduate with too much debt.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I am worried that my child will have trouble finding a job after graduation.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
My child has made strong social connections at Cornell.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I am worried that my child has taken on too much outside of coursework.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

4. Thinking about undergraduate education, how important is it that Cornell does each of the following?

	Not at all important	Not too important	Somewhat important	Very important
Provide a broad-based education that promotes intellectual growth	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Recruit a diverse student body	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Provide training for a specific career or profession	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Improve students' future earning potential	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Promote personal growth and maturity	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Provide opportunities to conduct research with faculty	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Encourage community service and volunteering	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Develop leadership skills	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Provide extensive extracurricular and athletic options	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Prepare students for graduate or professional school	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Provide international/global experiences (e.g. study or work abroad)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Create opportunities for on-campus interactions with students from diverse backgrounds	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

5. Please tell us how much you agree or disagree with the following statements:

	Disagree strongly	Disagree somewhat	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree somewhat	Agree strongly
Cornell could spend less and still maintain a high quality of education.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cornell should try to help improve its surrounding community.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cornell is a place where people of different racial and ethnic backgrounds can feel welcome.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Alcohol plays too dominant a role in social life at Cornell	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cornell provides adequate resources for the health and wellness of students.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Faculty research at Cornell enriches the undergraduate experience.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

6. Would you encourage a high school senior who resembles your child (same background, abilities, interests and temperament) to attend Cornell?

- Definitely would
- Probably would
- Maybe
- Probably not
- Definitely not

**Being the Parent of a College Student: Staying Informed**

1. Do you feel that you are receiving sufficient communication from Cornell?

- I am receiving too little communication
- I am receiving sufficient communication
- I am receiving too much communication

2. Overall, how well do you think the information you receive from Cornell meets your needs as a parent?

- Very well
- Pretty well
- Adequately
- Poorly

3. Use this checklist to tell us which areas you'd like to hear more about. Mark as many as you like.

- Events for parents (e.g., Family Weekend)
- Resources for parents (e.g., Parents Association)
- Academic life and policies
- Residential life and policies
- Religious life
- Special events on campus
- Campus safety
- Student organizations
- Athletics
- Off-campus programs (such as Study Abroad)
- Financial aid
- Financing (installments, pre-pay, etc.)
- Academic support services (e.g., tutoring)
- Career counseling

- Psychological/counseling services
- Medical/health services

4. Please indicate how frequently you read or visit the following Cornell communications:

	Never	Once or twice per year	Two or three times per semester	At least once per month
Parent enews (the monthly parent newsletter)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ezra Updates (the monthly news update for alumni and friends)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Chronicle Online (weekly news from Cornell)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Correspondence from university officials (e.g., the president, vice presidents, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Correspondence from the dean of your child's college	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The Cornell website (www.cornell.edu)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Social media (e.g., Facebook, Twitter)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cornell blogs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Text messages from Cornell	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other, please specify:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

5. Please rate the usefulness of the following Cornell communications:

	Of little or no use	Moderately useful	Very useful	Not applicable
Parent enews (the monthly parent newsletter)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ezra Updates (the monthly news update for alumni and friends)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Chronicle Online (weekly news from Cornell)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Correspondence from university officials (e.g., the president, vice presidents, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Correspondence from the dean of your child's college	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The Cornell website (www.cornell.edu)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Social media (e.g., Facebook, Twitter)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cornell blogs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Text messages from Cornell	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other, please specify:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

### Day-To-Day Involvement With College Life

1. During the current school year, about how often have you and your child been in touch (by phone, e-mail, mail, or any other way)? This is while your child is away at school. Mark the best answer.

- More than once a day
- Daily
- A few times a week
- Weekly
- A few times a month
- Few times a term
- Once a term or less

2. How many times have you visited the campus during the current academic year? Please include trips to drop-off or pick-up your child.

- None
- Once
- Two or three times
- More than three times

3. During the current academic year, have you...

	Yes	No
Visited Cornell's website?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Watched videos available from Cornell's website?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Read the college newspaper (on-line or in print)?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Followed blogs or social media (Facebook, Twitter, etc.) from Cornell?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Attended an event at Cornell in which your child was involved?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Attended an event at Cornell in which your child was not directly involved?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

4. During the current academic year, have you interacted by phone, e-mail, in person, etc., with...

	<span style="font-weight:normal;"> </span>	
	Yes	No
...financial aid office staff?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
...one of your child's instructors?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
...a staff person in a dean's office?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
...career services office staff?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
...residential life staff?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
...your child's academic advisor?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
...financial services/bursar's office staff?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
...others at Cornell we have not mentioned? Please specify the office or role.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

5. During the current academic year, how often have you done each of the following?

	<nobr>Did not</nobr> <nobr>do this</nobr>	Rarely	Occasionally	Often	Very often
Helped your child make decisions about which courses to take.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Talked with your child about course material.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Talked with your child about his/her long-term career or academic plans.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

### Paying for College – This Year

We want to understand how families are paying for college. Your answers are completely confidential: the data will be used for research purposes only. Your financial aid will not be affected in any way.

1. Did your child receive a grant to help pay expenses for the current academic year from any source? Grants include any aid you need not repay and may be based on need or merit or both. Consider grants awarded by this institution or by any outside source.

- Yes
- No

1a. Please use the scale below to describe the amount of grant aid your child received for the current academic year.

- \$1 - \$4,999
- \$5,000 - \$9,999
- \$10,000 - \$14,999
- \$15,000 - \$19,999
- \$20,000 - \$24,999
- \$25,000 - \$29,999
- \$30,000 - \$39,999
- \$40,000 or more

2. Please use the following list to describe how your family is meeting your college expenses this year. Consider all of your college costs for this child after subtracting any grants you may have reported above. Please mark one answer in each row, marking "Did not use" where appropriate. We know this is a hard question. Just make your best guess.

2. Please use the following list to describe how your family is meeting your college expenses this year. Consider all of your college costs for this child. Please mark one answer in each row, marking "Did not use" where appropriate. We know this is a hard question. Just make your best guess.

### FAMILY ASSETS

	Did Not Use	1-25%	26-50%	51-100%
Ordinary savings and sale of stock or other financial assets	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sale of non-financial assets (real estate, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
State-sponsored college savings ("529") plan	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pre-paid tuition plan (of any kind)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Withdrawal from a retirement plan	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

PARENT BORROWING

	Did Not Use	1-25%	26-50%	51-100%
Home equity loans	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
"PLUS" and other loans through the financial aid office	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Parent educational loans from private lenders	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Borrowing from relatives or friends	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Borrowing from a retirement plan	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other types of borrowing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

CURRENT PARENT INCOME

	Did Not Use	1-25%	26-50%	51-100%
Income from parents' usual job(s) or business	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Parents' second jobs or overtime work	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Parents' employee benefits	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

STUDENT CONTRIBUTIONS

	Did Not Use	1-25%	26-50%	51-100%
Student work-study or term-time job(s)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Student earnings during vacation periods	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Student borrowing – all kinds	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Student's assets (trust fund, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Student's employee benefits	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

OTHER RESOURCES

	Did Not Use	1-25%	26-50%	51-100%
Gifts from relatives or others (e.g., grandparents)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Resources not listed above. Please specify.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

## Paying for College – To Date

For this next set of questions, think about this child's entire undergraduate experience to date.

1. So far, how much money have you or your spouse/partner borrowed to pay for your child's college education? Include all years. Do not include amounts the student is obligated to repay.

- \$0
- \$1 - \$4,999
- \$5,000 - \$9,999
- \$10,000 - \$14,999
- \$15,000 - \$19,999
- \$20,000 - \$24,999
- \$25,000 - \$29,999
- \$30,000 - \$39,999
- \$40,000 - \$49,999
- \$50,000 - \$59,999
- \$60,000 - \$74,999
- \$75,000 - \$99,999
- \$100,000 or more

1a. Will your child help repay these loans? Mark the best answer.

- No, my child will not help repay these debts
- Yes, my child will repay less than half of what I borrowed
- Yes, my child will repay half or more of what I borrowed

2. If your child has borrowed money for college, do you expect to help him or her pay off these loans? Mark the best answer.

- My child has no student loans
- No, my child will make these payments on his/her own
- Yes -- I or someone else will repay less than half of what my child borrowed
- Yes -- I or someone else will repay half or more of what my child borrowed

3. If you are not living with this child's other parent, does the other parent contribute to the student's education expenses?

- Not Applicable
- Yes
- No

4. What has been the impact on your family of paying for your child to attend Cornell?

- None/slight
- Moderate
- Considerable
- Severe
- Not applicable (We have not contributed funds for our child's education.)

5. Has your child's experience at Cornell been worth the impact on your family's finances?

- Yes, definitely
- Somewhat
- No, definitely not

## About You and this Child

As a reminder, if you have more than one child attending Cornell, please answer in reference to the older son or daughter enrolled as an undergraduate here.

1. What is your child's gender?

- Female



If 8. Are you married or living with a partner? Yes Is Selected	<input type="radio"/>						
1a. How old is your spouse or partner?							

	No high school diploma	High school diploma or equivalent	Post-secondary school other than college	Some college or associate's degree	Bachelor's degree	Graduate or Professional degree
2. What is the highest degree you have earned?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
If 8. Are you married or living with a partner? Yes Is Selected	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2a. What about your spouse or partner?						

3. Has a parent, sibling, or other close relative of this child attended Cornell?

- Yes
- No

	Yes	No
4. Are you a citizen or permanent resident of the United States?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
If 8. Are you married or living with a partner? Yes Is Selected	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4a. Is your spouse or partner a citizen or permanent resident of the United States?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

	5. What is your race or ethnicity? Mark all that apply.	5a. What is your spouse or partner's race or ethnicity? Mark all that apply.
Asian	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Black/African American	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hispanic/ Latino	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Native American	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
White	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

6. Please use the following categories to tell us what your before-tax family income from all sources was in 2011. Again, all information you provide is completely confidential and will be used only for research.

- Under \$25,000
- \$25,000 - \$49,999
- \$50,000 - \$74,999
- \$75,000 - \$99,999
- \$100,000 - \$124,999
- \$125,000 - \$149,999
- \$150,000 - \$174,999
- \$175,000 - \$199,999
- \$200,000 - \$249,999
- \$250,000 - \$499,999
- \$500,000 or above

7. If you presently are living in the United States, please indicate your ZIP code in the space provided.

U.S. Zip Code (5 digit)

**Your Comments**

Please use this space to make any other comments you would like about any of the topics raised in this survey or any other matter of concern to you.

This is the last page of the survey. If you wish to review your responses, please use the "Back" button below, or select Submit Survey to save and complete your survey.