

From: **Student Success** <student_success@fitnyc.edu>
Date: Wed, Mar 16, 2016
Subject: The SUNY System-wide Student Information Survey
To: current_students@ls.fitnyc.edu

Dear student,

As part of a state-wide effort to best serve SUNY's diverse student population, and to ensure that all SUNY campuses provide a supportive and welcoming environment, you---and all SUNY students---are being required to participate in a new student information survey that will take place at the time of registration. It is a short three-minute survey with only six questions. But it is designed to capture information that will allow SUNY to more accurately and fully understand its student body. All of your answers will be encrypted and will be entirely anonymous.

The SUNY System-wide Student Information Survey was put into place based on Governor Andrew M. Cuomo's new Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policy for the State University of New York, which was adopted by the SUNY Board of Trustees. This new tool will allow students a means to voluntarily self-identify their parents' education levels, employment plans for the term, sexual orientation, gender identity, birth gender, disability information and Veteran statuses.

The new policy broadly defines diversity to include race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, age, socioeconomic status, status as a veteran, status as a student with a disability, first-generation students, and international students or those transferring between colleges. The policy aims to improve services and support for these students, ensure that SUNY's student, faculty, and staff populations mirror that of New York State, as well as ensure that SUNY's commitment to being welcoming and inclusive to all diverse populations is clear.

The information collected from this survey will be transmitted from campus information technology offices to the information technology offices at SUNY System Administration in Albany, New York. As with all student data, access is restricted and information is stored on secure servers. This data will always be reported at the aggregate level, such as by overall campus, sectors of campuses, or the system as a whole, never by individual student. Examples of information reported from this survey would be 50% of students at Campus A plan to work between 10 and 20 hours per week; or 65% of students at all SUNY community colleges plan to work between 10 and 20 hours per week. This data is being collected for informational purposes to inform efforts by SUNY System to support student success and ensure inclusive campus environments.

I recognize that you are asked to participate in numerous surveys, but this one is particularly important since its goal is to ensure that SUNY provides the most inclusive and accommodating campus environments for all of its students. You will be learning more about the survey from FIT's registrar in the days ahead. I thank you for your cooperation.

Dr. Joyce F. Brown
President