

# James Madison University Continuing Student Survey

## Survey Instrument 2026

Note to viewer: Beneath each set of questions is the name of the dashboard series containing the data or information, if applicable. For more information, contact [pair@jmu.edu](mailto:pair@jmu.edu)

### Common Questions

The common questions listed below are asked of all students who take the continuing student survey.

#### **[C\_PRO6] What is the highest academic degree that you intend to obtain?**

- A) Not a degree seeking student
- B) Bachelor's degree
- C) Master's degree
- D) Specialist degree (e.g., Ed.S.)
- E) Professional degree (e.g., medicine, law, theology)
- F) Doctoral degree (e.g., Ph.D., Ed.D., D.B.A.)

Dashboard Series: About Our Continuing Students

#### **[C\_HOUSING] What is your current residence?**

- A) Residence hall
- B) On-campus Greek housing
- C) On-campus non-Greek housing
- D) Off-campus Greek housing
- E) Off-campus non-Greek housing
- F) Home of parent or relative
- G) Other

Dashboard Series: About Our Continuing Students

#### **During the current academic year, approximate the number of hours that you expect to commit WEEKLY to each of the following activities:**

- A) 0 hours
- B) 1-5 hours
- C) 6-10 hours
- D) 11-20 hours
- E) 21-30 hours
- F) More than 30 hours

[C\_PRO2\_1] Extracurricular activities (i.e., clubs and organizations).

[C\_PRO2\_2] Partying.

[C\_PRO2\_3] Studying and other activities related to class assignments (other than class/lab time).

[C\_PRO2\_4] Working a job on campus.

[C\_PRO2\_5] Working a job off-campus.

Dashboard Series: About Our Continuing Students

Using the following scale (1-5) and descriptors, identify the number that corresponds most closely to the feeling you have about JMU.

1 \_\_\_\_\_ 2 \_\_\_\_\_ 3 \_\_\_\_\_ 4 \_\_\_\_\_ 5 \_\_\_\_\_

- [C\_PER1\_1] Not rigorous. . . . . Rigorous
- [C\_PER1\_2] Non-supportive. . . . . Supportive
- [C\_PER1\_3] Exclusive. . . . . Inclusive
- [C\_PER1\_4] Unwelcoming. . . . . Welcoming

Dashboard Series: Student Perceptions

Which of the following have you already done or plan to do during your time at JMU?

- A) I have not done this, and do not have interest
- B) I have not done this, but I want to and do not have current plans to
- C) I have not done this, but I have plans to
- D) I have done this

- [C\_HIP1\_1] Hold a leadership role on or off campus
- [C\_HIP1\_2] Participate in undergraduate research
- [C\_HIP1\_3] Have a work-based learning experience (e.g., student teaching, clinicals, internship)
- [C\_HIP1\_4] Volunteer (not as a part of a course)
- [C\_HIP1\_5] Participate in service learning (a teaching strategy that integrates service to community)
- [C\_HIP1\_6] Participate in politics beyond voting
- [C\_HIP1\_7] Study abroad
- [C\_HIP1\_8] Work on team projects with fellow students
- [C\_HIP1\_9] Have a job on campus.

Dashboard Series: Students' Experiences

Based on the following scale, please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements.

- A) Strongly disagree
- B) Somewhat Disagree
- C) Somewhat Agree
- D) Strongly agree

- [C\_CD1\_1] I know how to identify possible career options based on my strengths, values and interests.
- [C\_CD1\_2] I know how to choose between occupations.
- [C\_CD1\_3] I know what kind of classes to take in order to prepare for my career.
- [C\_CD1\_4] I know how my classes prepare me for my career.
- [C\_CD1\_5] I know how my major and career goals are related.
- [C\_CD1\_6] I know how to gain practical experience in my field of study.
- [C\_CD1\_7] I know how to gain experience to prepare me for my career.

Dashboard Series: Student Development

[C\_SAT1] Indicate your level of satisfaction with JMU in general

- A) Very dissatisfied

- B) Dissatisfied
- C) Satisfied
- D) Very satisfied

Dashboard Series: Student Satisfaction

**[C\_SAT2] If you could start over again, would you attend JMU?**

- A) Definitely no
- B) No
- C) Yes
- D) Definitely yes

Dashboard Series: Student Satisfaction

## Form A

A random subset of participants completed Form A.

**[C\_ELI1] In your opinion, how important is it that each student participate in at least one engaged learning activity (learning that comes from an experience, occurs in community with others and with guided reflection) prior to graduation?**

- A) Very unimportant
- B) Somewhat unimportant
- C) Somewhat important
- D) Very important

Dashboard Series: Student Perceptions

**How much does JMU value the following:**

- A) Not at all
- B) Some
- C) A great deal

- [C\_CQ1\_1] Embracing access, diversity and inclusion
- [C\_CQ1\_2] Academic quality of classes
- [C\_CQ1\_3] Developing vocational and occupational skills.
- [C\_CQ1\_4] Student engagement
- [C\_CQ1\_5] Personal growth and self-awareness
- [C\_CQ1\_6] Student health and well-being
- [C\_CQ1\_7] Philanthropy and service
- [C\_CQ1\_8] Providing opportunities for student recreation
- [C\_CQ1\_9] Becoming a nationally recognized university.

Dashboard Series: Student Perceptions

**Based on the following scale, please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements.**

- A) Strongly disagree
- B) Disagree
- C) Agree
- D) Strongly agree
- E) No basis to judge

- [C\_CQ2\_1] Faculty are experts in their field

[C\_CQ2\_2] Faculty put teaching as a high priority.  
[C\_CQ2\_3] Faculty want students to succeed

**Dashboard Series: Student Perceptions**

**Based on the following scale, please indicate your agreement with each of the following statements.**

- A) Strongly disagree
- B) Disagree
- C) Agree
- D) Strongly agree
- E) No basis to judge

[C\_PER2\_1] JMU places a high priority on mental health counseling of students.  
[C\_PER2\_2] The administration maintains adequate communication with students about institutional policies.  
[C\_PER2\_3] JMU is preparing me for a productive and meaningful life beyond college.  
[C\_PER2\_4] I feel welcome in the Harrisonburg community.  
[C\_PER2\_5] JMU cares about the needs of its students.  
[C\_PER2\_6] JMU is concerned about me as an individual  
[C\_PER2\_7] It is important for me to stay connected to JMU after graduation.  
[C\_PER2\_8] I think it is important for me to show my support for JMU after graduation by giving back philanthropically to the university.  
[C\_PER2\_9] My JMU experience has been as good as I thought it would be.

**Dashboard Series: Student Perceptions**

**Based on the following scale, please indicate your agreement with each of the following statements.**

- A) Strongly disagree
- B) Disagree
- C) Agree
- D) Strongly agree
- E) No basis to judge

[C\_ADV1\_1] My major faculty adviser seems interested in helping me.  
[C\_ADV1\_2] The academic information given to me by my major faculty adviser has been accurate and helpful.  
[C\_ADV1\_3] JMU places high priority on the academic advising of students

**Dashboard Series: Academics & Advising**

**Indicate your level of satisfaction with each of the following aspects of James Madison University:**

- A) Very dissatisfied
- B) Dissatisfied
- C) Satisfied
- D) Very satisfied
- E) No basis to judge

[C\_SAT3\_1] Mental health/psychological services  
[C\_SAT3\_2] Tutoring resources  
[C\_SAT3\_3] Study skills support services

Dashboard Series: Student Satisfaction

**[C\_FIS]** How often did you eat less than you felt you should because you did not have the resources for food?

- A) Never
- B) Once per month or less
- C) Two to three times per month
- D) One to two times per week
- E) Three or more times per week
- F) Prefer not to answer

Dashboard Series: About Our Continuing Students

Based on the scale below, indicate the personal importance to you concerning each of the following:

- A) Not important
- B) Somewhat important
- C) Very important
- D) Essential

[C\_V1\_1] Working to promote social change

[C\_V1\_2] Becoming a leader in my field

[C\_V1\_3] Becoming involved with politics

[C\_V1\_4] Contributing to science and innovation

[C\_V1\_5] Ethical behavior

[C\_V1\_6] Becoming involved in my community.

[C\_V1\_7] Being well off financially.

[C\_V1\_8] Promoting racial understanding

[C\_V1\_9] Developing a meaningful philosophy of life.

Dashboard Series: Student Perceptions

**Form B**

A random subset of participants completed Form B.

**[C\_PRO3]** The following statements describe four personal philosophies of higher education. Choose the one statement that most accurately portrays your own point of view.

- A) The greatest emphasis is on the scholarly pursuit of knowledge and understanding. Involvement in course work or independent study beyond the minimum is sought. Social life and organized activities are relatively unimportant.
- B) Extracurricular activities, parties, athletics, social life, friendships and loyalty to college traditions are viewed as important and scholarly endeavors are less important though not ignored.
- C) Education is viewed essentially as preparation for an occupational future. College is seen primarily to obtain training for a chosen career.
- D) Emphasis is placed on ideas, art forms and individuality. There is often either a conscious rejection of commonly held value orientations or a search for meaning in one's own life.

## Dashboard Series: About Our Continuing Students

### To what extent has JMU provided you with:

- A) None
- B) Very little
- C) Some
- D) Quite a bit
- E) Very much

[C\_OPP1\_1] Opportunities to develop skills valuable in the workforce

[C\_OPP1\_2] Expertise in a specific discipline or area of study

[C\_OPP1\_3] Contact with individuals of different backgrounds

[C\_OPP1\_4] A broad, liberal arts education

[C\_OPP1\_5] A sense of community

[C\_OPP1\_6] An environment that promotes well-being

[C\_OPP1\_7] Opportunities for applying critical thinking

[C\_OPP1\_8] Skills for lifelong learning

## Dashboard Series: Students' Experiences

### To what extent has JMU has contributed to my knowledge, skills, and personal development in the following areas:

- A) None
- B) Very little
- C) Some
- D) Quite a bit
- E) Very much

[C\_GR1\_1] Writing clearly and effectively

[C\_GR1\_2] Thinking critically

[C\_GR1\_3] Taking a leadership role

[C\_GR1\_4] Functioning effectively as a team member

[C\_GR1\_5] Identifying moral and ethical issues

[C\_GR1\_6] Relating well to people of different backgrounds

[C\_GR1\_7] Understanding yourself (strengths, abilities, limitations)

## Dashboard Series: Student Development

### How would you currently rate yourself in the following areas:

- A) This is an area in which I could improve
- B) I am somewhat strong in this area
- C) This is a major strength of mine

[C\_DEI1\_1] Ability to see the world from someone else's perspective

[C\_DEI1\_2] Tolerance of others with different beliefs

[C\_DEI1\_3] Openness to having my own views challenged

[C\_DEI1\_4] Ability to discuss and negotiate controversial issues

[C\_DEI1\_5] Ability to work cooperatively with diverse people

Dashboard Series: About Our Continuing Students

The following items are asking how you feel about JMU. Not all students feel the same way or are expected to feel the same way. Please read each item carefully and respond according to how you feel at this current moment, not how you hope to feel. There is no right or wrong answer. Just answer as honestly as possible.

Strongly Disagree 1	2	3	4	Neutral 5	6	7	8	Strongly Agree 9
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- [C\_SENS1\_1] I feel a sense of belonging to JMU.
- [C\_SENS1\_2] I am happy to be at JMU.
- [C\_SENS1\_3] I see myself as part of the JMU community.
- [C\_SENS1\_4] I am enthusiastic about JMU.
- [C\_SENS1\_5] JMU is one of the best schools in the nation.
- [C\_SENS1\_6] I feel that I am a member of the JMU community.

Dashboard Series: Student Perceptions

Based on the following scale, please indicate your agreement with each of the following statements concerning JMU's general education (GENED) program.

- A) Strongly disagree
- B) Disagree
- C) Agree
- D) Strongly agree
- E) No basis to judge

- [GENED1\_1] I believe the program prepares me to be an informed citizen who is able to participate in public life and public decision-making.
- [GENED1\_2] I believe the program prepares me in critical thinking skills, communication and information literacy
- [GENED1\_3] I believe the program prepares me to appreciate that the Arts and Humanities reflect and illuminate the human experience.
- [GENED1\_4] I believe the program develops my awareness of both physical and emotional wellness.
- [GENED1\_5] I believe the program develops my problem-solving skills in science and mathematics.
- [GENED1\_6] I am satisfied with the level of difficulty of the content presented in the program's courses
- [GENED1\_7] The library resources are adequate to meet the needs of the program's courses.
- [GENED1\_8] I am satisfied with the quality of teaching in the program.
- [GENED1\_9] Overall, I am satisfied with the quality of the program.

Dashboard Series: Contact PAIR

[LC1] Have you used the learning centers? The Learning Centers include: the Communication Center, Multilingual student services, Peer assisted study sessions (PASS), Science and Math center, and the University writing center.

- A) Yes → skip LC2\_1 through LC2\_12 and end survey
- B) No

Dashboard Series: Contact PAIR

Which of the following are reasons you have not used the JMU Learning Centers? Select all that apply.  
**Programming note: Randomize options**

- LC2\_1 I've never heard of the learning centers
- LC2\_2 I went to professor's office hours instead
- LC2\_3 I don't know how to sign up
- LC2\_4 Too anxious to go to learning centers
- LC2\_5 Too shy or uncomfortable to meet with someone from learning centers
- LC2\_6 I work and don't have time
- LC2\_7 I don't know what happens at the learning centers
- LC2\_8 I have more urgent things to worry about
- LC2\_9 I've always studied alone and prefer it
- LC2\_10 I didn't have specific questions
- LC2\_11 It was easier to ask a friend or classmate
- LC2\_12 Other [\[Anchor\]](#)

Dashboard Series: Contact PAIR

## Form C

A random subset of participants completed Form C.

**[C\_PRO10\_1] What is your present religion?**

- A) Protestant (e.g., Baptist, Methodist, Lutheran, Episcopal)
- B) Catholic
- C) Mormon
- D) Orthodox (e.g., Greek or Russian)
- E) Jewish
- F) Muslim
- G) Buddhist
- H) Hindu
- I) Atheist
- J) Agnostic
- K) Do not identify as anything
- L) My identity is not listed here [text entry option]\_\_\_\_\_
- M) Prefer not to say

Dashboard Series: Contact PAIR

**[C\_PRO1] Select the item below that best characterizes your political views:**



Dashboard Series: Contact PAIR

Please respond to each of the following items in terms of how true it is for you with respect to your learning and academics at JMU.

Response options:

- A) Strongly Disagree
- B) Disagree
- C) Somewhat Disagree
- D) Somewhat Agree
- E) Agree
- F) Strongly Agree

[C\_PCL\_1] I feel confident in my ability to do well academically at JMU.

[C\_PCL\_2] I can learn the material in my courses at JMU.

[C\_PCL\_3] I can achieve my academic goals at JMU.

[C\_PCL\_4] I can perform well academically at JMU.

Dashboard Series: Special Topics

Please read each item carefully and respond according to how you feel at this current moment, not how you hope to feel. There is no right or wrong answer. Just answer as honestly as possible.

Response options:

- A) Strongly Disagree
- B) Disagree
- C) Somewhat Disagree
- D) Somewhat Agree
- E) Agree
- F) Strongly Agree

*\*Indicates item is reverse coded*

[C\_SB\_1] I have found groups, clubs, or communities at JMU that interest me.

[C\_SB\_2] I have found people who share my values and interests at JMU.

[C\_SB\_3] I feel connected to JMU through online resources, social media, or student activities.

[C\_SB\_4] I feel isolated at JMU. \*

- [C\_SB\_5] I don't fit in socially at JMU. \*
- [C\_SB\_6] I have not found a JMU community where I feel comfortable.\*
- [C\_SB\_7] I have never had a hard time adjusting to life at JMU.

**Dashboard Series: Student Perceptions**

**Please read each item carefully and respond according to how you view your relationships with people at JMU. There is no right or wrong answer. Just answer as honestly as possible.**

- A) Strongly Disagree
- B) Disagree
- C) Somewhat Disagree
- D) Somewhat Agree
- E) Agree
- F) Strongly Agree

[C\_SPS\_1] I have close relationships at JMU that provide me with a sense of emotional security and well-being.

[C\_SPS\_2] There is someone at JMU I could talk to about important decisions in my life.

[C\_SPS\_3] I have relationships at JMU where my competence and skill are recognized.

[C\_SPS\_4] I feel part of a group of people at JMU who share my attitudes and beliefs.

**Dashboard Series: Special Topics**

**[C\_GRAD]** Indicate your level of agreement to the following statement: *It will take me longer to graduate than I had planned.*

- A) Strongly Disagree
- B) Disagree
- C) Agree
- D) Strongly Agree

**Dashboard Series: Contact PAIR**

**[C\_RURAL]** On a scale of 1-7 with 1 being the most remote and 7 being the most urban, how remote/urban would you characterize the hometown you lived in during most of your high school experience?

- A) 1 remote
  - B) 2
  - C) 3 rural
  - D) 4
  - E) 5 suburban
  - F) 6
  - G) 7 urban
- [ST\_DP1\_6] Location on campus

Dashboard Series: Contact PAIR

**Please indicate your level of satisfaction with JMU in the following areas:**

- A) Very Dissatisfied
- B) Dissatisfied
- C) Somewhat Dissatisfied
- D) Somewhat Satisfied
- E) Satisfied
- F) Very Satisfied

[C\_DIV1\_1] Socioeconomic diversity of the student body

[C\_DIV1\_2] Racial diversity of the student body

Dashboard Series: Contact PAIR

**Please indicate the extent to which the following statements apply to you:**

- A) Not at all true
- B) Hardly true
- C) Moderately true
- D) Exactly true

[C\_GSE\_1] If someone opposes me, I can find the means and ways to get what I want.

[C\_GSE\_2] It is easy for me to stick to my aims and accomplish my goals.

[C\_GSE\_3] Thanks to my resourcefulness, I know how to handle unforeseen situations.

[C\_GSE\_4] I can solve most problems if I invest the necessary effort.

[C\_GSE\_5] I can remain calm when facing difficulties because I can rely on my coping abilities.

[C\_GSE\_6] I can usually handle whatever comes my way.

Dashboard Series: Contact PAIR

**Below are 8 statements with which you may agree or disagree. Using the 1–7 scale below, indicate your agreement with each item by indicating that response for each statement.**

- A) Strongly Disagree
- B) Disagree
- C) Slightly Disagree
- D) Mixed or neither agree nor disagree
- E) Slightly Agree
- F) Agree

G) Strongly Agree

[C\_DNR\_1] I lead a purposeful and meaningful life.

[C\_DNR\_2] My social relationships are supportive and rewarding.

[C\_DNR\_3] I am engaged and interested in my daily activities.

[C\_DNR\_4] I actively contribute to the happiness and well-being of others.

[C\_DNR\_5] I am competent and capable in the activities that are important to me.

[C\_DNR\_6] I am a good person and live a good life.

[C\_DNR\_7] I am optimistic about my future.

[C\_DNR\_8] People respect me.

Dashboard Series: Special Topics

## Form D

A random subset of participants completed Form D.

### [C\_PRO10\_1] What is your present religion?

- A) Protestant (e.g., Baptist, Methodist, Lutheran, Episcopal)
- B) Catholic
- C) Mormon
- D) Orthodox (e.g., Greek or Russian)
- E) Jewish
- F) Muslim
- G) Buddhist
- H) Hindu
- I) Atheist
- J) Agnostic
- K) Do not identify as anything
- L) My identity is not listed here [text entry option]\_\_\_\_\_
- M) Prefer not to say

Dashboard Series: Contact PAIR

### [C\_PRO1] Select the item below that best characterizes your political views:

	1	2	3	4	5	
Liberal	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Conservative

Dashboard Series: Contact PAIR

Using the following scale (1-5) and descriptors, identify the number that corresponds most closely to the feeling you have about JMU.

1 \_\_\_\_\_ 2 \_\_\_\_\_ 3 \_\_\_\_\_ 4 \_\_\_\_\_ 5

- [C\_PER1\_1] Not rigorous ..... Rigorous
- [C\_PER1\_2] Non-supportive ..... Supportive
- [C\_PER1\_3] Exclusive ..... Inclusive
- [C\_PER1\_4] Unwelcoming ..... Welcoming

Dashboard Series: Student Perceptions

During the current academic year, approximate the number of hours that you expect to commit WEEKLY to each of the following activities:

- A) 0 hours
- B) 1-5 hours
- C) 6-10 hours
- D) 11-20 hours
- E) 21-30 hours
- F) More than 30 hours

- [C\_PRO2\_1] Extracurricular activities (i.e., clubs and organizations).
- [C\_PRO2\_2] Partying.
- [C\_PRO2\_3] Studying and other activities related to class assignments (other than class/lab time).
- [C\_PRO2\_4] Working a job on campus.
- [C\_PRO2\_5] Working a job off-campus.

Dashboard Series: About our students

During the last 12 months, about how often have you done each of the following?

- A) Never
- B) Sometimes
- C) Often
- D) Very often

- [ISNW1\_1] Considered environmental impacts when making daily choices
- [ISNW1\_2] Intentionally prevented waste through reduction and reuse
- [ISNW1\_3] Learned about environmental sustainability in a course
- [ISNW1\_4] Participated in environmental activities outside of courses

Dashboard Series: Contact PAIR

Based on the following scale, please indicate your agreement with each of the following statements concerning your experience at JMU.

- A) Strongly disagree
- B) Disagree
- C) Neutral
- D) Agree
- E) Strongly agree
- F) No basis to judge

[ISNW2\_1] JMU builds sustainable community through partnerships, service, and outreach.

[ISNW2\_2] JMU offers many opportunities for students to develop awareness, knowledge, and understanding of environmental concepts.

[ISNW2\_3] JMU operates in an environmentally sustainable way.

[ISNW2\_4] I believe my experience at JMU prepares me with the knowledge and skills needed to make informed decisions about environmental sustainability challenges.

Dashboard Series: Contact PAIR

### How important is each of the following to you?

- A) Very unimportant
- B) Unimportant
- C) Neutral
- D) Important
- E) Very important

[ISNW3\_1] JMU students make daily choices to reduce environmental impacts.

[ISNW3\_2] JMU operates in an environmentally sustainable way.

Dashboard Series: Contact PAIR

### [ISNW4] Indicate your familiarity with the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)/

- A) I have not heard of the goals.
- B) I have heard of the goals but am not familiar with them.
- C) Somewhat familiar
- D) Very familiar

Dashboard Series: Contact PAIR

### Indicate your level of satisfaction with each of the following aspects of James Madison University:

- A) Very dissatisfied
- B) Dissatisfied
- C) Satisfied
- D) Very satisfied
- E) No basis to judge

- [IT1\_1] IT Help Desk's ability to answer your questions.
- [IT1\_2] Functionality of email and Microsoft 365 (Office apps and OneDrive)
- [IT1\_3] Functionality of MyMadison
- [IT1\_4] Campus wireless network (JMU-Official-Wireless)
- [IT1\_5] Computer lab facilities
- [IT1\_6] Residence Hall network (MyResnet)

Dashboard Series: Contact PAIR

**Which of the following offices could I reach out to if I experienced harm from another JMU student? For this question, harm could include things like incidents of conflict and/or physical, mental, emotional harm. Check all that apply.**

- [OSARP1\_1] Dean of Students Office
- [OSARP1\_2] Libraries
- [OSARP1\_3] Office of Student Accountability and Restorative Practices (OSARP)
- [OSARP1\_4] JMU Police
- [OSARP1\_5] Bookstore
- [OSARP1\_6] Victim Advocacy

Dashboard Series: Contact PAIR

**Based on the following scale, please indicate your agreement with each of the following statements.**

- A) Strongly disagree
- B) Disagree
- C) Agree
- D) Strongly agree
- E) No basis to judge

[OSARP2\_1] I was made aware that I am responsible for abiding by the policies in the Student Handbook.

[OSARP2\_2] I understand what strategies JMU uses regarding alcohol and drug behavior when a student is found responsible for violating policy.

[OSARP2\_3] I believe that students who have alleged policy violations at JMU are treated fairly by the Office of Student Accountability and Restorative Practices (OSARP).

[OSARP2\_4] I believe that students who are found responsible by the Office of Student Accountability and Restorative Practices (OSARP) are given fair sanctions.

Dashboard Series: Contact PAIR