

**2025 PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S AMERICAN TRENDS PANEL
Wave 180: Survey on Higher Education
September 22-28, 2025**

QUESTIONNAIRE

Note: The questions presented below are part of a larger survey conducted on the American Trends Panel. For all questions, the 98 ("don't know" in phone mode) and 99 (refusal in phone mode and no answer in web mode) codes are combined in the data for analytical purposes.

PN = Programming note

CODEBOOK FOR ATP SAMPLE VARIABLES TO BE USED IN SURVEY PROGRAMMING LOGIC

X_FORM

- 1 Form 1
- 2 Form 2

Note: Flag to randomly assign panelists to one of two forms (Form 1, Form 2) and weight within form
Source: Randomly assigned for each survey.

X_PARTYSUMFINAL

- 1 Rep/Lean Rep
- 2 Dem/Lean Dem
- 9 DK/Refused/No lean

Note: Flag to identify republicans, republican leaners and non-leaners.

Source: Frame file variable F_PARTYSUM_FINAL. Same codes as F_PARTYSUM_FINAL.

-----MAIN QUESTIONNAIRE BEGINS HERE-----

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS PREVIOUSLY RELEASED OR HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

QUE: HIGHED

ASK ALL:

[PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-2/2-1, HOLDING 98 AND 99 LAST; INCLUDE ROTATION IN DATA FILE]

Now, thinking about the higher education system, that is colleges and universities, in the United States today...

Do you think the higher education system in the U.S. is generally going in the...

[PN: IF CATI:] (READ LIST)

- 1 Right direction
- 2 Wrong direction
- 98 **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Don't know
- 99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Web blank / **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Refused

BAT: HIGHEDJOB**ASK ALL:**

[**PN: RANDOMIZE ITEMS; ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-5/5-1, HOLDING 6 AND 99 LAST; INCLUDE RANDOMIZATION AND ROTATION IN DATA FILE**]

[**PN: IF WEB:**] How would you rate the job the higher education system in the U.S. (that is, colleges and universities) is doing these days when it comes to each of the following?

[**PN: IF CATI: READ FOR FIRST ITEM:**] How would you rate the job the higher education system in the U.S., that is, colleges and universities, is doing these days when it comes to each of the following? First, **(INSERT ITEM)**? Would you rate the job the higher education system in the U.S. is doing as **(READ LIST)**

[**PN: IF CATI: READ FOR SUBSEQUENT ITEMS:**] What about **(INSERT ITEM)**? **(READ AS NECESSARY:** How would you rate the job the higher education system in the U.S. is doing these days when it comes to **(INSERT ITEM)**? **(READ LIST IF NECESSARY))**

BATTERY ITEMS:

- a [**PN: ASK IF FORM 1 (X_FORM=1):**] Keeping tuition costs affordable
- b [**PN: ASK IF FORM 2 (X_FORM=2):**] Providing financial help to students who need it
- c [**PN: ASK IF FORM 1 (X_FORM=1):**] Exposing students to a wide range of opinions and viewpoints
- d [**PN: ASK IF FORM 2 (X_FORM=2):**] Preparing students for well-paying jobs in today's economy
- e [**PN: ASK IF FORM 1 (X_FORM=1):**] Advancing research and innovation
- f [**PN: ASK IF FORM 2 (X_FORM=2):**] Providing opportunities for students to express their own opinions and views
- g [**PN: ASK IF FORM 1 (X_FORM=1):**] Developing students' critical thinking and problem-solving skills
- h [**PN: ASK IF FORM 2 (X_FORM=2):**] Providing mental health support for students who need it

RESPONSE CATEGORIES:

- 1 Excellent
- 2 Very good
- 3 Good
- 4 Fair
- 5 Poor

[PN: INSERT A LINE OF SPACE]

- 6 [**PN: IF WEB:**] Not sure [**PN: IF CATI:**] Or are you not sure?
- 99 [**PN: IF WEB:**] Web blank / [**PN: IF CATI:**] **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS PREVIOUSLY RELEASED OR HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE
