### BCSSE Scales

These scales are based on 43 questions from the BCSSE survey that capture many important aspects of the entering first-year students’ high school experiences, as well as their expectations for the coming year.

#### HSE

**High School Academic Engagement**

Engagement in educationally relevant behaviors during the last year of high school.

- Assigned reading (textbooks or other course materials)
- Writing short papers or reports (5 or fewer pages)
- Writing longer papers or reports (more than 5 pages)
- Time spent preparing for class (studying, doing homework, rehearsing, etc.)
- Asked questions in class or contributed to class discussions
- Made a class presentation
- Discussed grades or assignments with a teacher
- Worked with other students on projects during class
- Worked with classmates outside of class to prepare class assignments
- Prepared two or more drafts of a paper or assignment before turning it in
- Discussed ideas from your readings or classes with teachers outside of class
- Discussed ideas from your readings or classes with others outside of class (students, family members, etc.)

#### EAE

**Expected Academic Engagement**

Expected engagement in educationally relevant behaviors during the first year of college.

- Time spent preparing for class (studying, reading, writing, doing homework or lab work, analyzing data, rehearsing, and other academic activities)
- Ask questions in class or contribute to class discussions
- Make a class presentation
- Work with other students on projects during class
- Work with classmates outside of class to prepare class assignments
- Discuss ideas from your readings or classes with faculty members outside of class
- Discuss ideas from your readings or classes with others outside of class (students, family members, co-workers, etc.)

“BCSSE helps our first-year advising program by providing faculty with a deeper understanding of the academic experiences and expectations our new students are bringing to college.”

Dr. David Strohmetz  
Associate Vice President for Academic and Institutional Assessment,  
Monmouth University
BCSSE Scales

**EAD**

**Expected Academic Difficulty**

Expected academic difficulty during the first year of college.
- Learning course material
- Managing your time
- Getting help with school work
- Interacting with faculty

**EAP**

**Expected Academic Perseverance**

Student certainty that they will persist in the face of academic adversity.
- Study when there are other interesting things to do
- Find additional information for course assignments when you don't understand the material
- Participate regularly in course discussions, even when you don't feel like it
- Ask instructors for help when you struggle with course assignments
- Finish something you have started when you encounter challenges
- Stay positive, even when you do poorly on a test or assignment

**PAP**

**Perceived Academic Preparation**

Student perception of their academic preparation.
- Write clearly and effectively
- Speak clearly and effectively
- Think critically and analytically
- Analyze math or quantitative problems
- Use computing and information technology
- Work effectively with others
- Learn effectively on your own

**ICE**

**Importance of Campus Environment**

Student-rated importance that the institution provides a challenging and supportive environment.
- A challenging academic experience
- Support to help you succeed academically
- Opportunities to interact with students from different economic, social, and racial or ethnic backgrounds
- Assistance coping with your non-academic responsibilities (work, family, etc.)
- Support to help you thrive socially
- Opportunities to attend campus events and activities