



College Excellence in Student Engagement Award Application

The College Excellence in Student Engagement Award is part of CCCSE's professional learning and recognition work. It reflects CCCSE's commitment to helping colleges move from understanding the student experience to taking meaningful action that improves it.

The award recognizes cross-functional teams at community and technical colleges that use findings from one survey in CCCSE's suite to improve the student experience. It celebrates teams that transform data and student voice into action by redesigning programs, services, policies, or practices that strengthen student engagement and success.

Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for the College Excellence in Student Engagement Award, a college must have administered at least one eligible CCCSE survey during that survey's current three-year eligibility cohort, as reflected in the administration years listed below.

- **Dual Enrollment Survey of Student Engagement (DESSE):** 2024, 2025, or 2026
- **Survey of Entering Student Engagement (SENSE):** 2023, 2024, or 2025
- **Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE):** 2024, 2025, or 2026
- **Community College Faculty Survey of Student Engagement (CCFSSE):** 2024, 2025, or 2026

Colleges eligible through multiple surveys must select one survey as the basis for their submission. Each college may submit only one application. Applications will be evaluated on how clearly the selected survey findings and student voice informed decisions, actions, and results.

Important Dates and Contact Information

- **Application deadline:** 11:59pm on February 1, 2027
- **Award recognition:** Recipients will be recognized at the 2027 NISOD Annual Conference. May 26-29, 2027
- **Questions:** Contact Christina Wadsworth at christina@nisod.org.

Section 1: College Information

- College Name:
- College President, Chancellor, CEO Name:
- College President, Chancellor, CEO Email Address:
- Submitter's Name:
- Submitter's Title:
- Submitter's Email Address:

Section 2: Initiative or Project Overview

1. **Create a brief, compelling headline that captures the essence of your initiative and its impact on the student experience.**

Think of this as the headline you would want others to remember, rather than simply the formal name of the program or initiative. *(15 words maximum)*

2. **Describe the broader institutional strategy or goal this initiative supports and the student experience challenge your team sought to address.**

Explain why the challenge mattered and identify the students affected. *(100 words maximum)*

3. **Which statement best describes the current stage and scale of your initiative? Select one.**

- **Pilot:** Being tested with a limited group of students.
- **Expanding:** Reaching additional students, programs, or locations
- **Fully implemented:** Reaching most or all the students

Section 3: CCCSE Survey Data Used

4. **Select the CCCSE survey used to inform this single initiative and provide the administration year for selected survey(s).**

- Dual Enrollment Survey of Student Engagement (*DESSE*)
- Survey of Entering Student Engagement (*SENSE*)
- Community College Survey of Student Engagement (*CCSSE*)
- Community College Faculty Survey of Student Engagement (*CCFSSE*)

5. Explain how data findings from the selected CCCSE survey led your team to prioritize this challenge and decide how to address it.

Identify the most relevant survey finding, briefly describe the survey item, and explain what the finding indicated the college should change. If applicable, describe how other student voice activities—such as focus groups, interviews, or listening sessions—added context. You may include long-term data from earlier administrations of the selected survey to provide additional context, but this is not required and will not receive additional points. Charts, tables, and advanced statistical analyses are not required. *(200 words maximum)*

Section 4: Student Voice Action and Collaboration

6. Describe the changes your team implemented in response to what it learned.

Identify the programs, services, policies, or practices that were created or redesigned. Include the implementation timeframe and current status, and explain how the changes addressed the challenge and supported the broader institutional strategy or goal. *(200 words maximum)*

7. How did people across the college—and, if relevant, external partners—collaborate on this effort?

Identify the participating departments, areas, or partners and briefly describe their roles. If students participated in planning or implementation, explain how. *(200 words maximum)*

Section 5: Impact and Next Steps

8. What evidence suggests the changes improved the student experience?

Provide quantitative and/or qualitative evidence and include the number of students served or reached. Evidence may include student feedback, survey findings, participation or use, course success, persistence, retention, completion, or other relevant measures. If available, provide a point of comparison. Pilot and expanding initiatives may submit early evidence. If you collected student feedback after implementation, briefly describe what students said and how it informed refinements. *(200 words maximum)*

9. What did your team learn, and how will the college build upon this work?

Describe key lessons, implementation adjustments, and next steps. For pilots or emerging efforts, include the anticipated timeframe for further evaluation or expansion. *(150 words maximum)*

Permission to Share

If selected for the award, the college grants CCCSE permission to feature the initiative as an example of institutional practice in presentations, publications, professional learning resources, websites, and other communications. The college will not submit personally identifiable student information without appropriate consent.

☐ I am authorized to provide this permission on behalf of the college.