Survey of Students Leaving the University of Maryland During the Semester

The University of Maryland would like your help in obtaining the best possible information about your experience at UMD and about the issues behind your decision to depart during the semester. Your thoughtful responses on this survey are very important and very much appreciated. In accordance with UMD policy, your responses are treated as confidential. Only summarized group results will be used to report to campus departments and/or staff in order to help plan for and provide services responsive to the needs of UMD’s students. Thank you for your time.

Student UID: __________________     Today’s Date: Mo._____ Day ____ Year______

Where were you living this semester?
- [ ] University housing (including Greek housing, Commons, Courtyards)
- [ ] Family home
- [ ] Other off campus housing

Class level at the beginning of the semester
- [ ] Freshman
- [ ] Sophomore
- [ ] Junior
- [ ] Senior

1. With which of the following people have you spoken, about your decision to withdraw/take a leave of absence?
(Please check all that apply)
- [ ] Someone at the Registrar’s office
- [ ] My academic college advisor
- [ ] A Financial Aid advisor
- [ ] A Resident Life staff person
- [ ] Learning Specialist at the Learning Assistance Service
- [ ] A Counselor at the Counseling Center
- [ ] A faculty member
- [ ] A Disability Support specialist
- [ ] A Chaplain
- [ ] A Health Center psychiatrist or therapist
- [ ] An International Education Services staff person

2. How easy or difficult has this withdrawal process been for you?
- [ ] I don’t know; I’m just getting started
- [ ] Relatively easy
- [ ] Somewhat difficult
- [ ] Very difficult

3. At the time you first entered UMD, did you have a first choice of major?
- [ ] No If NO, please skip to Question 5.
- [ ] Yes

To what extent were you aware of the graduation requirements of this major?
- [ ] Not very aware
- [ ] Somewhat aware
- [ ] Very aware

Were you able to enroll in this major?
- [ ] No
- [ ] Yes

Why did you want this major? (Please check all that apply)
- [ ] I don’t know
- [ ] I was interested in the subject
- [ ] I thought it would lead to a good job
- [ ] I thought I could get good grades in it
- [ ] My friends are also in this major
- [ ] My family wanted me to major in this
- [ ] Other: _____________________________

4. Did you have a second choice of major?
- [ ] No
- [ ] Yes

5. Did issues regarding your major contribute to your decision to withdraw/take a Leave of Absence?
- [ ] No
- [ ] Yes

6. Have you successfully fulfilled UMD’s math requirement for graduation?
- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No

Did your experience with trying to fulfill the math requirement contribute to your decision to withdraw/take a Leave of Absence from UMD?
- [ ] No
- [ ] Yes

7. Were you employed this semester?
- [ ] No
- [ ] Yes

On average, how many hours per week total did you work?________

8. What percent of your education costs are you personally paying for, through work, savings, or loans?
- [ ] None
- [ ] 1-25%
- [ ] 26-50%
- [ ] 51-75%
- [ ] 76% or more

9. Did financial concerns contribute to your decision to withdraw/take a Leave of Absence?
- [ ] No
- [ ] Yes

Did you discuss your concerns with a financial aid counselor?
- [ ] No
- [ ] Yes

10. Are you the first in your immediate family to pursue a four year college degree?
- [ ] No
- [ ] Yes

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11. Does your family do things to support your attendance and success in college?  
   [ ] No  
   [ ] Yes

12. Are family expectations a source of pressure for you?  
   [ ] No  
   [ ] Yes

13. To what extent did family obligations interfere with your being a college student?  
   [ ] Not at all  
   [ ] Rarely  
   [ ] Occasionally  
   [ ] Frequently

14. Was there a family crisis or personal emergency that contributed to your decision to withdraw/take a Leave of Absence from UMD?  
   [ ] No  
   [ ] Yes  
   Did you discuss your concerns with a faculty or staff person?  
   [ ] No  
   [ ] Yes

15. Were you able to become as socially involved on campus as you wanted?  
   [ ] Yes  
   [ ] No  
   What got in the way of your doing so?  
   (Please check all that apply)  
   [ ] Family obligations  
   [ ] Off campus employment  
   [ ] Preferred to use the internet/social media  
   [ ] Preferred friends/activities off campus  
   [ ] Felt isolated from or unconnected with others on campus  
   [ ] Other: ____________________________

16. Before deciding to leave UMD, was there a faculty or staff person with whom you could "really talk"?  
   [ ] Yes  
   [ ] No  
   Did the absence of someone you felt you could talk with contribute to your decision to leave UMD?  
   [ ] Yes  
   [ ] No

17. Was your decision to withdraw/take a Leave of Absence from UMD at least in part influenced by the grades you were anticipating or receiving?  
   [ ] No  
   [ ] Yes  
   Were there circumstances beyond your control that you felt were largely responsible for this?  
   [ ] No  
   [ ] Yes

18. Which of the following common barriers to academic success, if any, were true for you during the time leading up to your departure from UMD? (Please check all that apply)  
   [ ] I was not interested in my course work.  
   [ ] I had poor time management skills.  
   [ ] My work and class schedules didn’t mesh well.  
   [ ] I had poor study habits.  
   [ ] I routinely missed class.  
   [ ] I was ill.  
   [ ] I felt a lot of stress, anxiety, or depression.  
   [ ] I felt I lacked clear career goals.  
   [ ] I was reluctant to speak in class.  
   [ ] I felt burnt out.

19. Which of the following institutional factors, if any, were important in your decision to withdraw/take a Leave of Absence from UMD? (Please check all that apply)  
   [ ] My academic advising was not helpful.  
   [ ] The quality of instruction was disappointing.  
   [ ] The lack of student support was disappointing.  
   [ ] Faculty didn’t know me personally.  
   [ ] Faculty didn’t seem to care about my problems.  
   [ ] I couldn’t get the courses I need.  
   [ ] I felt this campus was too spread out.  
   [ ] I wasn’t comfortable with the number of students  
   [ ] I didn’t feel as if I belonged here.

20. Do you intend to complete your undergraduate degree?  
   [ ] No  
   [ ] Not at the University of Maryland College Park  
   [ ] Not sure at this point  
   [ ] Yes, at UMD  
   This withdrawal/LOA will likely postpone your planned graduation from UMD:  
   [ ] Not at all  
   [ ] By a semester  
   [ ] By a year (two semesters)  
   [ ] By more than a year

21. What would you say is the primary reason behind your decision to withdraw/take a Leave of Absence?