



## NJ residents say college is worth it but have ideas for improvement

Submitted by Stefanie Botelho on Wed,

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An overwhelming number - 90 percent - of tgitrwhestated Darryl G. Greer, Ph.D., Fellow for Higher Education Strategic Information and Governance.

"However, they have specific ideas about what students and colleges need to do to increase value - princi

Top responses for helping to reduce time to finish a degree include: easier credit transfer (34 percent), and more information about jobs and careers (25 percent).

Need for change: 87 percent say that major or some change is needed in the way colleges do business, to increase value.

Who should be responsible for changes: 50 percent of respondents say that colleges working with businesses should take responsibility for change in practices to increase value, favored over colleges in partnership with government (35 percent), or colleges alone (12 percent).

Most important skills: problem solving (82 percent); writing (81 percent); and communicating (80 percent); are viewed as among the most important skills and abilities gained from college.

Reason for choosing a college: location (25 percent); program offering (24 percent); price (20 percent); and quality (14 percent); were cited in order of influence on the decision to choose a particular college.

"This study confirms advice from two execut

weighted based on United States Census Bureau demographics for the New Jersey population.

#### About Higher Education and Strategic Information Governance (HESIG)

The mission of HESIG ([www.stockton.edu/hughescenter/hesig](http://www.stockton.edu/hughescenter/hesig)) is to serve as an agent for constructive higher education policy change, aligned with a public agenda to serve the public good. Guiding principles include: enhancing college access, affordability, college completion, accountability and public trust. HESIG collects, analyzes, evaluates and disseminates objective, timely empirical information and governance best practices.

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