Using Group Codes with TFS

We provide two group code variables (Group Code A, Group Code B) that allow institutions to compare specific subgroups of their student sample. They are typically used to identify students in different colleges, majors, residence halls, or academic programs on campus. The two group codes (Group Code A and Group Code B) allow you to identify up to 190 (95 per Group Code) unique subgroups of students.

A group code can be used in two ways:

- As an additional, permanent variable; you can use it to disaggregate data for additional internal analysis.
- HERI can produce a special report using these codes. This report comes in a format similar to the standard CIRP Freshman Survey Institutional Profile. However, it provides a separate profile of each coded subgroup, as well as a total survey population profile.

Using group codes is optional. If you choose to utilize this option, please be sure to provide instructions regarding the appropriate codes to enter in the grid to your students. If you are administering a paper survey, please instruct your students to mark one or both of the group code grids on the questionnaire (located next to the Marking Directions) with the appropriate value from 01-95 (values 00 and 96-99 are used by CIRP for processing purposes) at the time they complete the questionnaire. If you are administering a web survey, you should add your instructions to the portal website so that they will be included on the appropriate page in the web survey. Please be sure your instructions clearly state which number(s) should be entered for Group Code A and/or Group Code B. The boxes for Group Code A and/or Group Code B will appear at the bottom of the survey page after your instructions. The students will type in their Group Code based on your instructions.

If a campus wanted to examine results for students in different colleges at a large university, the group code instructions might look like this:

Please indicate which college you attend by writing in the appropriate number in the section marked Group Code A:

01 Liberal Arts
02 Life Sciences & Agriculture
03 Engineering & Physical Sciences
04 Health and Human Services
05 Whittington School of Business & Economics
06 Thompson School of Theatre
In the Group Code A box, please enter:

01 – If you have been a cadet
02 – If you have not been a cadet and were primarily living off campus
03 – If you have not been a cadet and were primarily living on campus

OR

If you are a member of either of the following groups, please enter the code(s) in the box(es) below:

Group A
Special Interest Programs (SHIPs) – 01

Group B
Conditional Admit Program (CAP) or “The Success Program: - 01

If you are a member of both, please enter both codes!