

# THE FUTURE-ORIENTED FRESHMAN



The freshman class of 2018 is coming to college with the future on their minds, including both personal and broader issues.

While the majority of incoming freshmen have decided on a major, many still anticipate the possibility of changing their minds.



**8%**  
are undecided on their major



**41%**  
of those who already decided on a major may switch



**76%**  
consider gaining a general education and appreciation of ideas as very important reasons to go to college

The forward-thinking incoming class of 2018 is already planning for graduate and professional school.



**62%**  
consider preparing for graduate or professional school a very important reason to go to college



**72%**  
already plan to obtain a graduate degree



**8%**  
are pre-law



**21%**  
are pre-med

Cost of attendance impacts students' college choice and how they spend their time.



**61%**  
worked for pay during their last year of high school



**81%**  
say that the cost of attendance factored into their college choice



**64%**  
have concerns about their ability to finance their college education



**51%**  
say there is a very good chance that they will get a job to help pay for college expenses

The racial climate still merits attention...



**82%**  
disagree that racism is no longer a major problem in America

**75%**  
agree that colleges should prohibit racist/sexist speech on campus

**84%**  
consider promoting racial understanding an important personal goal



...and many have goals of expanding their worldview.

**60%**  
find it very important to improve their understanding of different countries and cultures

**32%**  
say there is a very good chance that they will participate in a study abroad program

**52%**  
say that becoming a more cultured person was a very important reason to go to college



Information about students entering college helps enrollment planning, retention efforts, and provides a baseline for understanding college effectiveness. Register for the CIRP Freshman Survey at [www.cirpsurveys.org](http://www.cirpsurveys.org).

Survey Source: CIRP Freshman Survey 2018  
[www.heri.ucla.edu/infographic/](http://www.heri.ucla.edu/infographic/)



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