This FAQ answers questions about **how to take the survey, survey privacy, and winning prizes.** For more general information about the survey, visit [universitylife.columbia.edu/wellbeingsurvey](http://universitylife.columbia.edu/wellbeingsurvey).

### Overview

- **Who takes the survey:** All Columbia students
- **What does it cover:** Campus life, mental health, and gender-based misconduct
- **When do I take it:** Any time NOW through Monday, April 30.
- **Where do I find it:** You have an email from wellbeingsurvey@datastat.com with your survey link. The survey works best on a laptop or desktop computer.
- **How long will it take:** Approximately 30 minutes.
- **Why take it:** Inform and strengthen programs at Columbia, contribute to the world’s largest and best global study on student mental health and wellness, and win one of 350 $100 or $50 prizes!

### How to Take the Survey

1. **How do I take this survey?**
   
   **Step 1:** *First, check your Columbia UNI email inbox* for an email from wellbeingsurvey@datastat.com. If you can’t find it there, check your spam folders. DataStat emailed all Columbia students on March 26.

   "--------- Original message ---------
   From: <wellbeingsurvey@datastat.com>
   Date: Mon, Mar 26, 2018 at XX:XX AM/PM
   Subject: Columbia Student Well-Being Survey: Enhance student life and win $
   To: Your Name <cu1234@columbia.edu>

   "

   **Step 2:** *Once you find the email*, click on the link provided. The link takes you to an encrypted platform from DataStat, the company administering the survey. Remember, it works best on a laptop or desktop computer.

   **Step 3:** *Follow the instructions* from there to take the survey. You’ll be provided with general survey and research information, resources and a statement of consent.

   [universitylife.columbia.edu/wellbeingsurvey](http://universitylife.columbia.edu/wellbeingsurvey)
• If the link in your email from DataStat doesn’t open, check your Internet connectivity.

• If you are fully connected to the Internet and the link still isn’t working, write to wellbeingsurvey@datastat.com or universitylife@columbia.edu and someone there can try to assist you.

2. I don’t have an email from DataStat. How can I get the link I need to take this survey?

All students receive the survey invitation from wellbeingsurvey@datastat.com. You’ll get a reminder message weekly from DataStat with a link until you complete.

Note: If you forward your Columbia UNI email to your gmail or another service, the link will not work. To take the survey, you must click the link in your Columbia UNI email.

3. I started but want to finish my survey at a later time. Can I?

Yes. You can stop and restart the survey, using the link provided in your email reminders and in the initial survey email. The link from any of these messages takes you to a log-in screen, where you’ll be prompted to enter the username and password you created when you started. You’ll then be taken to the question where you left off.

4. I already finished the survey but I want to change an answer to a question. How can I do this?

You can go back and change an answer until you complete the survey. You won’t be able to change your answer once you have finished and completed the survey.

5. How do I know if I have completed the survey?

Once you complete the survey, your screen will display a message from DataStat thanking you for participating and confirming your automatic entry in the weekly lotteries for $50 and $100 prizes.

The completion screen also will list websites for many resources available to support students on Morningside and CUMC campus.

Survey Privacy

6. Who is collecting the survey that I complete?

An outside company that is not affiliated with Columbia (DataStat) administers the survey using an encrypted platform. Columbia will not see your responses. Columbia will only receive survey data stripped of identifying information.
7. What is DataStat?
DataStat specializes in health and public policy research, and has administered the mental health segment of this survey for the World Health Organization to students on campuses elsewhere in the United States and around the world.

8. How will my privacy be protected? Will the University have access to or store my information?
Your participation will be confidential and individual responses are anonymous. DataStat’s platform is encrypted and Columbia will only receive survey data stripped of identifying information.

Winning Prizes!

9. How will I know if I have won?
Everyone who completes the survey is entered automatically for weekly chances to win one of 350 prizes. The prizes are $100 and $50 Amazon gift cards.

Every week, DataStat will randomly draw dozens of winners from the surveys completed so far. Anyone who is not chosen for a gift card is automatically re-entered in every drawing that follows. DataStat will email winners.

Because everyone’s participation is confidential, only the winners will know that they were selected. Columbia will not receive a list of the winners.

10. I have another question about the survey. Who should I ask?
You can contact the principal investigators:
Dr. Claude Ann Mellins at 646-774-6934, cam14@cumc.columbia.edu
Dr. Randy Auerbach at 646-774-5745, rpa2009@columbia.edu
You can also write to universitylife@columbia.edu and someone there can assist you.

11. Can Barnard and Teachers College students take the survey?
No, however students at Barnard and Teachers College communities are served by other resources on those campuses. Check with your student affairs office for more information about surveys in your schools.

12. I have received a follow-up email from DataStat. Why am I receiving a follow-up email if the survey is confidential?
After completing the survey, some students will receive an email from DataStat encouraging them to follow up with resources at Columbia that can provide support and care for managing distress. These emails are sent automatically by DataStat based on survey responses; no one at Columbia will know who receives them. Some students may also receive pop-up information during the survey about these
same resources. The goal is to ensure that students who may benefit from help are easily aware of the resources we have at Columbia and nearby. Again, no one at Columbia or elsewhere ever knows who receives a pop-up or a follow-up email from DataStat.

A small number of students will receive an automated follow-up email from DataStat that also includes an opportunity to try an online program. This program, known as ICare, is designed by the World Health Organization’s student mental health initiative. ICare offers online cognitive behavioral therapy and is designed to help college students manage distress. There is no charge and participation is entirely optional and fully confidential. Again, the invitation to participate is automated and distributed by DataStat, the outside company that is administering the survey, based on responses to the survey. Columbia will receive no information about who is invited to participate or who accepts the invitation. The student well-being survey’s consent form gives everyone information about this program, and there is a separate consent form for ICare that explains more about it. ICare is not connected to any Columbia University resources, and no information related to using it is shared with the University.