

PATHWAY PROGRAM SURVEY

Introduction -

Dear Pathway student,

The California Social Work Education Center (CalSWEC), hosted by the University of California, Berkeley's (UCB) School of Social Welfare, is conducting a research study to learn more about how the Pathway program is working. The researchers leading this study are Dr. Jeffrey Edleson, Dean of UCB School of Social Welfare, and Dr. Sandhya Hermon, Director of Research and Evaluation at CalSWEC.

As part of this research study, CalSWEC would like to invite you to participate in a survey for current and former Pathway students. The purpose of the survey is to gather information that will help us understand students' experiences with the program, what is working well, and ways that the program might be improved.

The survey is estimated to take about 15--20 minutes to complete. There are no expected direct risks or benefits to you if you choose to participate in the study. Although you may not directly benefit from participating, findings will help us understand how the Pathway program is working and improve its ability to serve students throughout California.

A risk factor for participating in any research study is an unintended breach of confidentiality, including ones that may occur during online communications such as this survey. To address this, every reasonable effort will be taken to help facilitate confidentiality of data collected during the study. Data will be stored on a secure server managed by UC Berkeley's Information Technology Services, and only CalSWEC IV--E research personnel will have direct access to the data. No supervisors, agency administrators, or faculty who teach within the Pathway program will have direct access to the data or have knowledge about who does or does not participate in the study. Study findings will only report aggregate data, and no individual participant will be identified in any reporting of findings.

Participation in this research is completely voluntary. Your opinions are important and we hope that you will share them with us. Whether or not you choose to participate will in no way affect your employment or schooling, or result in a penalty or loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled. You have the right to decline to participate, or to stop participating at any time after beginning the study.

If you have any questions about this research, please contact either Jeffrey Edleson at jedleson@berkeley.edu, or Sandhya Hermon at 510.642.9272 or by email at sandhya.rao.hermon@berkeley.edu

If you have any questions about your rights or treatment as a participant in this research, please contact the University of California at Berkeley's Committee for Protection of Human Subjects by phone at 510.642.7461 or by email at subjects@berkeley.edu.

Do you agree to participate in this research study? If you agree to participate, please print a copy of this page to keep for your future reference, then click on the “Yes” button below.

- Yes – continues to survey
- No – participant will be prevented from continuing to survey

Student engagement –

(Interacting with peers)

1. During your time in the Pathway program, how often did you interact with other students (virtually or in person)?
 - Rarely – about once a semester or once a year
 - Sometimes – About 2 or 3 times a semester
 - Frequently – Not regularly, but more than once a month
 - Regularly – Almost every week

2. What types of activities did you do when interacting with other students? (Please select all that apply)
 - Worked with another student to complete an assignment
 - Asked another student for help in understanding course material or an assignment
 - Helped another student understand course material or an assignment
 - Prepared or studied for exams with another student
 - Participated in online discussions or forums
 - Leisure activities (e.g., having lunch together)
 - Other: _____

(Interacting with faculty)

3. During your time in the Pathway program, how often did you interact with faculty (virtually or in person)?
 - Rarely – about once a semester or once a year
 - Sometimes – About 2 or 3 times a semester
 - Frequently – Not regularly, but more than once a month
 - Regularly – Almost every week

4. What types of activities did you do when interacting with other students? (Please select all that apply)
 - Discussed course topics, ideas, or concepts with a faculty member outside of class
 - Discussed your academic performance with a faculty member
 - Worked with a faculty member on activities other than coursework
 - Discussed career plans with a faculty member
 - Other: _____

(Learning environment)

5. Please describe in your own words ways in which the Pathway program supported you to achieve academically (other than providing instruction):

(Agency environment)

6. Thinking about your time during the Pathway program, which of the following best describes your experience with the agency where you had your field placement? (Please select all that apply)
 - Welcomed you (e.g., time was spent in the first few weeks introducing you to other staff, showing you around the office, explaining how to access resources, etc.)
 - Supported you to be successful in your job (e.g., provided necessary training, mentoring, and access to other resources as needed)
 - Encouraged you to interacted with employees across different roles and departments
 - Invited input (including from you, all employees, etc.)
 - Provided support for your overall wellbeing (e.g., job flexibility, work/life balance)
 - Encouraged healthy discussion and resolution of conflict among staff
 - N/A – I did not have a field placement this year

7. If you had previous experience with the agency at which you did your Pathway field placement, was your experience different as an employee than as a student/employee?
 - No
 - Yes

If yes, please describe:

Ability to use technology for learning –

1. Thinking about your time in Pathway, would you say technology was a barrier for you?

If yes, please describe, including whether and how the barrier was overcome:

2. Would you say technology was a support?

If yes, please describe, including what was helpful and how:

Power user – Have lots of experience, very comfortable using it, would be able to show or explain how to use it to someone else

Average – Have some experience, can generally accomplish what I need to with it

Novice – Have none or limited experience with it; usually struggle with accomplishing what I need to do with it

3. Please rate your ability to use the following technologies, referring to the categories above: (will include two columns at end of each bullet point: start of program / now)
 - Accessing the Internet and locating information that I need

- Communicating by email
- Communicating by Skype or other video call programs
- Attending and/or participating in a webinar
- Using “cloud” platforms, such as Google Docs or Dropbox
- Reading and absorbing information electronically (without having to print it out)
- Writing a paper or report using Microsoft Word or similar word processing program
- Creating and giving a presentation using Power Point, Prezi, or similar software

Other time commitments –

1. Given the time commitment required to work and attend school, how well would you say you were able to manage all your responsibilities or commitments – including work and school – during your time in the Pathway program?
 - *Very well* – I was able to manage all my responsibilities and commitments with none or few problems
 - *Adequately/Pretty well* – I was able to manage all my responsibilities and commitments most of the time, with some difficulty time to time
 - *Okay* – I would say I had a hard time managing work and school in addition to my other responsibilities and commitments
 - *Not well* – I frequently had a difficult time managing work and school in addition to my other responsibilities and commitments
2. Is there anything the Pathway program could have provided that would have helped you with managing your time? (Please include existing program supports that you have found helpful, as well as suggestions for other resources.)

Self-care –

1. I regularly engaged in self-care activities (activities that address physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual wellness) during my time in the Pathway program.
 - Strongly agree
 - Agree
 - Disagree
 - Strongly disagree

If you did not regularly engage in self-care activities, please describe the barriers or challenges that made it difficult to practice self-care:

2. Is there anything the Pathway program could have provided that would have helped you to engage in self-care activities? (Please include existing program supports that you have found helpful, as well as suggestions for other resources.)

Program information –

1. Which campus program do/did you attend?
 - CSU Chico
 - Humboldt State University
 - CSU San Bernardino
2. With which county or tribal agency are you employed?

Reaching students who otherwise might not have pursued postsecondary education –

1. Would you have completed a BSW/MSW if you weren't in the Pathway program?
 - No
 - Yes
2. If no, please explain why you would not have completed a BSW/MSW without Pathway.
3. If yes, why did you choose to complete a BSW/MSW through the Pathway program?

Prior CW experience –

1. Did you have any paid or volunteer experience related to child welfare before you started the Pathway program?
 - No
 - Yes

If yes, please describe:

2. How long did you work/volunteer in this capacity?

Age –

3. How old are you?
 - 18 – 25
 - 26 – 35
 - 36 – 45
 - > 45

Race / ethnicity –

4. Please describe your race and ethnicity: