Sources of Race/Ethnicity Information

All Students: From Admissions Application

Former Question (before Fall 2007)
- African American/Black
- American Indian or Alaskan Native (please specify tribal affiliation)
- Asian American/Black
- Hawaiian or Pacific Islander

Current Question (starting Fall 2007)
- African American or Black
- American Indian or Alaskan Native (please specify tribal affiliation)
- Asian American/Black
- Hawaiian or Pacific Islander

Please check all that apply or the race/ethnicity you identify with the most.
- African American or Black
- Asian American/Black
- Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- Caribbean
- Cuban
- Other Asian/Pacific Islander
- Other Hispanic or Latino/a
- White or Non-Hispanic
- Other (please specify)
- I choose not to respond

Faculty/Staff: From W-4 Form

Current Question (new question awaiting final DoE approval)
- Black, Not of Hispanic Origin
- Asian American/Black
- American Indian or Alaskan Native
- Hispanic
- White/Non-Hispanic
- Other Asian/Pacific Islander
- Other Hispanic or Latino/a
- Other (please specify)
- I choose not to respond

Key Points

- The U.S. Department of Education (DoE) mandates reporting categories for race/ethnic information for enrolled students and employees. Data collection must enable compliance with DoE specifications.
- Race/ethnicity information is collected at the time of application for admission for students and at the time of initial hiring for employees.
- DoE specifications require reporting on race/ethnicity for employees and domestic (non-international) students.
- Although Southeast Asians are targeted by Plan 2008, and this information is collected from UW students, all Asian Americans are grouped together for employment information and by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction.
- As a result, analyses of employee diversity group all Asians together. Analyses of Wisconsin’s educational pipeline also have Asians combined in one group.

About the “New” Student Question

- A new application question for students was implemented in Fall 2007.
- The expanded race/ethnicity categories allow us to comply with Department of Education requirements and allow students to report multiple race/ethnicities if desired.
- In addition to giving students more and better opportunities to report their racial and ethnic identities, the expanded categories will help answer questions about educational access for specific racial groups of interest to the Board of Regents, state legislators, business leaders, and the general public.
- The new application question will be asked by all UW-Madison admitting offices (undergraduate, graduate, professional etc.) and by all UW System institutions (13 four year institutions and 13 two-year campuses). Plans to resurvey currently enrolled students are being finalized.