

Views of College Questionnaire (VCQ)

Stein, C. H. (2005). Aspirations, ability, and support: Consumers' perceptions of attending college. *Community Mental Health Journal, 41*(4), 451.

The VCQ is a 20 item self-report measure developed to assess consumers' views about starting or returning to a four-year college. Respondents are asked to indicate how strongly they agree or disagree with each statement about beginning or returning to a four-year college using a 5-point Likert scale from 1 ("strongly disagree") to 5 ("strongly agree"). Items for the measure were generated from existing literature on supported education, studies of college dismissal and from informal interviews with young adults coping with serious mental illness about their experiences attending college. Items were reviewed for applicability and clarity by a group of consumers and family members, mental health professionals and college personnel.

1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 5
Strongly Somewhat Neither agree Somewhat Strongly
disagree disagree nor disagree agree agree

How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements:

1. I think I would like to go or return to college.
2. If I went to college, I'd probably start with 1 or 2 courses.
3. I have the mental ability to go/return to college.
4. I would have no trouble with other students if I went to college.
5. I would need help picking courses if I went to college.
6. I could not get enough money to go to college.
7. I have the emotional support I need from my family to go/return to college.
8. If I went to college, I know just what I would study.
9. I worry that I would fail if I went to college.
10. I'd need the support of a mental health professional to help me go/return to college.
11. If I went to college, I think I would go full time.
12. I would have no trouble with transportation if I went to college.
13. If I went to college, I worry that I would get mentally sick and miss class.
14. I don't think mentally ill people really belong in college.
15. If I went to college, I would be able to get a job.
16. If I started college, I would probably never finish and get a degree.
17. I'd feel badly if I took a course and didn't get accepted into college.
18. I'd like to live on campus if I went to college.
19. I'd be accepted by most of the faculty if I went to college.
20. If I went to college, I would feel much better about myself.

Subscales

Aspirations and Plans (items 1, 2, 6, 11, 12, 14, 18)

Perceived Social Support and Acceptance (items 4, 5, 7, 10, 19, 20)

Assistance (3, 8, 9, 13, 15, 16, 17)