

Census FAQ's

Thank you for your interest in the Census. It is critical to ensure that everyone is counted for the overall health and wellbeing of our community as the numbers will impact us all for the next 10 years.

***Important update**

Even if you are currently staying with your family due to the COVID19 epidemic and online classes, it is still critical that you are completing the census for Charleston. You are still considered a resident of Charleston as under normal conditions, you would be at EIU at this time.

- 1. Do I use my local Charleston address or my home address if I am an EIU student?**
 - a. You will use your Charleston address as you are physically living in Charleston on April 1st. You live here over 50% of the year, so you will put your Charleston address in for the census. **USE YOUR CHARLESTON ADDRESS EVEN IF YOU AREN'T IN CHARLESTON CURRENTLY DUE TO COVID19.**

- 2. What kind of questions will they ask?**
 - a. The census will ask for the number of people living in the home, the names of every person living in the home, their gender, their date of birth and race for each person. They will ask if you rent or own your home, and how you are connected to the other people in your home (spouse, roommate, etc.) Fill it out for EVERYONE you live with.

- 3. If I live on campus do I need to fill out the census?**
 - a. Nope! Because you live in a Residence Hall or Greek Court or University Apartments EIU has already talked with the Census Bureau and told them who is living on campus. If you live in a Greek Chapter House that is NOT part of University Housing, then you will need to fill out the census.

- 4. Do I just fill out the census for me, and leave my roommates to do their own?**
 - a. We ask that you fill out the census for you and all of your roommates to the very best of your ability.

- 5. What happens if I leave something blank?**
 - a. If you leave something blank, your answers will still count, but an employee from the Census Bureau may come to your house in April or May and ask for the missing information.

- 6. If I am a student, won't my parents fill this out for me?**
 - a. The census is based on where people are physically living on April 1, 2020 so you need to fill it out because you are living here in Charleston on 04/01/2020.

- 7. I am an International student, do I need to fill out the census?**
 - a. International students DO need to fill out the census. The census is counting every single person who is living in the United States on April 1, 2020!

**So how do I fill the census out? Visit: www.colescounty2020.com
(It will ask for a code, but you can also type in your address)**