Contract cheating, sometimes known as ghostwriting, is the practice of students engaging a third-party individual or service to complete their assessments.

### The Challenge of Contract Cheating

Contract cheating is a serious infraction that instructors believe is widespread. About 86% of instructors agree that contract cheating is a serious infraction.

### What is driving this behavior?

Instructors believe the following reasons contribute to contract cheating:

- **20%** of students don’t understand that it’s wrong
- **60%** of students lack confidence to do the work well
- **50%** of students find that they ran out of time
- **70%** of students feel entitled to good grades
- **~25%** say their institutions don’t have contract cheating policies in place
- **1/2** of university administrators believe that reducing contract cheating should be a high or top priority for their schools
- **67%** of instructors say they may not act on suspicions of contract cheating due to insufficient evidence to support their claims

### Reliable data is key

Reliable data is key to support institutions in handling suspected cases of contract cheating.