Career Technical Education (CTE) Outcomes Survey—2013 Results

Overview

Foothill College was among the 35 participating institutions in a statewide community college survey of skills-building students. This effort sought to provide information on employment outcomes for students who participated in CTE programs.

Between Winter and Spring 2013, 1,838 students were invited to complete the survey via email and by US mail. The response rate using both communication methods was 14% (133 via email, 128 via US mail). The statewide sample included 47,436 students, which yielded a response rate of 24% (11,595) from email (8%), US mail (7%) and phone calls (10%).

The results reported here focus on Foothill students' educational goal, employment status and wages before and after their CTE coursework as well as whether they became employed within their field of study. Additionally, this report provides these survey results by program.

Completers are students who earned a certificate of 6 or more units or a vocational degree.
Skill Builders are students who earned 9 or more CTE units but did not earn a certificate or vocational degree.

Highlights:

- The results show that completing CTE studies and training—whether or not a credential is earned, whether or not a student transfers—is related to positive employment outcomes.
- The vast majority of students reported being "very satisfied" or "satisfied" with their CTE experience (89%).
- Over half the respondents indicated they are working in the same field as their studies and training (60%).
- The percentage of students indicating full-time employment after their studies or training increased by 12% compared to those reporting full-time employment before enrolling in CTE coursework.
- Respondents reported a 25% increase in their hourly wage before their studies to their hourly wage after their studies.
- Respondents reported an increase in hourly wage from $27.48 to $34.28 after their CTE coursework.

Methodology

Students who met one or more of the following criteria in 2010-11, and did not enroll in 2011-12, were invited to participate:
Earned a certificate of 6 or more units
Earned a vocational degree
Earned 9 or more CTE units
The survey was administered between February-April 2013 first by email, then US mail.

Source

CTE Outcomes Survey 2013, RP Group
http://www.rpgroup.org/projects/CTE-Employment-Outcomes-Survey

Diagnostic Medical Sonography

Primary Reason for Studying

	Completer		Skills Builder		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Earn a certificate or degree NOT to transfer	3	75%			3	75%
Take classes to update job skills or renew a license/permit	1	25%			1	25%
Total	4	100%			4	100%

Current Employment Status

	Completer		Skills Builder		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Employed at one job	2	50%			2	50%
Employed at more than one job	1	25%			1	25%
Unemployed, seeking employment	1	25%			1	25%
Total	4	100%			4	100%

Relationship between Job to Field of Study

	Completer		Skills Builder		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Very close-my current job is in the same field as my coursework and training	3	100%			3	100%
Total	3	100%			3	100%

Career Technical Education (CTE) Outcomes Survey - 2013 Results

Work Status before Program

	Completer		Skills Builder		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Full-time (40 or more hrs/wk)	1	33%			1	33%
Part-time (less than 20 hrs/wk)	2	67%			2	67%
Total	3	100%			3	100%

Work Status after Program

	Completer		Skills Builder		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Full-time (40 or more hrs/wk)	1	33%			1	33%
Part-time (20 to 39 hrs/wk)	1	33%			1	33%
Part-time (less than 20 hrs/wk)	1	33%			1	33%
Total	3	100%			3	100%

Hourly Wage before Program

	Completer		Skills Builder		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
$10.01-$15.00/hr	1	50%			1	50%
$30.01-$50.00/hr	1	50%			1	50%
Total	2	100%			2	100%

Hourly Wage after Program

	Completer		Skills Builder		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
$30.01-$50.00/hr	1	33%			1	33%
>$50.01/hr	2	67%			2	67%
Total	3	100%			3	100%

Greetings from XXX College! Our records indicate you were taking classes in the 2010-2011 year. In order to improve, we would like to ask you for some feedback. This survey is confidential -- no identifying information will be used in any reports. Thank you very much!

Q1 What was the one PRIMARY reason you studied at XXX College?

- *Earn a certificate or degree AND transfer* ☐
- *Earn a certificate or degree NOT to transfer* ☐
- *Earn transfer units with or without getting an Associate Degree* ☐
- *Take classes to update job skills or renew a license/permit* ☐
- *Take classes for self-enrichment only* ☐
- *Other:*

Q2 How satisfied are you with the education and training you received at XXX College?

- *Very Satisfied* ☐
- *Satisfied* ☐
- *Neither Satisfied nor Dissatisfied* ☐
- *Dissatisfied* ☐
- *Very Dissatisfied* ☐

Q3 Please explain the main reason you were satisfied or dissatisfied with your education and training:

Q4 It appears that you are not taking as many classes at our college as you have in the past. Please tell us why? Mark all that apply.

- *My goals were met* ☐
- *I completed the program* ☐
- *Didn't have enough time for classes* ☐
- *I got a job* ☐
- *My job changed* ☐
- *Relocation* ☐
- *Need more time to decide what I want* ☐
- *Classes I needed were not available* ☐
- *Family or personal reasons* ☐
- *Program was not what I wanted* ☐
- *Semester is too long* ☐
- *I needed more ESL and/or basic skills to be successful* ☐
- *Transferred to another school* ☐
- *I am still enrolled* ☐
- *Financial Reasons* ☐
- *I stopped attending for a while but then I returned* ☐
- *Other (please explain)*

Q5 After completing your coursework, did you do any of the following? Mark all that apply.

- *I obtained an industry certification or licensure in the same field of study* ☐
- *I obtained journey-level status in the same field of study* ☐
- *I transferred to a different college in the same field of study* ☐
- *I transferred to a different college in a different field of study* ☐

Q6 What impact did your coursework have on your employment?

- *Enabled me to learn skills that allowed me to stay in my current job* ☐
- *Enabled me to learn skills that allowed me to get a promotion at my same organization* ☐
- *Enabled me to learn skills that allowed me to get a job at a new organization* ☐
- *Enabled me to start my own business* ☐
- *Prepared me for a possible new job* ☐
- *No impact on my employment* ☐
- *Other (please explain)*

Q7 What best describes your current employment status?

- *Self-Employed* ☐
- *Employed at one job* ☐
- *Employed at more than one job* ☐
- *Working, but not for pay (care giving, volunteer, etc.) and not seeking paid employment* ☐
- *Working, but not for pay, and seeking paid employment* ☐
- *Unemployed, seeking employment* ☐
- *Unemployed, not seeking employment* ☐

Q8 If you are working, what is your current job title?

Q9 If you are working, how closely related to your field of study is your current job?

- *Very close -- my current job is in the same field as my coursework and training* ☐
- *Close -- I used what I learned in my coursework and training even though I am not working in the exact same field* ☐
- *Not close -- my studies and training are not at all related to my current job* ☐

Q10 Did you engage in a job search after you finished your courses and training?

- *Yes, and I found a job* ☐
- *Yes, and I still have not found a job* ☐
- *No, I was already employed when I finished my courses and training* ☐
- *No, I was not looking for employment after I finished my courses and training* ☐
- *Not applicable as I am still pursuing my studies* ☐

Q11 If your job search was successful, how long (in months) did it take you to find a job?

- *0 months (I found one by the time I finished school)* ☐
- *1 - 3 months* ☐
- *4 - 6 months* ☐
- *7 - 12 months* ☐
- *13+ months* ☐

If you had a job BEFORE you took classes at our college, please tell us about it.

Q12 Before your coursework, was your job:

- *Full time (40 or more hours per week)* ☐
- *Part time (20 to 39 hours per week)* ☐
- *Part time (less than 20 hours per week)* ☐

Q13 Before your coursework, was your job:

- *Permanent* ☐
- *Temporary* ☐
- *Seasonal* ☐

Q14 What was the hourly wage of your job before your coursework? (if you were salaried, please convert to hourly wage -- for a full time job, divide salary by 2,000)

☐☐☐☐☐☐

If you are employed, please tell us about your CURRENT job.

Q15 Is your current job:

- *Full time (40 or more hours per week)* ☐
- *Part time (20 to 39 hours per week)* ☐
- *Part time (less than 20 hours per week)* ☐

Q16 Is your current job:

- *Permanent* ☐
- *Temporary* ☐
- *Seasonal* ☐

Q17 What is the hourly wage at your current job? (if you are salaried, please convert to hourly wage -- for a full time job, divide salary by 2,000)

☐☐☐☐☐☐

Q18 What is the 5-digit ZIP code of your current job?

☐☐☐☐☐

Q19 What program of study (certificate or major) were you pursuing at our college?

Q20 What improvements, if any, do you suggest we make to the courses or program you participated in?

Q21 Are you interested in taking more classes or training in your field in the near future?

- *Yes, and I give permission for you to contact me for more information* ☐
- *Yes, but I do not want or need to be contacted* ☐
- *No* ☐

Q22 ID Number

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. Please return the completed survey in the postage paid envelope provided.