

# Geographic Information Systems Technology Employer Survey<br>

## Page one of survey

Foothill College plans to create three new Certificates of Achievement and one Associate in Arts degree in Geographic Information System Technology (GIST). We are surveying local employers to ensure that students will graduate with skills and experiences that will help them find employment. Additionally, your feedback can shape our GIST program so that the curriculum maintains its currency. Should you have any questions or comments regarding this survey or the development of the GIST program at Foothill College, please contact K. Allison Meezan at [meezankaren@foothill.edu](mailto:meezankaren@foothill.edu).

# Geographic Information Systems Technology Employer Survey<br>

## Page two of survey

Our proposed certificate programs are described in the following three paragraphs:

### GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY I (24 units)

Students will develop skills necessary to advance in careers that require geospatial technology skills, including experience using several major GIS software products such as ArcGIS and GeoMedia Pro. Students will complete original individual and group projects involving the creation and analysis of spatial data as well as course work in cartography, remote sensing and computer programming or CADD.

### GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY II (33 units)

In addition to the requirements for the Applications Certificate (listed above), students will also have completed an additional course in Geospatial Technology project management and spatial analysis as well as one computer programming or CADD course beyond the 24 unit certificate.

### GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY III (42 units)

In addition to the requirements for the Applications Certificate (listed above), Students will be prepared for entry level technician jobs and able to apply for professional certification (GISP) through the Geographic Information Systems Certification Institute (administered through the Urban and Regional Information Systems Association). They will have completed a GIS internship, as well as additional courses in Geospatial Technology project management and spatial analysis and two computer programming or CADD course beyond the 24 unit certificate.

Our proposed degree program is described in the following paragraph:

### ASSOCIATES DEGREE in GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY (90 units)

This degree prepares students for entry level technician jobs and prepares them to apply for professional certification (GISP) through the Geographic Information Systems Certification Institute (administered through the Urban and Regional Information Systems Association). Students will complete the coursework required for the Certificate of Achievement, plus the college general education requirements to total 90 quarter units.

## **1. Out of the four program descriptions, which program(s) appear to reflect the training your organization looks for among potential employees? (Please select all that apply)**

- Certificate of Achievement in Geographic Information Systems Technology I
- Certificate of Achievement in Geographic Information Systems Technology II
- Certificate of Achievement in Geographic Information Systems Technology III
- Associates Degree in Geographic Information Systems Technology

## **2. Do the program descriptions reflect the training your organization looks for among potential employees?**

- Completely accurate
- Partially accurate
- Not accurate

# Geographic Information Systems Technology Employer Survey<br>

**3. Do you feel a job applicant who completed any of the above program descriptions would meet minimum qualifications for the GIS requirements associated with the following job titles? (Please select all that apply)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business Analyst                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Land Records Coordinator |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cartographer/Mapping Coordinator | <input type="checkbox"/> Research Analyst         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering Technician           | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation Planner   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Forester                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planner            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GIS Technican                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities Manager        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Geologist                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife Biologist       |

**4. How many openings that fit the program description(s) are anticipated by your organization within this coming year?**

- 1-3
- 4-6
- 7-10
- 10+

**5. How many openings that fit the program description(s) are anticipated by your organization over the next five years?**

- 1-3
- 4-6
- 7-10
- 10+

**6. Are the anticipated openings that fit the program description(s) due primarily to separations (resignations/retirements) or new job growth?**

- Separations
- Job growth
- Both separations and job growth
- Not applicable: No openings anticipated

## Geographic Information Systems Technology Employer Survey<br>

**7. How likely would your organization hire students who complete any of the program description(s) described above compared to other applicants who have not completed these program(s), if all other job considerations are equal?**

- More likely
- Less likely
- Not likely
- Not sure

**8. Would your organization be interested in providing internship opportunities to students enrolled in our programs?**

- Yes
- No
- Maybe

**9. Would you be interested in serving on our advisory board? The Geospatial Technology Program advisory board meets annually to assess the currency of the program curriculum in meeting employer needs, and to help shape the direction of regional geospatial education.**

- Yes
- No

**10. If we can contact you for further information or clarification on your responses, please provide your name and email below:**

Name:

Email:

# Geographic Information Systems Technology Employer Survey<br>

## Last page of survey

Thank you for your time!

Additional questions or concerns can be directed to K. Allison Meezan, Geography Instructor, at [meezankaren@fhda.edu](mailto:meezankaren@fhda.edu).