

## CTE Employment Outcomes Survey for Certificate & Degree Completers 2013 Shasta College Summary Results – TOP Code 01xx

### Background

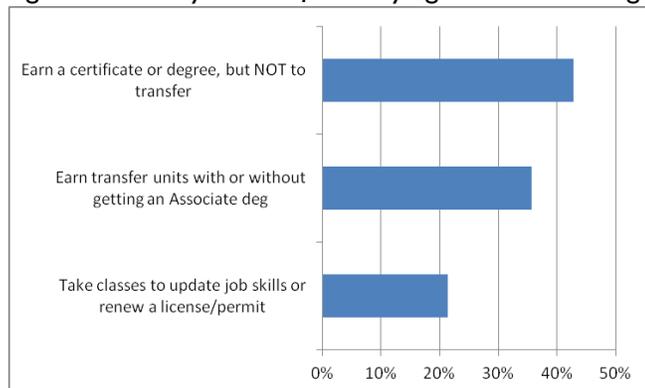
Students from Shasta College who earned a certificate of 6 or more units or a vocational degree in 2011-2012 were surveyed in the summer of 2013. The survey was administered first by telephone then by e-mail, addressed student perceptions of their CTE program, employment outcomes, and how their coursework and training relate to their current career.

The sample consisted of 853 unduplicated certificate or vocational degree earners, 86 of whom responded by e-mail (39.6%) and 131 by telephone (60.4%), for a total response rate of 25.4%. This brief examines results for 14 completers in TOP code 01xx for Agriculture and Natural Resources.

### Results

- Respondents were asked what their primary reason was to study at Shasta College. Almost half (42.7%) indicated their primary reason was to earn a certificate or degree, but not to transfer. Many (35.7%) selected earning a certificate or degree (with or without transfer). Some (21.4%) selected update job skills or personal enrichment. Figure 1 shows the results.

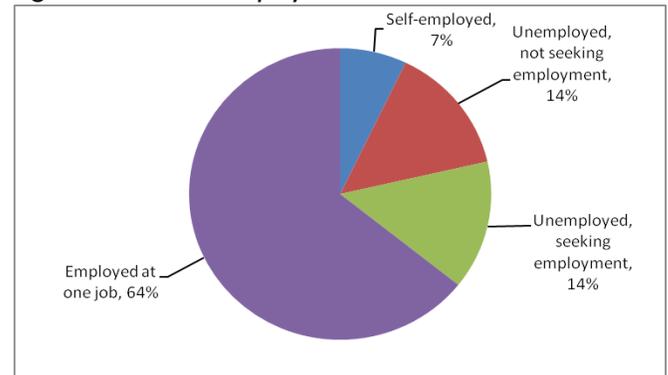
Figure 1 Primary reason for studying at Shasta College



- 50.0% of former students were “satisfied” with the education and training they received at Shasta College, and 42.9% were “very satisfied” for an overall satisfaction rate of 92.9%.

- 35.7% of respondents indicated they transferred to pursue a Bachelor’s Degree. Of those who transferred, more than three-fourths transferred within the same field and less than one-fourth transferred into a different major.
- 71% of respondents are employed for pay.

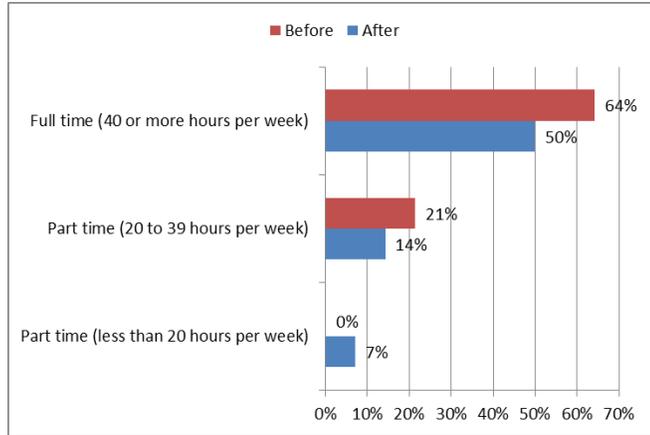
Figure 2 Current Employment Status



- Respondents were asked, if currently employed, how closely related their job is to their field of study at Shasta College. Almost half (45.5%) indicated their job is “very close” to their studies and training. Some (36.4%) indicated their job is not related to their studies, followed by a couple (18.2%) working close to the field of their studies and training.
- Of those respondents who engaged in a job search after finishing their studies, 35.7% reported finding a job and no respondents were still looking (the remaining respondents were not looking or were already employed). Of those with a successful job search, 66.6% found a job within three months.
- Before earning a degree or certificate, 64.3% of respondents worked full-time. After earning a degree or certificate, 50.0% work full-time. Figure 3 shows the results.

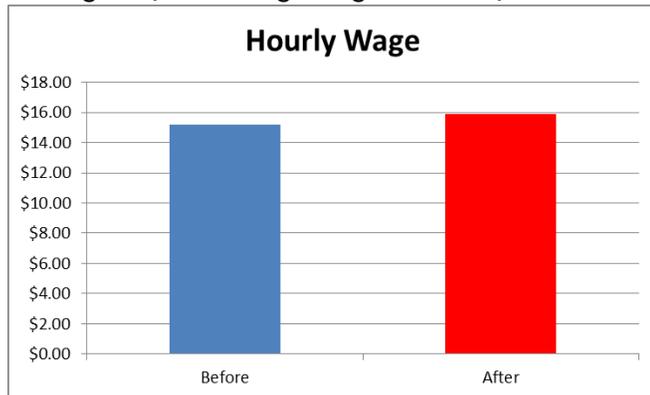
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*Figure 3 Work status before studies/training and after earning a degree/certificate*



- The hourly wage of completers increased 4% from before their studies (\$15.22) to their hourly wage after completing a degree/certificate (\$15.89). See Figure 4 below.

*Figure 4 Increase in earnings from before studies and training to after earning a degree or certificate*



Job titles of the 14 completers in Ag Natural Resources include: barista, bicycle shop employee, contractor, fish and wildlife technician, landscape maintenance, logging equipment operator, public works maintenance worker, recreation technician, sales associate, and veterinary assistant.

### Summary and Conclusions

The results of the survey show that earning a certificate or vocational degree is related to positive employment outcomes. After graduation, a majority of certificate/degree completers are employed, with almost half (45.5%) working in the same field as their studies. Prior to earning a degree, 64% worked full-time. After earning a degree, full-time employment subsided to 50%. On average, certificate/degree completers posted a 4% increase in their hourly wage after earning their credential and the vast majority were satisfied with the education and training they received at Shasta College.

This survey was developed and summarized by Marc Beam, Director Research and Planning, Shasta College on August 8, 2013. For further information contact the office of Research and Planning, at (530) 242-7670.

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