

## CTE Employment Outcomes Survey for Certificate & Degree Completers 2014 Shasta College Summary Results – TOP Code 01xx

### Background

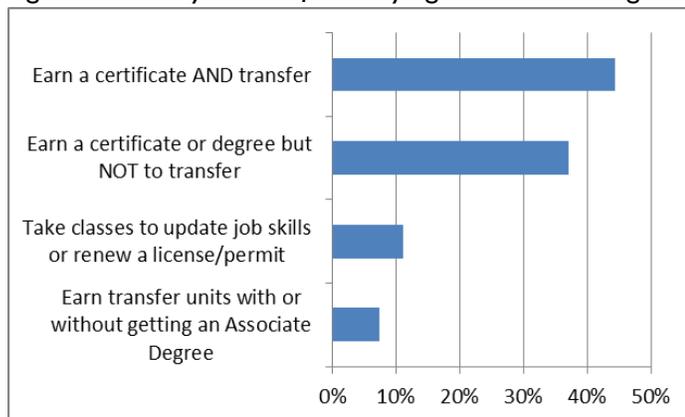
Students from Shasta College who earned a certificate of 6 or more units or a degree in 2012-2013 were surveyed in the summer of 2014. The survey was administered first by telephone then by e-mail, addressed student perceptions of their CTE program, employment outcomes, and how their coursework and training relate to their current career.

The sample consisted of 778 certificate/degree completers, 29 of whom responded by e-mail (9.9%) and 265 by telephone (90.1%), for a total response rate of 37.8%. This brief examines results for 27 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 (44.4%) indicated their primary reason was to earn a certificate or degree and transfer. Many (37.0%) selected earning a certificate or degree, but not transfer. Few selected update job skills or personal enrichment. A couple selected earn transfer units (with or without a degree). Figure 1 shows the results.

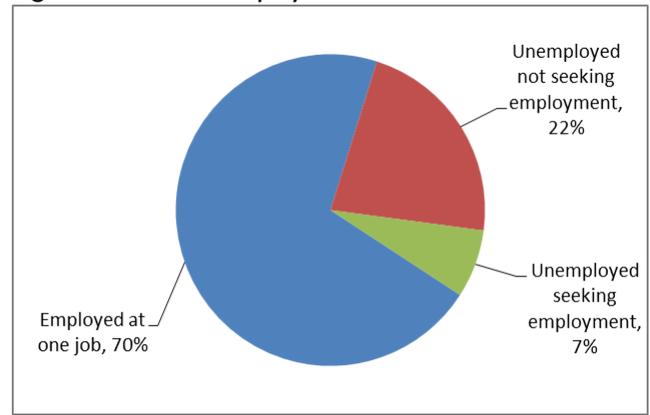
*Figure 1 Primary reason for studying at Shasta College*



- 62.9% of former students were “very satisfied” with the education and training they received at Shasta College, and 33.3% were “satisfied” for an overall satisfaction rate of 96.3%.

- 25.9% of respondents indicated they transferred to pursue a Bachelor’s Degree. Of those who transferred, almost three-fourths transferred within the same field and more than one-fourth transferred into a different major.
- 70% of respondents are employed for pay. Figure 2 represents the status of certificate/degree completers.

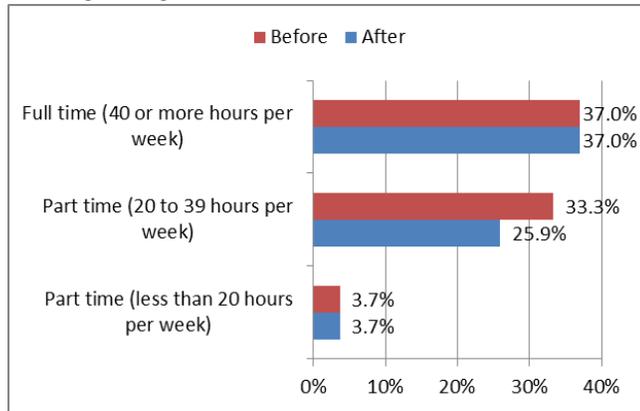
*Figure 2 Current Employment Status*



- Respondents were asked, if currently employed, how closely related their job is to their field of study at Shasta College. One-third (33.3%) indicated their job is “close” to their studies and training and one-third (33.3%) indicated their job is not related to their studies. One (16.7%) indicated the job was “very close” and one is unknown.
- Of those respondents who engaged in a job search after finishing their studies, 55.6% reported finding a job and 44.4% of respondents were still looking (the remaining respondents were not looking or were already employed). Of those with a successful job search, 33.3% found a job within three months.
- Before earning a degree or certificate, 37.0% of respondents worked full-time. After earning a degree or certificate, 37.0% 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 66% from before their studies (\$13.30) to their hourly wage after completing a degree/certificate (\$22.08). 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 27 completers in Ag Natural Resources include: Bartender, Business Owner / Construction, Cashier, Consultant, Dredger Operator, Equipment Operator, Field Associate, Firefighter I, Forestry Technician, High Voltage Lineman, Registered Dental Assistant, Server, Student Assistant, Tour Guide, and Veterinary Technician.

### Summary and Conclusions

The results of the survey show that earning a certificate or degree is related to positive employment outcomes. After graduation, a majority of certificate/degree completers are employed, with half (50%) working in the same field as their studies. Prior to earning a degree, 37% worked full-time. After earning a degree, full-time employment stayed at 37%. On average, certificate/degree completers posted a 66% 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 July 8, 2014. For further information contact the office of Research and Planning, at (530) 242-7670.

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