

CTE Employment Outcomes Survey for Certificate & Degree Completers 2013 Shasta College Summary Results – TOP Codes 05xx & 07xx

Background

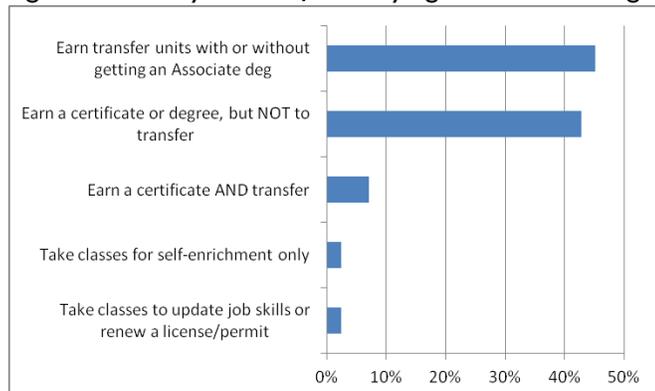
Students from Shasta College who earned a certificate of 6 or more units or a vocational degree in 2011-2012 were surveyed in the summer of 2013. The survey was administered first by telephone then by e-mail, addressed student perceptions of their CTE program, employment outcomes, and how their coursework 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 42 completers in TOP codes 05xx and 07xx for business, office and computer support positions.

Results

- Respondents were asked what their primary reason was to study at Shasta College. Almost half (45.2%) indicated their primary reason was to earn transferable units with or without getting a degree and (42.9%) selected earn a certificate or degree, but not transfer. A few (7.1%) selected earning a certificate or degree and transfer. A couple (4.8%) selected update job skills or personal enrichment. Figure 1 shows the results.

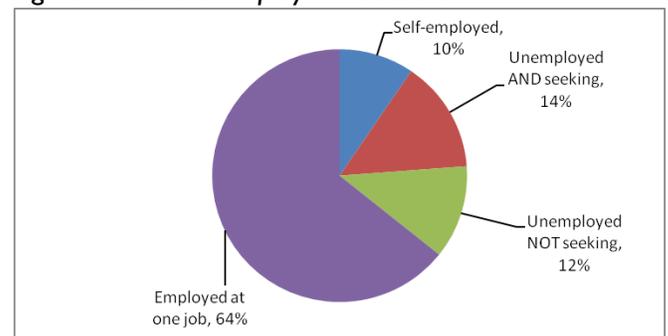
Figure 1 Primary reason for studying at Shasta College



- 50.0% of former students were “very satisfied” with the education and training they received at Shasta College, and 40.5% were “satisfied” for an overall satisfaction rate of 90.5%.

- 21.4% of respondents indicated they transferred to pursue a Bachelor’s Degree. Of those who transferred, over half transferred within the same field and less than one-fourth transferred into a different major.
- 74% of respondents are employed for pay. Figure 2 represents the status of certificate/vocational degree earners.

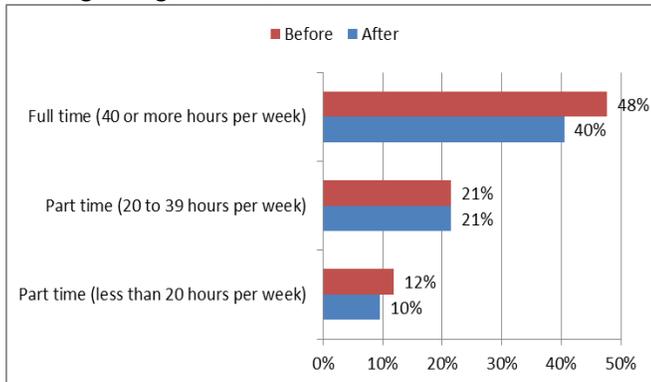
Figure 2 Current Employment Status



- Respondents were asked, if currently employed, how closely related their job is to their field of study at Shasta College. More than one-third (41.9%) indicated their job is not related to their studies, followed by one-third (35.5%) indicating they work in a field that is “very close” to their studies and training. The remaining (22.6%) indicated working close to the same field as their studies and training.
- Of those respondents who engaged in a job search after finishing their studies, 19.0% reported finding a job and 19.0% were still looking (the remaining respondents were not looking or were already employed). Of those with a successful job search, 76.4% found a job within six months (58.8% within three months).
- Before earning a degree or certificate, 47.6% of respondents worked full-time. After earning a degree or certificate, 40.5% work full-time. Figure 3 shows the results.

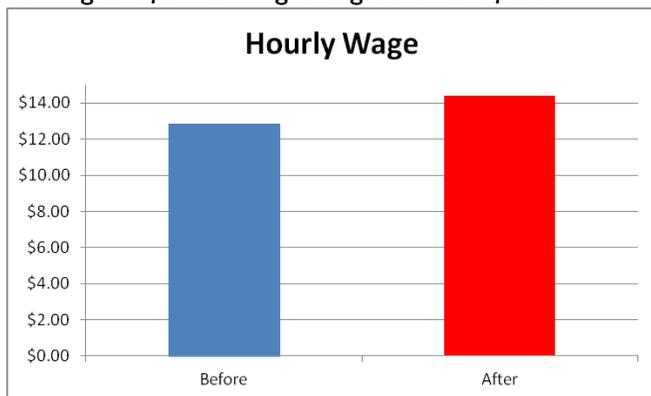
CTE Employment Outcomes Survey for Certificate & Degree Completers 2013 Shasta College Summary Results – TOP Codes 05xx & 07xx

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



- The hourly wage of completers increased 12% from before their studies (\$12.86) to their hourly wage after completing a degree/certificate (\$14.40). See Figure 4 below.

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



Job titles for the 42 completers in office jobs include: administrative assistant, artist, cook, data entry associate, estimator, firefighter, food services, laborer, maintenance, medical records assistant, office assistant, office manager, paralegal, patient assistant, personal assistant, pharmacy technician, sales associate, server, sorter, special needs assistant, tire and lube technician, and truck driver.

Summary and Conclusions

The results of the survey show that earning a certificate or vocational degree is related to positive employment outcomes. Most certificate/degree completers are employed, and one-third (36%) are working in the same field as their studies. Prior to earning a degree, 48% worked full-time. After earning a degree, full-time employment subsided to 40%. On average, certificate/degree completers posted a 12% 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.

Prepared by Marc Beam
Shasta College office of Research and Planning
November 15, 2013 – Revised November 14, 2014