

CTE Employment Outcomes Survey for Certificate & Degree Completers 2014 Shasta College Summary Results – TOP Code 21xx

Background

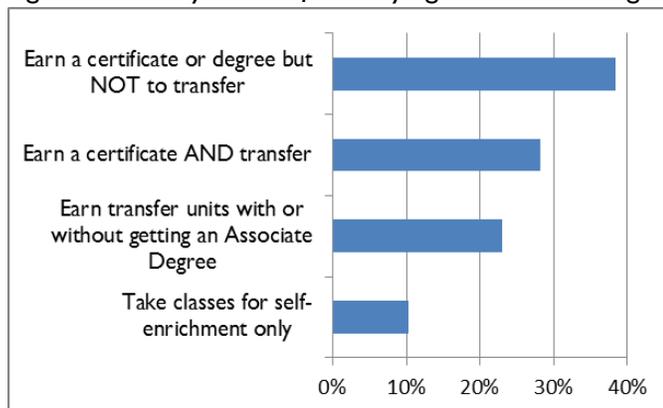
Students from Shasta College who earned a certificate of 6 or more units or a degree in 2012-2013 were surveyed in the summer of 2014. The survey was administered first by telephone then by e-mail, addressed student perceptions of their CTE program, employment outcomes, and how their coursework and training 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 39 completers in TOP code 21xx including criminal justice, fire academy, and social work service.

Results

- Respondents were asked what their primary reason was to study at Shasta College. One-third (38.5%) indicated their primary reason was to earn a certificate but not transfer. Many (28.2%) selected earn a certificate and transfer. Some (23.1%) indicated to earn transferable units (with or without a degree). A few (10.3%) took classes for self-enrichment only. Figure 1 shows the results.

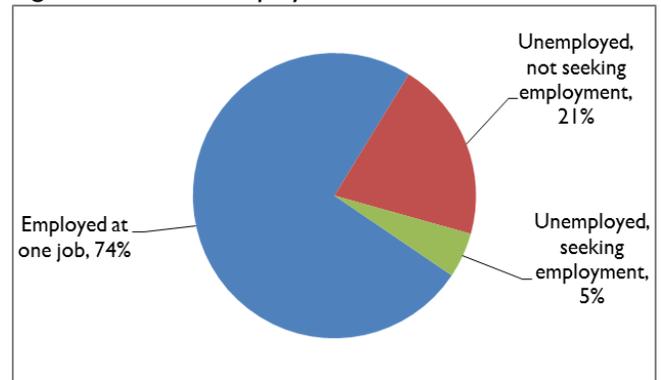
Figure 1 Primary reason for studying at Shasta College



- 69.2% of former students were “very satisfied” with the education and training they received at Shasta College, and 28.2% were “satisfied,” for an overall satisfaction rate of 97.4%.

- 33.3% of respondents indicated they transferred to pursue a Bachelor’s Degree. Of those who transferred, almost two-thirds transferred into a different major and more than one-third transferred within the same field
- 74% of respondents are employed for pay. Figure 2 represents the status of certificate/degree completers.

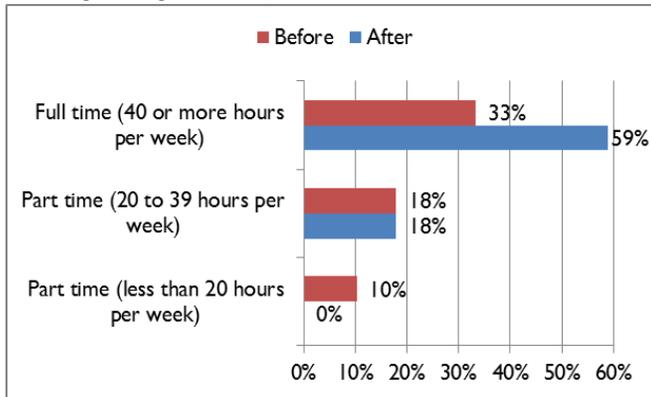
Figure 2 Current Employment Status



- Respondents were asked, if currently employed, how closely related their job is to their field of study at Shasta College. Two-thirds (65.5%) indicated their job is “very close” to their studies and training. Less than one-third (27.6%) indicated their job is not closely related to their studies and one indicated the job is “close.”
- Of those respondents who engaged in a job search after finishing their studies, 88.2% reported finding a job and 11.8% of respondents were still looking (the remaining respondents were not looking or were already employed). Of those with a successful job search, 80.0% found a job within three months.
- Before earning a degree or certificate, 33.3% of respondents worked full-time. After earning a degree or certificate, 59.0% work full-time. Figure 3 shows the results.

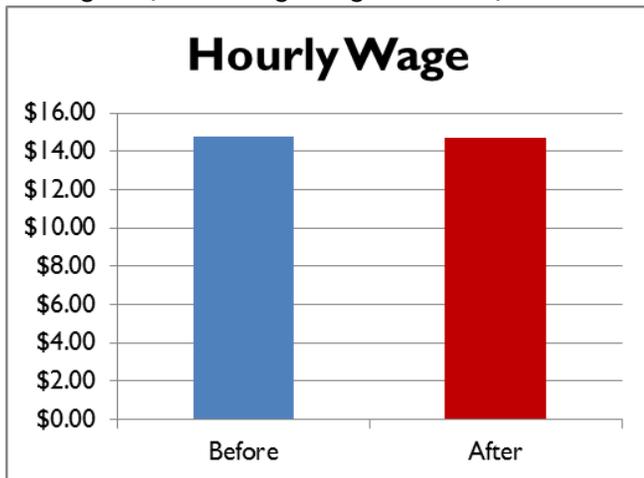
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Figure 3 Work status before studies/training and after earning a degree/certificate



- The hourly wage of completers decreased 1% from before their studies (\$14.79) to their hourly wage after completing a degree/certificate (\$14.68). 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 39 completers in Public Protection include: Bookkeeper, Cashier, Correctional Deputy, Customer Service, Firefighter, IT- Tech, Paramedic, Pricing Clerk, Security Officer, and Server.

Summary and Conclusions

The results of the survey show that earning a certificate or degree is related to positive employment outcomes. Almost three-fourths of certificate/degree completers are employed and over two-thirds (69%) are working in the same field as their studies. Prior to earning a degree, 33% worked full-time. After earning a degree, full-time employment increased to 59%. On average, certificate/degree completers posted a 1% decrease 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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