

CTE Employment Outcomes Survey for Certificate & Degree Completers 2013 Shasta College Summary Results – TOP Codes 15xx & 49xx

Background

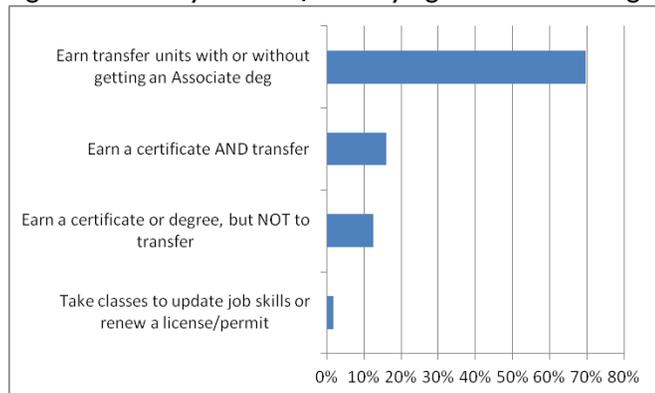
Students from Shasta College who earned a certificate of 6 or more units or a vocational degree in 2011-2012 were surveyed in the summer of 2013. The survey was administered first by telephone then by e-mail, addressed student perceptions of their CTE program, employment outcomes, and how their coursework 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 56 completers in TOP codes 15xx and 49xx for General Education and the Humanities.

Results

- Respondents were asked what their primary reason was to study at Shasta College. More than two-thirds (69.6%) indicated their primary reason was to earn transferable units with or without obtaining a degree. Some (16.1%) selected earning a certificate or degree and transfer and some (12.5%) selected earn a certificate or degree, but not transfer. One (1.8%) took classes to update job skills or renew a license/permit. Figure 1 shows the results.

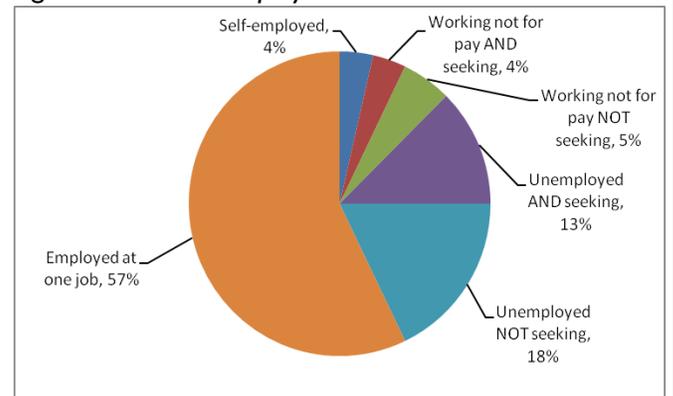
Figure 1 Primary reason for studying at Shasta College



- 48.2% of former students were “very satisfied” with the education and training they received at Shasta College, and 46.4% were “satisfied” for an overall satisfaction rate of 94.6%.

- 58.9% of respondents indicated they transferred to pursue a Bachelor’s Degree. Of those who transferred, more than half transferred within the same field and one-fourth transferred into a different major.
- 61% of respondents are employed for pay. Figure 2 represents the status of certificate/vocational degree earners.

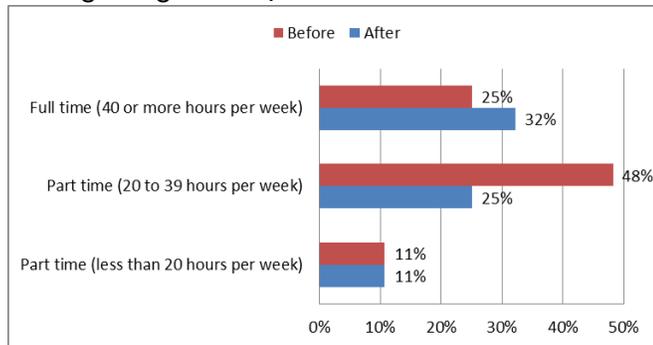
Figure 2 Current Employment Status



- Respondents were asked, if currently employed, how closely related their job is to their field of study at Shasta College. About half (42.1%) indicated their job is not related to their studies – many are employed in retail. One-third (31.6%) indicated they work in a field that is “very close” to their studies and training. One-fourth (26.3%) 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, 21.8% reported finding a job and 5.5% were still looking (the remaining respondents were not looking or were already employed). Of those with a successful job search, 81.7% found a job within six months (77.2% within three months).
- Before earning a degree or certificate, 25.0% of respondents worked full-time. After earning a degree or certificate, 32.1% work full-time. Figure 3 shows the results.

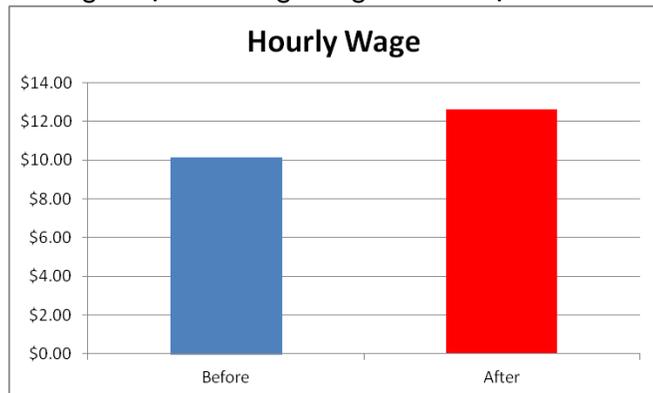
CTE Employment Outcomes Survey for Certificate & Degree Completers 2013 Shasta College Summary Results – TOP Codes 15xx & 49xx

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



- The hourly wage of completers increased 24% from before their studies (\$10.15) to their hourly wage after completing a degree/certificate (\$12.61). 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 56 completers in Humanities include: caregiver, cart associate, cashier, certified nurse assistant, computer operator, controller, EMT, executive assistant, fast food worker, firefighter, human resource specialist, jewelry consultant, maintenance worker, office assistant, office automation clerk, personal trainer, pizza delivery, pricing team member, prosthetic intern, realtor, receptionist, recreation leader, server, special education aide, teacher aide, teacher, and travel agent.

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 one-third (32%) working in the same field as their studies. Prior to earning a degree, 25% worked full-time. After earning a degree, full-time employment increased to 32%. On average, certificate/degree completers posted a 24% 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