

Career & Technical Education (CTE) Employment Outcomes Survey 2015 Los Medanos College

Background

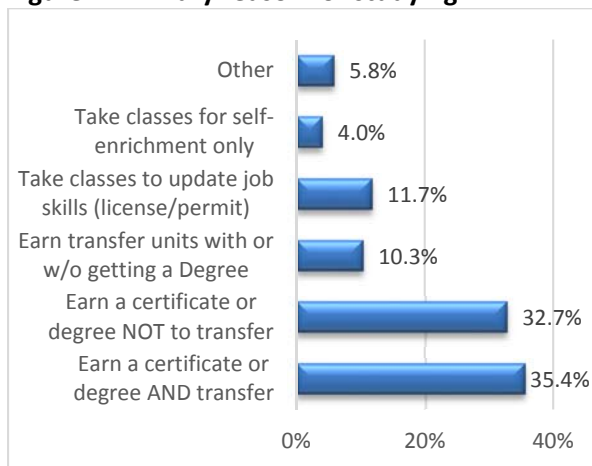
Skills-building students from Los Medanos College were surveyed if they met one of the following criteria in 2012-2013, and did not enroll in 2013-2014: earned a certificate of 6 or more units, earned a vocational degree, or earned 9+ CTE units. The survey was administered in early 2015 by e-mail, telephone and US mail. The survey addressed student perceptions of their CTE program, employment outcomes, and how their coursework and training relate to their current career.

A total of 968 students were surveyed and 223 unduplicated students responded, 75 of whom responded by e-mail (33.6%), 109 by telephone (48.9%), and 39 (17.5%) by US Mail, for a total overall response rate of 23.0%.

Results

- Respondents were asked their primary reason for studying at Los Medanos College, and the majority (68.2%) indicated earning a certificate or degree (with or without transfer). Figure 1 shows the results.

Figure 1. Primary reason for studying



- Respondents were asked why they stopped taking classes at Los Medanos College. Here are the most frequently cited reasons, in rank order of frequency:

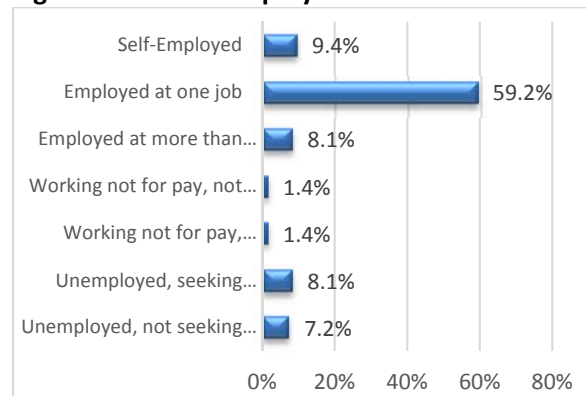
- ✓ My goals were met (109)
- ✓ I completed the program (102)
- ✓ I got a job (64)
- ✓ Transferred to another school (54)

- 54.3% of former students were “very satisfied” with the education and training they received at Los Medanos College, and 35.9% were “satisfied” for an overall satisfaction rate of 90.1%.

- 34.5% of respondents indicated they had transferred to another College or University.

- 76.7% of respondents are employed for pay. Figure 2 shows the results.

Figure 2. Current Employment Status



- Overall, statewide, students who transferred have 1.9 times the likelihood of being unemployed and not seeking employment (6.2% for not transferring vs. 11.9% for transferring), likely because they are enrolled at a four year institution.

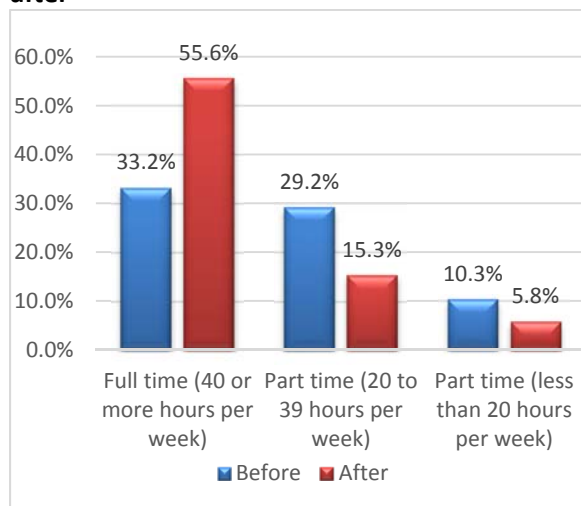
- Respondents were asked, if currently employed, how closely related their job is to their field of study at Los Medanos College. 48.0% indicated they are working in the same field as their studies and training, followed 19.6% indicating they work in a field that is “close” to their studies and training, and 32.4% indicated their job is not related to their studies. When asked if they were actively seeking a job in another field, 78.6% of employed respondents said no.

- Of those respondents who engaged in a job search after finishing their studies, 77.0% reported finding a job and 23.0% were still looking. Of those with a successful job search, 82.2% found a job within six months (63.3% within three months).

- Of currently employed respondents, 15.8% had been employed at their current job less than six months, 15.2% between six months and one year, 24.6% between one and two years, 9.9% between two and three years and 34.5% had been employed at their current job for more than three years.

- Before their studies, 33.2% of respondents worked full time. After completing their studies, 55.6% work full time. Figure 3 shows the results.

Figure 3. Work status before studies/training and after



- The hourly wage of all respondents increased 48.8% from their hourly wage before their studies (\$18.28) to their hourly wage after completing their studies (\$27.20). Figure 4 shows the results.

Figure 4. Earnings before studies/training and after



- Respondents, including those who had transferred, were asked what impact their coursework had on their employment. Here are the responses, listed in rank order of frequency:

- ✓ Prepared me for a possible new job (50)
- ✓ Enabled me to learn skills that allowed me to get a job at a new organization (45)
- ✓ Enabled me to learn skills that allowed me to stay in my current job (31)
- ✓ No impact on my employment (24)
- ✓ Enabled me to learn skills that allowed me to get a promotion at my same organization (13)
- ✓ Enabled me to start my own business (7)

Summary and Conclusions

The results of the survey showed that completing CTE studies and training – whether or not a credential is earned, whether or not a student transfers – is related to positive employment outcomes. The preponderance of respondents are employed, are working in the same field as their studies or training, and are working full time. Respondents overall posted a 48.8% increase in their hourly wage after completing their studies at Los Medanos College and the vast majority were satisfied with the education and training they received.

