Employment Outcomes Survey for CTE Certificate & Degree Completers
Modesto Jr College – 2014 Summary Results – All Programs

Background

Students from MJC who earned a certificate of 6 or more units or a vocational degree in the 2013-14 academic year were surveyed in summer 2015 or about one year after graduation. The survey was administered first by telephone then by e-mail to address student perceptions of their CTE program, employment outcomes, and how their coursework and training related to their current career.

The sample consisted of 221 certificate and vocational degree earners, 19 of whom responded by email (25%) and 57 by telephone (75%) for a total of 76 valid responses for a 34.4% response rate.

Results

Out of the 76 respondents, 54 (71.1%) were very satisfied with the education and training they received at MJC, and 21 (27.6%) were satisfied for an overall satisfaction rate of 98.7%.

Fourteen respondents (18.4%) indicated they transferred to pursue a Bachelor’s Degree. Of those who transferred, 12 (85.7%) transferred within the same field of study and 2 transferred into a different major.

Based on survey responses 71.1% of respondents are employed for pay. Forty-four respondents (57.9%) are employed at one job and another 9 (11.8%) are employed at more than one job. One is self-employed while 14.4% are seeking employment and 10.5% are not seeking employment.

Graduates were asked: If currently employed, how closely related their job is to their field of study at MJC? Only 37 responded to this question. The majority of those grads indicated they are working in the
same field as their studies with 27 (73%) working very close to their major and 4 (10.8%) working close to their major. Six responded (16.2%) that their jobs are not related to their field of study.

Of those respondents who engaged in a job search (n = 31) after finishing their studies, 22 (71%) found a job and 9 (29%) were still looking. The remaining respondents were not looking or were already employed. Of those with a successful job search, 81% found a job within six months (including 57% that found employment within three months).

Slightly more than half of all respondents 45 (59.2%) said they had a job before they took classes at MJC. Before earning a degree or certificate, 18 (23.7%) worked full-time. After earning a degree or certificate, 19 (25%) are working full-time.

The hourly wage of completers increased 20.3% from before their studies ($13.15) to their hourly wage after completing a degree or certificate ($15.83).

**Summary and Conclusion**

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 84% working in the same field as their studies, and 25% working full-time. On average, completers posted a 20% gain in their hourly wage after earning their credential and the vast majority were satisfied with the education and training they received at Modesto Jr. College.

This survey was developed and summarized by the research offices at MJC and YCCD Central Services on Oct 6, 2015. For further information please contact Pedro Mendez, Dean of Career Technical Education at Modesto Junior College 209.575.6355 or mendezp@mjc.edu.