Los Angeles Harbor College

Completer and skills-building students at Los Angeles Harbor College were surveyed if they met one of the following criteria in 2016-2017, and did not enroll (or were minimally enrolled) in 2017-2018: earned a certificate of 6 or more units, earned a vocational degree, or earned 9+ CTE units. The survey was administered in early 2019 by e-mail, text message (SMS), and telephone. 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 733 students were surveyed and 191 (26%) students responded: 20% by email, 72% by phone, and 8% by SMS.

1. How satisfied are students with the education and training they received?
   - Very Satisfied: 40.3%
   - Satisfied: 50.0%
   - Other: 9.7%

2. How many students secured a job that is closely related to their program of study?
   - Very Close: 34.3%
   - Close: 43.8%
   - Not Close: 22.1%

3. How many hours per week are employed students working?
   - 40+ hours: 21.9%
   - >20 hours: 65.7%
   - <20 hours: 12.4%

4. How many months did it take for students to find a job?
   - 0: 29.3%
   - 1-3: 17.1%
   - 4-6: 48.8%
   - 7+ : 4.9%
What were the hourly wages of the students before training versus after training?

What was the hourly wage of transfer students and non-transfer students—before training versus after training?

Does the similarity between job and program of study influence wage gains?

More Key Results

$5.50 is the overall change in hourly wages after completing training—in dollars

37% is the overall change in hourly wages after completing training—in percentage gain

76% of respondents reported being employed for pay

54% of respondents reported transferring to another college or university

90% of respondents reported being very satisfied or satisfied with their training.

Conclusion

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 and are working in the same field as their studies or training. Notably, students realize a greater wage gain after completing their studies if they secure a job that is similar to their program of study.