Completer and skills-building students at College of Alameda were surveyed if they met one of the following criteria in 2017-2018, and did not enroll (or were minimally enrolled) in 2018-2019: earned a certificate of 6 or more units, earned a vocational degree, or earned 9+ CTE units. The survey was administered in 2020 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 327 students were surveyed and 97 (30%) students responded: 22% by email, 64% by phone, and 14% by SMS.

How satisfied are students with the education and training they received?

- Very Satisfied: 36.1%
- Satisfied: 54.6%
- Other: 9.3%

How many students secured a job that is closely related to their program of study?

- Very close: 43.1%
- Close: 34.5%
- Not close: 22.4%

How many hours per week are employed students working?

- <20 hours: 26.8%
- 20-40 hours: 66.1%
- >40 hours: 7.1%

How many months did it take for students to find a job?

- 0 months: 38.5%
- 1-3 months: 19.2%
- 4-6 months: 7.7%
- >6 months: 34.6%
What were the hourly wages of the students before training versus after training?

What were the hourly wages of transfer students and non-transfer students—before training versus after training?

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

What is your current employment status?

More Key Results

$9.50 is the overall change in hourly wages after completing training—in dollars

53% is the overall change in hourly wages after completing training—in percentage gain

60% of respondents reported being employed for pay

42% of respondents reported transferring to another college or university

91% 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.

For 2020, current data was used when available, data collected on pre-pandemic outcomes was used when current data was unavailable.

*The option of “Furloughed” was only available to respondents who took the survey version initiated after the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.