Completer and skills-building students at West Los Angeles College 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 1305 students were surveyed and 386 (30%) students responded: 31% by email, 56% by phone, and 13% by SMS.

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

- Very Satisfied: 11.2%
- Satisfied: 55.3%
- Other: 33.5%

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

- Very close: 27.0%
- Close: 43.5%
- Not close: 29.5%

**How many hours per week are employed students working?**

- 40+ hours: 13.7%
- >20 hours: 10.8%
- <20 hours: 75.5%

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

- 0: 16.5%
- 1-3: 36.5%
- 4-6: 35.3%
- 7+: 11.8%
What were the hourly wages of the students before training versus after training?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hourly Wage (Median)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wages before schooling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wages after schooling</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wage Change (Median)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transfer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Transfer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wage Change (Median)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not Close</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Close</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very Close</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What is your current employment status?

- Employed At One Job: 53.2%
- Unemployed, Seeking Work: 15.9%
- Self-Employed: 11.0%
- Employed At More Than One Job: 8.7%
- Unemployed, Not Seeking Work: 5.8%
- Furloughed*: 4.0%
- Unpaid Work, Seeking Paid Work: 1.2%
- Unpaid Work, Not Seeking Paid Work: 0.3%

More Key Results

- $7.00 is the overall change in hourly wages after completing training—in dollars
- 36% is the overall change in hourly wages after completing training—in percentage gain
- 76% of respondents reported being employed for pay
- 35% of respondents reported transferring to another college or university
- 89% 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.