

# Camden County College 2015 Graduate Follow-Up Survey – Fall 2016

## I. Respondents

The One Year Graduate Follow-Up Survey is administered one year after students graduate. In 2014, 1,552 2013 graduates were surveyed and two hundred and eight one were returned for an 18.1% response rate. In 2016, 1738 graduates were surveyed and one hundred and ninety-four were returned for an 11.2% response rate. Surveys were delivered to students through e-mail and direct mail.

Email letters were sent to students containing a link to take the survey on Survey Monkey. Those that could not be reached through e-mail were mailed out a survey and included a preaddressed self-stamped envelope for the survey to be returned in. The responses from these surveys were then entered into Survey Monkey so that all responses were in the same file.

## II. Educational Goal Attainment

Of the students surveyed one hundred and eighty-two, or 93.8%, of them responded that they had achieved their primary objective by the time they left Camden County College. The options for objectives being: to improve job skills, to prepare for a first career, to prepare for a career change, transfer credit, personal interest or to earn an Associate Degree or Certificate. [Figure 1]

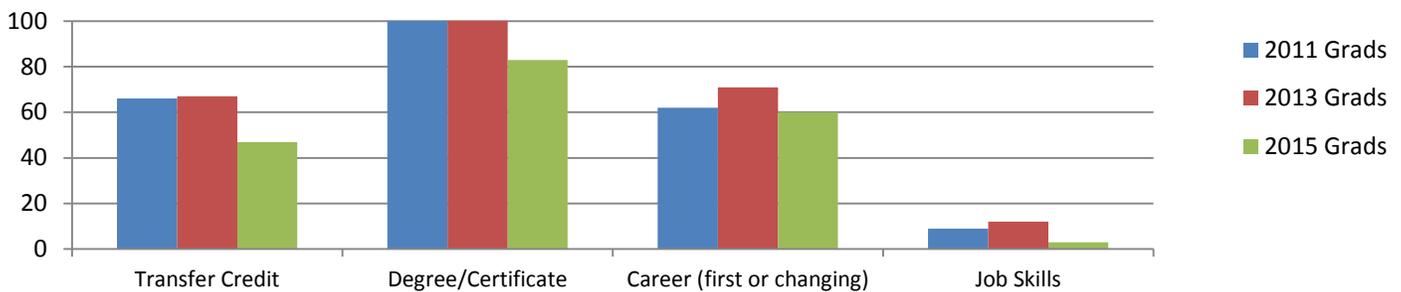


Figure 1

### Comparing 2015 and 2013 graduates

- ✓ 43% of 2015 respondents reported that their primary objective for attending Camden County College was to graduate and earn an Associate Degree or Certificate. This is slightly down from the 45% reported from the 2013 graduates.
- ✓ 94% of the respondents reported achieving their primary goal for attending the College compared to 93% reported by the 2013 graduating cohort.
- ✓ 95% of the respondents would recommend Camden County College to prospective students compared to 94% reported by the 2013 graduating cohort.

## III. Support Services at Camden County College

Twelve of the College's support services were rated on 6-point scale, ranging from "excellent" to "poor", or the options of "did not know existed" and "did not use".

The three areas that received the highest "Excellent" ratings in the 2015 graduate survey were the Admissions Process (43%), Quality of Teaching (36%) and Bookstore Services (35%), followed closely by the registration process (34%).

The areas receiving the highest percentage of “Poor” responses were Parking, Academic Advisement, Job Placement and the Financial Aid Process. In general, there has been a decrease in the percent of students rating these services as “Poor”. This is an improvement compared to 2011 and 2013 survey.

Although parking seems to always be labeled an issue, it’s interesting to note the range across the scale indicate over three quarters of the students find parking to be adequate – 21% rated it excellent, 25% rated it good, and 28% rated it average. Also a point to note, 21% of respondents indicated they did not know that Job Placement Assistance existed at the College which was similar to previous survey results in 2013 and 2011.

	<u>2015</u> <u>Grads</u>	<u>2013</u> <u>Grads</u>	<u>2011</u> <u>Grads</u>
Parking	21%	20%	26%
Financial Aid Process	9%	7%	13%
Academic Advisement	8%	11%	9%
Transfer Information	5%	8%	7%
Job Placement	7%	9%	11%

**Transfers and Transferring Credits:**

Of the 194 respondents, just over half, 55% or 106, have transferred to another degree-granting institution; this is similar to the percent that reported the same in the 2013 survey.

- ✓ 81% are enrolled in a program related to the major completed at Camden County College
- ✓ 69% are full-time
- ✓ 57 graduates who responded to the survey are enrolled in a New Jersey institution
- ✓ 28% responded having some type of problem transferring to another degree-granting institution.

In response to a question about transferring credit hours, 40% of respondents indicated they had credit hours earned at the College that were not accepted into another institution; 26% or 28 graduates indicated not being able to transfer eight or more credit hours, 11% or 12 reported 4-7 credit hours not transferring, and 35% or 37 graduates reported 1-3 credit hours not transferring. The total number of graduates indicating having issues transferring credit hours, 40%, is significantly lower than the percentage from the 2013 survey, 70%. [Figure 2]



Figure 2

#### IV. Employment of Graduates

Overall, 79% of respondents reported being employed full-time or part-time, which is the same from 2013. Of the 2015 graduates 57% replied that their present job is either directly related or somewhat related to the program of study completed at CCC, this is slightly lower than the 2013 graduates - 59%. [Figure 3]

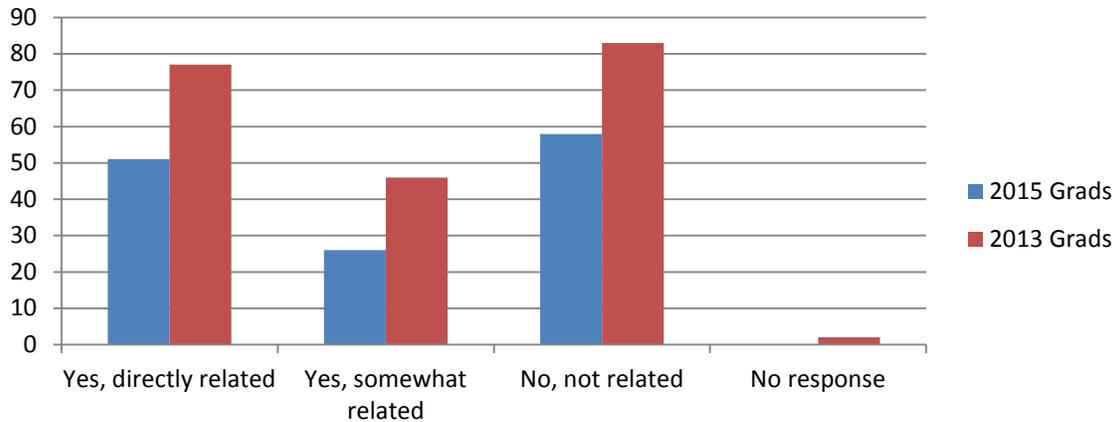


Figure 3

Out of the 135 who responded to this question, 91 graduates feel that the education/training they received at Camden County College is either useful or very useful in their current job positions.

#### V. Comments

Graduates were given the opportunity to write comments about their experiences at Camden County College; 73 of the respondents elected to add comments.

Overall comments skewed to a very positive experience at Camden County College, noting that the College was very helpful in helping them prepare for their chosen field of study. Many noted that positive influence that they faculty had on their educational experience and time at the College. Below are a few samples of the positive comments received:

“CCC is a wonderful institution and should offer 4 year courses for all aspects of study that would be affordable for all students. The campus is in a great location on beautiful grounds with easy access. My parents were able to pay my tuition with its variety of payment plans therefore they are not saddled with high tuition costs.”

“I was enrolled in distance learning and my professors where exemplary. They were extremely dedicated to the advancement of learning. The director of the HIT program was more than helpful with advice on how to succeed in my chosen career.”

“CCC really gave me the competitive edge I needed for securing a full time position in my field.”

“Camden County was a terrific experience. I honestly wished it were a four year institution so I could have stayed on. I moved on to Colorado State University which has one of the better online programs, however it still does not have some of the functionality that CCC did in its online courses. Overall it was a terrific experience and I hope my children consider attending.”

## **VI. Issues**

The results of the One Year Follow-Up Survey give Camden County College graduates an opportunity to provide the College with feedback about their educational experiences while they were attending the College and their educational and occupational experiences once they leave. When compared to previous surveys, the results give the College a sense of what areas have been improved and what areas still need improvement.