

# ACC Graduate Follow-Up Survey Results

## 1998-99 Graduates: Workforce Outcomes

To determine whether graduates of public community colleges in Texas are employed, or continuing their education, or both, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) uses state employment records and various THECB data to locate students following graduation. However, these data may overlook self-employed graduates and graduates who have transferred to private or out-of-state schools. Additionally, the employment records do not indicate whether the graduate is employed in the field for which the degree or certificate was granted.

Each year, ACC surveys its graduates of the previous academic year to provide data that supplement the THECB's tracking data.

The ACC 1998-99 Graduate Survey was distributed during the Spring of 2000 to 1025 graduates for the 1998-99 academic year. A total of 340 (33.2%) questionnaires were returned. Not all respondents answered every question in the survey.

Graduates were asked to respond to questions about:

- employment status after graduation
- whether their degree or certificate was required for their job
- any further education beyond their ACC work
- any volunteer work involving ACC training
- their opinion of how well ACC prepared them for employment or further education

The chart below illustrates, of the 340 graduates responding to the Graduate Follow-Up survey, 285 (83.8%) are, or were at one time after graduating, em-

ployed. Of those, 227 graduates (79.6%) were employed in a job that was related to their ACC training. Of the 43 respondents who did not use their training in their job, three (7.0%) volunteered in an area related to their ACC training. Additionally, of the 55 respondents who reported they were not employed, five (9.1%) used their ACC training in volunteer work. Thus, of the 340 graduates responding to the survey, 235 (69.1%) used their ACC training either in their job or volunteer work.

Most (289) of the graduates responding to the survey (340) rated their ACC preparation for employment or further education "excellent" (46.5%) or "satisfactory" (35.0%).

Please rate how well you feel ACC prepared you for employment or further education. My preparation was...

|                         | Respondents |       |
|-------------------------|-------------|-------|
|                         | N           | %     |
| Excellent               | 159         | 46.8  |
| Satisfactory            | 130         | 38.2  |
| Good only in some areas | 32          | 9.4   |
| Fair                    | 8           | 2.4   |
| Inadequate              | 5           | 1.5   |
| Did not respond         | 6           | 1.7   |
| Total                   | 340         | 100.0 |

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