

2019 Graduate Survey Analysis (AY18 Graduates)

The Office of Institutional Research administered a survey during the winter of 2018/19 to all FRCC graduates from the academic year of AY18. While there were 3,761 distinct graduates, they can be duplicated across types of degrees and programs.

All graduates, Career Technical (CTE) and Transfer degrees, were emailed a long survey if they had a valid email address. CTE non-respondents were then phoned using a short form of the survey with the ten questions mandated by the state for all CTE programs. Non-respondents are checked against internal FRCC enrollment data and the National Student Clearing House (NSC). Those students are included as a respondent to the question whether they are continuing their education, even if we have no other survey data from them.

We had a total of 1,674 respondents, resulting in a 45% response rate. Because of the more intense effort employed with CTE graduates, their response rate was 59% compared to 18% from the graduates with transfer degrees.

Percentages are calculated off of those who answered the specific question. Highlights of this year's results include:

Overall

- 95% reported that their program of study met their educational goals.
- 94% felt that FRCC prepared them "Well" or "Very Well" for continuing their educational programs.
- 71% are currently pursuing further education (augmented by NSC and FRCC enrollment data).
- 81% are employed with only 6% (73 respondents) report they are unemployed and seeking employment.

Employment Success

Nearly two-thirds of the employed graduates are working in a field related to their training, with half of those employed working 40 or more hours.

The median wage of those employed related to their training was \$16.50.

Campus Experience

Nearly three-fourths of respondents felt that technology enhanced their learning process and that their learned technology skills were up-to-date.

Students could give multiple answers to the questions of the job or career benefits they received but almost all perceived either immediate or long-term benefits. 50% said their program enhanced their ability to get or keep a job.

Objective

While the majority of graduates reported their objective was to earn a degree or certificate, there was a large minority (25%) of respondents who reported that their objective had been to take a few courses and transfer, or for personal interest. Whatever their original objective was, these were all graduates.

Continuing Education Success

71% of respondents are continuing their education. This number includes graduates who did not respond to the survey but are enrolled at FRCC or any other higher education institution as of fall 2018. A total of 134 graduates reported problems transferring to other institutions. Losing credit hours was the most common transfer problem they reported, with 89 students reporting some lost hours. Half of these lost 1-6 hours with only six student losing more than 12 hours.

Comments

388 students wrote comments in the survey. While these can be very contradictory, with one graduate praising a department while the next is highly critical of it, the clear majority of students indicated a high degree of satisfaction with FRCC, their program, other students and staff, but most especially, their instructors. They called instructors out by name to express their appreciation for these extraordinary people. They often had suggestions for how a program could be improved, and they expressed sadness at leaving an environment that had nurtured them. A copy of these comments is available upon request.

If you would like a more detailed analysis or have additional questions, please contact Kim Wallace (kim.wallace@frontrange.edu (303) 404-5316).