



NEDP® Graduate Feedback

NEDP Follow-Up Survey

The National External Diploma Program (NEDP) is an applied performance assessment system that assesses the high school level skills of adults and out-of-school youth. The NEDP evaluates the reading, writing, math and workforce readiness skills of participants in life and work contexts. Those that complete the program are awarded a high school diploma.

In January 2016, 1,094 prior NEDP graduates who had completed the program between 6 and 36 months ago received an invitation to complete a follow-up survey.

The survey invitation, administered via an automated process, is now sent to all graduates six months after they have completed the NEDP. To continue to monitor progress, graduates then receive another survey one-year later and, again, one-year after that.

The survey questions focus on the graduates' experience in the NEDP, current job status, enrollment in post-secondary education and training, and future employment and education goals.

This feedback helps to determine how well the NEDP is preparing graduates for future employment, education, and training. The NEDP will use survey data to help identify needed program improvements and enhancements.

The following findings are summarized from feedback provided by the first group of survey respondents.

Overall Experience in the NEDP

NEDP Graduates were asked if the general knowledge or skills they learned in the NEDP helped them in their job (n=198). Overwhelmingly, graduates were positive in their responses: 79 percent reported *Strongly Agree* or *Agree*, 18 percent reported *Neither Agree or Disagree* and 3 percent reported *Disagree* or *Strongly Disagree*.

NEDP Graduates were also asked if the general knowledge or skills they learned in the NEDP helped them in their post-secondary education and training (n=84). Again, graduates were overwhelmingly positive in their responses: 94 percent reported *Strongly Agree* or *Agree* and 6 percent reported *Neither Agree or Disagree*. No respondents reported *Disagree* or *Strongly Disagree*.

Most Helpful Areas of NEDP

Survey respondents cited Applied Math/Numeracy, Health Literacy, and Communication and Media Literacy as the areas of the NEDP they found to be most helpful.

Exhibit 1 Most Helpful NEDP Areas*

Most Helpful NEDP Area	%
Applied Math/Numeracy	62.5%
Health Literacy	53.8%
Communication and Media Literacy	51.5%
Consumer Awareness and Financial Literacy	47.7%
Information and Communication Technology	46.6%
Twenty-first Century Workplace	46.2%
Civic Literacy and Community Participation	37.5%
Geography and History	35.6%
Science	29.2%
Cultural Literacy - Interpreting the Arts	24.6%

*survey respondent can select multiple areas

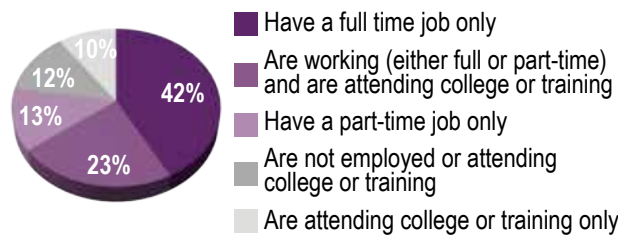


Current Status

The largest group of NEDP graduates reported full-time employment. Of the 264 NEDP graduates who responded to the survey with their current status:

- 111 (42%) have a full time job only;
- 60 (23%) are working (either full or part-time) and are attending college or training;
- 34 (13%) have a part-time job only;
- 33 (12%) are not employed or attending college or training;
- 26 (10%) are attending college or training only.

Exhibit 2 Current Status of NEDP Graduates



Of those respondents who have participated in additional educational opportunities since graduation, the most common educational program reported was enrollment in community college.

Exhibit 3 Program Enrollment of NEDP Graduates who have participated in Educational Opportunities*

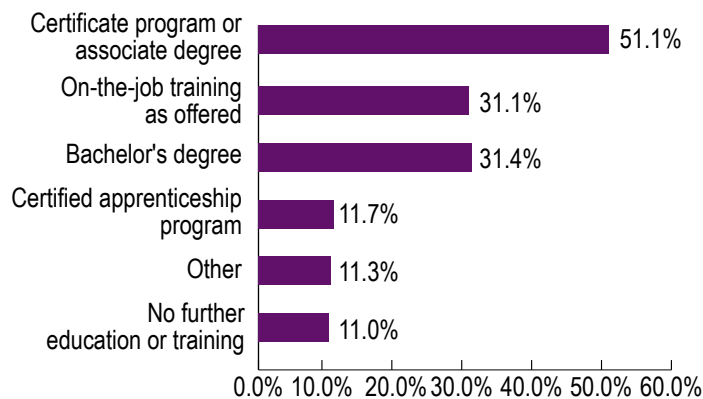
Education Program	Enrolled
Community College	48.8%
Certificate Program	20.9%
Other	17.4%
4-Year College	8.1%
Apprenticeship Program	7.0%

*survey respondent can select multiple areas

Future Plans

NEDP graduates have ambitious future plans. These are demonstrated by the responses when asked to indicate their planned education and job training over the next five years.

Exhibit 4 NEDP Graduates' Future Plans*



*survey respondent can select multiple areas

Conclusions

NEDP graduates described their overall experience in the NEDP as very positive. Graduates reported the content covered in the NEDP provided significant benefits for future employment and education opportunities. Almost 63 percent of graduates reported that Applied Math and Numeracy was one of the most important NEDP areas. Another 54 percent of graduates reported that Health Literacy was one of the most important NEDP Areas.

We have learned that NEDP graduates have ambitious future plans, 51 percent plan to complete a certificate program and 31 percent plan to complete a Bachelor's degree. Many cited that the NEDP increased their confidence to meet the demands of current education and training opportunities.

Survey feedback data will continue to be periodically aggregated and analyzed. This will allow the NEDP to continue to monitor the progress of graduates and how well-prepared NEDP graduates are for future opportunities. CASAS will leverage this data to help identify needed program improvements and enhancements.

Subsequent analyses will be included in future editions of the NEDP Technical Report.

