



National External Diploma Program



Reports | National Reports and Articles

December 2021

NEDP® Graduate Follow-Up Survey

In January 2016, the NEDP implemented an automated process to administer a follow-up survey to NEDP graduates. The NEDP provides a survey invitation to graduates six months after they have completed the NEDP. To continue to monitor progress, the survey is sent again one year and two years later.

The initial set of surveys was sent to NEDP graduates who had completed the program within the three years preceding January 2016.

A total of 2,435 completed survey responses were received by November 2021. Some graduates completed the survey more than once since they had the opportunity to respond at three points after graduation. Only the most recent survey from each graduate was used in the analysis. Therefore, calculations were based on 1,719 unduplicated responses.

Survey feedback helps to determine how well the NEDP is preparing graduates for future employment, education, and training. The survey questions focus on the graduates' experience in the NEDP, current job status, enrollment in postsecondary education and training, and future employment and education goals.

Feedback from survey respondents through November 2021 shows the following results.

Overall Experience in the NEDP – Summary of Results through November 2021

NEDP graduates were asked if the general knowledge or skills they learned in the NEDP helped them in their job. Overwhelmingly, graduates were positive in their responses: 78.5 percent reported *Strongly Agree* or *Agree*, 17.1 percent reported *Neither Agree nor Disagree* and 4.4 percent reported *Disagree* or *Strongly Disagree*.

NEDP graduates reported that the general knowledge and skills they learned in the NEDP helped them in their postsecondary education and training, with 92.9 reporting *Strongly Agree* or *Agree*, and 5.3 percent reporting *Neither Agree or Disagree*. Only 1.8 percent of respondents reported *Disagree* or *Strongly Disagree*.

Most Helpful Areas of the NEDP

Survey respondents cited Applied Math/Numeracy, Consumer Awareness and Financial Literacy, Communication and Media Literacy, and Twenty-first Century Workplace as the areas of the NEDP they found to be most helpful.

Table 1 Most Helpful NEDP Areas

NEDP Area*	%
Applied Math/Numeracy	62.9
Consumer Awareness and Financial Literacy	58.7
Communication and Media Literacy	57.9
Twenty-first Century Workplace	57.6
Health Literacy	57.4
Information and Communication Technology	51.5
Civic Literacy and Community Participation	44.7
Geography and History	41.9
Science	36.0
Cultural Literacy - Interpreting the Arts	35.2

*Survey respondents can select multiple areas

Current Status

Over 85% of NEDP graduates participate in postsecondary education, training, and/or employment, and over three-fourths of graduates are employed.

Of the graduates who responded to the survey with their status:

- 40.3% have a full-time job only
- 25.8% are working (either full or part-time) and are attending college or training
- 14.0% are not employed or attending college or training
- 11.3% have a part-time job only
- 8.6% are attending college or training only

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

Table 2 Education Participation since NEDP Graduation

Education Program*	Enrolled %
Community College	60.2
Certificate Program	25.8
4-Year College	17.5
Other	14.1
Apprenticeship Program	9.4

*Survey respondents can select multiple programs if applicable

Future Plans

NEDP graduates report ambitious plans for the future. Over 50 percent plan to complete a certificate program or associate degree and almost one-third plan to complete a bachelor's degree.

Table 3 NEDP Graduates' Future Plans

Future Plans*	%
Certificate program or associate degree	50.2
Bachelor's degree	32.8
On-the-job training as offered	22.0
Certified apprenticeship program	11.2
No further education or training planned	9.5
Other	8.0

*Survey respondents can select multiple goals



National External Diploma Program graduate, Michael, from the Academy of Hope Adult Public Charter School in Washington, D.C.