

Utah State UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

2002 Off-Campus Graduate Survey

Executive Summary

1. Of the graduates, 61% were involved in full-time employment, 21% part-time employment, and 17% were not employed while participating in USU outreach degree programs.
2. 64% of the graduates obtained a USU degree that was directly related to their current employment.
3. USU degree programs are effective in preparing graduates for their current employment skill needs. 78% of 2002 graduates believe their degree was adequate to excellent in preparing them with the skills and abilities necessary to meet the expectations of their current employer.
4. As a result of obtaining a USU degree, these 324 graduates received an estimated \$825,000 increase in their total annual wages. When this is combined with the projected annual indirect economic impact of \$2.4 million, Utah's community economies are stimulated by an estimated \$3.2 million.
5. 22% of employed USU graduates received \$5,000 or more as additional compensation as a result of achieving their degree while 18% received more than \$7,000.
6. 68% of graduates reported one or more of the following as a result of obtaining a USU degree: received a promotion, made a career change, or received better working conditions in their places of employment.

7. An overwhelming 92% of USU graduates would encourage a friend to become involved in a USU outreach educational program. This translates into a high degree of customer satisfaction for USU educational services.
8. Of the graduates, 90% believe that their investment in time expended to achieve their USU degree was worth it. 80% also believe that the USU program they participated in was worth the financial cost.
9. 75% of outreach graduates perceived that their employers thought that their USU degree program was important to very important to them.
10. Nearly 61% of 2002 graduates believe that as a result of obtaining their degrees, their job productivity and effectiveness has improved.
11. Of the graduates, 89% perceived that their degree experience was important to very important to their families. 74% of graduates believe that they are better able to support their families as a result of obtaining a USU degree.
12. Communities' benefit as a result of graduates obtaining USU degrees, thought 74% of 2002 outreach graduates.
13. Graduates reported significant strides in several personal and professional progress areas. Those areas in which graduates perceived very good progress while completing their degree included in descending order: general knowledge (70%), level of intellect (63%), self confidence (61%), problem solving and analysis (59%), and writing skill improvement (59%).
14. One area of progress which graduates suggested was moderate to low in achievement was their volunteer service contributions to society.

There were a total of 324 who completed the 2002 Continuing Education off-campus graduate survey generating a response rate of 73%.

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