

# Graduating Students Survey

*A Special Report on Del Mar College Graduates*

*July 2000*

From fall 1998 through the summer of 1999, the Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness administered the annual Graduate Survey through the registrar's office to students applying for graduation. The survey instrument was the same as the one used the prior year, and asked students for their opinions on a variety of topics pertaining to their educational experiences at Del Mar College. Of the 977 students graduating during the 1998-1999 year, 339 (35%) completed the survey.

## Summary of Findings

- ❖ The majority (83.1%) of those surveyed stated that their overall impression of the quality of education at Del Mar College was very good or good.
- ❖ Graduating transfer students were more likely than graduating occupational students to say that Del Mar College had prepared them well in English, reading, and math skills, but transfer students ranked preparation in computer skills lower than did occupational students.
- ❖ Over 89 percent of all the graduating students rated the overall quality of instruction in their field of study as very good or good. For courses in their major, graduating students rated the following items as very good or good:
 

Item	Transfer Graduates	Occupational Graduates
Quality of instruction	90.5%	88.6%
Grading/Testing	83.2%	76.1%
Instructor interest	89.3%	85.1%
Content of courses	88.5%	81.6%
Lab equipment and resources	67.4%	77.4%
Class size	83.2%	81.1%
- ❖ A majority of those surveyed rated other skill areas as very good or good: job search skills (54.9%), meeting the public (65.2%), supervisory skills (67.1%), and specific program skills (81.0%).
- ❖ Nearly three-quarters of the graduating students said that the variety of courses was very good or good; however, only 58.2 percent said the availability of courses when needed was very good or good.
- ❖ Over 89 percent of the graduating students said they would definitely or probably choose Del Mar College if they could start college over.
- ❖ Nearly 94 percent of the graduating students surveyed would recommend Del Mar College to a friend.

- ❖ Graduating students rated the following services as very good or good:

Service or Area	Of those using the service, percent rating <i>Very Good</i> or <i>Good</i> (by type of major)	
	Transfer Graduates	Occupational Graduates
Counseling services	62.8%	56.7%
Course advisement	67.4%	67.0%
Availability of advisor	85.1%	80.5%
Telephone registration (Pronto)	94.6%	90.2%
On-campus registration	44.7%	46.6%
Job placement services	45.5%	34.5%
Financial aid services	46.6%	55.2%
Billing/payment process	63.7%	65.8%
Math lab (facilities, resources, and hours)	77.1%	69.2%
English lab (facilities, resources, and hours)	81.7%	75.4%
Reading lab (facilities, resources, and hours)	91.7%	69.8%
Library (facilities, resources, and hours)	83.5%	86.2%
Student Technology Center (in the library)	88.4%	84.8%
Tutoring	70.8%	67.9%

- ❖ Over 64 percent of the employed occupational graduates said that their Del Mar College studies helped them obtain a job, increase job performance, or advance in their job.
- ❖ The majority of graduating students (67.6%) were employed at the time they completed the survey. Of those surveyed, 32.8% were employed full-time and 33.8% part-time.
- ❖ Of the 168 graduating occupational students responding to the question, 96 (57.1%) said that their current job (before graduation) was either directly or closely related to the program they had taken at Del Mar College.
- ❖ Of those employed who said their job was not related to their college program, 56.6 percent of the graduating transfer students and 23.1% of the graduating occupational students indicated that they intended to transfer to a 4-year college.

*For additional information, or to view the data tables, please see our website <http://www.delmar.edu/ire/index.htm> or call the Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness at (361) 698-1207.*