



Graduating Student Survey Results Report

Spring 2015

Office of Institutional Effectiveness, Planning and Assessment

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Executive Summary

The graduating student survey was administered in April 2014 to the Halifax Community College graduating students (378) in curriculum programs seeking certificate, diploma, and/or associate degree credentials, with the exception of GED students. Of the 378 graduates, 180 completed the survey giving HCC an **overall level of satisfaction rating at 97%**. Aligned with the high level of satisfaction, respondents 161 (**89%**), stated that the educational environment at HCC provided them with *life skills*. **All respondents were 99.5% satisfied** with their ability to effectively communicate in writing and with oral communications. Upon graduating the students were satisfied with their ability to demonstrate:

- *fundamental math skills (97%),*
- *effective reading, writing, and oral communications skills,*
- *non-technical skills applicable in the workplace (99%),*
- *competency in the basic use of computers (99%), and*
- *perform specialized technical skills related to program major (98%).*

The satisfaction rating by HCC graduating class of 2015 with the **college, facilities and services** is **99%**. Other areas with the **highest level of satisfaction** (very satisfied/satisfied) include the following:

Facilities and Services

Library (99%)
Circle Café (99%)
Campus Security (98%)
Cashiers Office (98%)

Student Affairs

Student Success Center (98%)
Registration (98%)
Student Support Services (98%)
Tutoring/ Tutoring Labs (98%)
Counseling (98%)

Instruction/Other

ACA-College Success Course 111, 122 (98%)
Quality of Academic Program of Study (97%)
Quality of Instruction in program area (97%)

Purpose of Attending HCC and Employment

Of the 180 respondents to this survey 170 (94%) attended HCC for the purpose of earning an associate degree, diploma and/or certificate. In addition to seeking a degree, diploma or certificate, 75 graduates (42%) were preparing for a new job; 18% (34) graduates indicated on the survey that they planned to transfer to a four year institution.

At the time the survey was administered, 96 (53%) respondents were employed; 43 (24%) in their field of study and 53 (29%) were employed in fields not related to their education received at HCC. Almost half, 78 (45%) of the 180 respondents were unemployed. Job conflict, financial hardship, and family circumstances are very common reasons students do not complete a credential or degree.

Among the respondents to this survey, these were cited as top reasons for not accomplishing a goal while at HCC. However 31% cited “other” for not accomplishing their goal(s). Transportation is also cited as a reason for not completing a credential and retention. However, for the last three years, when asked if **transportation** is an issue for students, over **90%** cited that **it is not an issue**.

TRANSFERS

In 2014, 48 students indicated plans to transfer and had been accepted to begin studies at **25 different** 4 yr. colleges or universities or at another community college for the 2014-15 academic year, compared to **24 students for the 2015-16** academic year. **Schools of choice** are:

Fayetteville State University	East Carolina University
North Carolina Central University	Old Dominion University
North Carolina A&T State University	University of North Carolina- Chapel Hill, Greensboro
Winston Salem State University	North Carolina Wesleyan College
Liberty University (On-Line)	Chowan University
Elizabeth City State University	

SUGGESTIONS/CONCERNS

- HCC future nursing students would benefit from a *nursing tutor*.
- *New boards* are needed in the English *classroom*.
- *Webadvisor isn't updated* as often as I feel it should be. The *admissions office* lacks the *organization* that I feel should allow it to perform efficiently.
- Please improve the *mold situation in the science building*. Please also improve the *materials available* in the *chemistry lab*.
- Need more *medical coding training*.
- HCC needs to offer more *online classes to aid working adults*.

- Please, please ***change how 2nd level in nursing is operated***. It is like professional bullying and no one can voice a concern; but go outside/ in the parking lot and start fussing. 1st level was the best, the enjoyed coming to school.
- ***Fix the heat in the nursing buildings*** so that students can work and not be distracted
- Have ***more interesting clubs*** that will look great on a college transcript. The school has nothing interesting to join that would help me later when I am studying for my major. The ***French language should be as or more prominent as Spanish*** at this school. Also, to attract more students to the school, there needs to be ***better landscaping at the entrance and around the track area***.
- Because of the hardship I had to go through especially in my second year. Having to borrow material from other schools, ebook that I never used or opened I had to buy the hard cover; forced to buy a google chrome, and I had a brand new laptop I had bought for school. The hesi ebooks we paid over \$200 just to get be able to take final exams. The supply pack than was almost \$200 and had outdated things, eg gloves and never really used most of those things. Changing our uniform after I had invested on 3 pant and 4 shirts. The change should have been for the new class. I lots of reason not to attend nursing program at HCC. The intimidation was the worst! ***Use required textbooks and materials students have to purchase***.

The following section displays quantitative data related student satisfaction regarding:

- ***Program of Study***
- ***Services***
- ***Goal Accomplishment***

Qualitative data includes student comments about their experience at Halifax Community College.

What is your level of satisfaction with your ability to:	Percentage of OVERALL SATISFACTION	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Do not know
Communicate effectively in reading, writing, and oral communications	99.5%	128	51	0	0	1
Demonstrate fundamental mathematical skills	97%	116	58	1	0	5
Demonstrate positive non-technical skills applicable in the workplace	99%	125	53	0	0	2
Demonstrate competency in the basic use of computers	99%	126	52	0	0	2
Perform specialized technical skills related to program major	98%	123	53	0	0	4
<i>Respondents 180</i>						

Please rate your level of satisfaction with:	Percentage of OVERALL SATISFACTION	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Do Not Know
Quality of instruction in program area courses	97%	112	62	3	1	2
Quality of instruction in other courses	94%	104	65	2	0	9
Overall quality of academic program of study (major)	97%	113	61	4	0	2
<i>Respondents 180</i>						

How would you rate your satisfaction with the academic preparation in your major program of study that you completed (for example Business Office Administration, Nursing, Industrial Technology):

Major Field of Study	Percentage of Overall Satisfaction/Number of Students
Arts (Associate Degree)	98% (54)
Teacher Prep (Associate Degree)	96% (29)
Science (Associate Degree)	100% (41)
Gen Ed (Associate Degree)	100% (27)
AGE PreLpn (Associate Degree)	100% (21)
AGE PreDental (Associate Degree)	100% (25)
AGE PreRN (Associate Degree)	94% (35)
Nursing (Associate Degree)	96% (36)
Medical Lab Technology (Associate Degree)	100% (22)
Dental Hygiene (Associate Degree)	100% (28)
Phlebotomy (Certificate)	100% (18)
Practical Nursing (Diploma)	100% (19)
Accounting (Associate Degree)	100% (19)
Business Administration (Associate Degree)	99% (28)
Business Administration (Diploma)	100% (22)
Computer Information Technology (Associate Degree)	100% (23)
Computer Information Technology (Diploma)	100% (19)
Medical Office Technology (Associate Degree)	100% (23)
Medical Office Administration (Diploma)	100% (34)
Office Administration (Associate Degree)	100% (27)
Advertising and Graphics Design (Associate Degree)	98% (21)
Advertising and Graphics Design (Diploma)	100% (19)
Medical Coding & Billing (Diploma)	99% (22)
Automotive Systems Technology (Associate Degree)	100% (18)
Automotive Systems Technology (Diploma)	100% (16)
Industrial Systems Technology (Associate Degree)	100% (22)
Industrial Systems Technology (Diploma)	100% (19)
Welding Technology (Diploma)	100% (21)
Electrical Systems Technology (Certificate)	100% (16)
Human Services Technology (Associate Degree)	100% (23)
Paralegal Technology (Associate Degree)	100% (21)
Paralegal Technology (Certificate)	100% (16)

Cosmetology (Associate Degree)	100% (18)
Cosmetology (Diploma)	100% (20)
Criminal Justice Technology (Associate Degree)	100% (18)
Greenhouse and Grounds Maintenance (Certificate)	100% (16)
BLET (Certificate)	100% (24)
Early Childhood Education (Associate Degree)	100% (4)

Please rate your level of satisfaction with the following:	Percentage of OVERALL SATISFACTION	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Do Not Know
Academic Advising	96%	106	54	3	3	14
Student Success Center (SSC)	98%	82	55	1	1	41
Registration	98%	108	62	3	1	6
Admissions	96%	102	66	5	2	5
Student Activities	93%	90	48	9	1	32
Campus Security	98%	104	64	1	2	9
Library	99%	105	62	1	1	11
Bookstore	96%	101	66	4	1	8
Facilities (classrooms, labs)	94%	92	77	7	0	4
ACA -College Success Course (085, 111, 122)	98%	93	61	3	0	23
Student Support Services	98%	82	55	1	1	41
Tutoring/Tutoring Lab	98%	76	47	1	1	55
Counseling Services	98%	69	44	1	1	65
Financial Aid Office	97%	87	66	4	1	22
Technology Resources	97%	88	66	3	1	22
Buildings & Grounds	95%	86	81	5	3	5
Vending & Hot Food Services	99%	81	68	1	1	29
Cashiers office	98%	104	68	1	2	5
<i>The College Overall</i>	99%	93	81	2	0	4
<i>Respondents 180</i>						

Please rate your level of satisfaction with the support for the following:	Percentage of OVERALL SATISFACTION	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Do Not Know
Multi-cultural differences	95%	86	72	7	1	14
Diverse learning styles	97%	91	72	5	0	12
Life skills needs and student interests	96%	92	69	6	0	13
<i>Respondents 180</i>						

My goal(s) for attending HCC were to (choose all that apply):	Response Percent	Response Count
Earn an Associate Degree, Diploma, and/or Certificate	94%	170
Prepare for a new job	42%	75
Improve existing job skills	19%	35
Transfer to a four year college/university	18%	34
Personal interest	16%	29
Other	1.6%	3
<i>Respondents 180</i>		

I accomplished my goal(s)		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes, Completely	79%	143
Yes, Partially	21%	37

If you did not accomplish your goal(s) while attending HCC, which of the following best describes why you did not achieve your goal(s)? Choose all that apply		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Job conflict	21%	7
New employment	6%	2
Financial hardship	9%	3
Family circumstances	12%	4
Joined the military	0%	0
Lack of child-care	0%	0
Medical issues	3%	1
Moved to a new area	0%	0
Lack of interest in pursuing course of study	6%	2
Dissatisfied with the services offered by the college	3%	1
Dissatisfied with the quality of instruction	6%	2
Other (please specify)	31%	10
		<i>Respondents 32</i>

STUDENT COMMENTS

HCC graduates are pleased with their overall **experience** at HCC (**97%**) and **the College (99%)**. Of the 180 respondents, 22 (12%) indicated if *they began their college experience over they would not choose to attend HCC* and 18 (10%) *were not sure* they would attend. **The reasons provided include:**

- HCC doesn't offer enough advanced classes and you have to pay out of pocket for summer classes.
- The instructors, because you have some that are willing to help students succeed and some that do not want them excel in the future. The material that is being taught by some of the instructors should be a challenge for students to learn and I feel that it is not.
- The instructor, because some of them do not teach you the material so you can understand it
- Does not offer program of study
- Need better teachers
- Attend four year college
- If I knew what I knew now, I would have taken more classes online at a different college.
- Academic curriculum was unorganized
- Attended Halifax Community College because of my employer.
- A number of my classes didn't transfer here from another college forcing me to take more than a year of classes here I wouldn't have had to take otherwise.
- Because of the hardship I had to go through especially in my second year. Having to borrow material from other schools, ebook that I never used or opened I had to buy the hard cover; forced to buy a google chrome, and I had a brand new laptop I had bought for school. The hesi ebooks we paid over \$200 just to get be able to take final exams. The supply pack than was almost \$200 and had outdated things, eg gloves and never really used most of those things. Changing our uniform after I had invested on 3 pant and 4 shirts. The change should have been for the new class. I lots of reason not to attend nursing program at HCC. The intimidation was the worst!
- I chose this school because of location but I feel my experience may have been better at a different institution from talking that I have done with students from other facilities.
- I feel as if I could be challenged more if I attended somewhere else.
- To get better grades.
- I think the nursing program needs a little work done.

Comments by Students Regarding Their Overall Experience

- I feel as though this college implements the traditional setting of opportunity which enables a willing individual to hone their attributes and prior knowledge towards a realm of enhancement necessary to accumulate profitable benefits in due course of goals achieved by way of fostering the installment of what is evidently pertinent to all provided to gain from a personal perspective, both professionally and intellectually.
- I have really enjoyed my experience at HCC, and I'm truly grateful for the support I have received along the way!
- I really enjoyed attending Halifax Community College. It was a great learning experience for me.
- It was an awesome experience
- I have really enjoyed my experience at HCC, and I'm truly grateful for the support I have received along the way!
- This college and its early college program has provided an enormous amount of help in my future goals. It has better prepared me for my future career and I'd recommend this college to anyone.
- I have had a wonderful time at HCC; I am honored to have had the opportunity to attend school and be a young mom at the same time. Even though I was unable to go off to a four year university, HCC gave me the chance to fulfill my dream. The Professors were extremely nice and helpful. I can honestly say, I am blessed and grateful to have had this chance. Thank you, HCC.
- My overall experience at HCC have been a great experience my instructors and advisers have been so helpful in helping me achieve my goals here as a student. Being a full-time mom and wife and working full-time have been a challenge for me and there have been times I wanted to throw in the towel but each time I step into this facility I remind myself that it will be all worth it at the end. One instructor said to the class my hat goes off to the students that work a full-time job. Seeing his compassion pushed me even further to complete my major. Thank you so much for everything my success starts here with you.
- Great School and my HCC family has saved me alot of money.