

# **COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF PHILADELPHIA**

## **Career Outcomes for 2003 Career Program Graduates: A Comparison of Allied Health, Behavioral Science, and Business Graduates**

OFFICE OF INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH

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**Career Outcomes for 2003 Career Program Graduates by Cluster:  
A Comparison of Allied Health,  
Behavioral Science, and Business Graduates**

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**Introduction**

Over the last several years, the Office of Institutional Research has included a standard set of employment-related items on the questionnaire that is used to survey the College's recent graduates. This survey, which is typically undertaken eight to twelve months after commencement, gathers information concerning the graduate's employment status, the relationship of the graduate's job to their program of study, annual salary, and the graduate's assessment of the technological preparation they received while at the College. This report compares the post-CCP employment outcomes of 2003 graduates from three career program clusters<sup>1</sup>: 1) Allied Health, 2) Behavioral Science, and 3) Business. The employment information in this report parallels the information presented in report IR Report #141, titled [\*Career Outcomes for 2003 Career Program Graduates\*](#), which presents aggregate employment information for all of the College's career program graduates.

In 2003, CCP awarded 550 associate degrees and 135 certificates in career-related programs. The distribution of associate degrees and certificates awarded by the College for each of the three career program clusters appears in Figure 1.

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<sup>1</sup> A list of programs within each cluster can be found in Appendix A.

**Figure 1**

**Number of Associate Degrees and Certificates Awarded in  
Career-related Programs by Cluster  
Academic Years 1997-2004**

<b>Program Cluster</b>	<b>Type of Award</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>
<b>Allied Health</b>	<b>Associate Degree</b>	207	188	201	184	146	146	156	186
	<b>Certificates</b>	40	28	38	32	33	18	28	22
<b>Behavioral Science</b>	<b>Associate Degree</b>	185	238	267	203	220	204	197	225
	<b>Certificates</b>	86	108	96	104	94	74	83	118
<b>Business</b>	<b>Associate Degree</b>	213	180	176	185	155	168	143	164
	<b>Certificates</b>	51	60	39	50	35	41	21	20
<b>College Wide</b>	<b>Associate Degree</b>	742	671	699	636	569	576	550	616
	<b>Certificates</b>	181	199	175	188.	162	134	135	160

While the Allied Health cluster experienced a decrease of 51 associate degrees and a decrease of 12 certificates from 1997 to 2003, there was an increase of 30 associate degrees awarded to Allied Health graduates from 2003 to 2004. There was a decrease in 6 certificates awarded from 2003 to 2004.

From a peak of 267 associate degrees awarded to students in 1999, the Behavioral Science cluster declined by 70 degrees in 2003. In 2004 there was a slight increase, with 28 more associate degrees awarded than in 2003. Behavioral Science awarded 83 certificates in 2003, 9 more than the number of certificates awarded in 2002. There was a significant increase in the number of certificates awarded to students in the Behavioral Science cluster in 2004, increasing from 83 in 2003 to 118.

The Business cluster awarded its highest number of associate degrees (213) in 1997, and its lowest number (143) in 2003. The number of Business certificates awarded

decreased from 60 in 1998 to 20 in 2004, but associate degrees awarded have increased from 143 in 2003 to 164 in 2004.

### **Employment Outcomes**

Figure 2 displays the percentages of graduates who reported they were working in a new position or had received a promotion shortly after graduation. Allied Health graduates were most successful at securing employment shortly after graduation. They were more than twice as likely to be employed in a new job as graduates in the other two career clusters with 61% reporting they were working in a new job at the time of the survey. Twenty-nine percent (29%) of Behavioral Science graduates and 25% of Business graduates reported they secured new employment subsequent to graduation.

All three of the career clusters were fairly close in terms of graduates reporting job promotions shortly after graduation. Behavioral Science had the highest percentage at 19.4% and Business had the lowest percentage with 14.6% (Figure 2).

**Figure 2**

**Percentage of 2003 Career Graduates Who Were Working in a New Job or Received a Promotion Shortly After Graduation by Career Program Cluster**

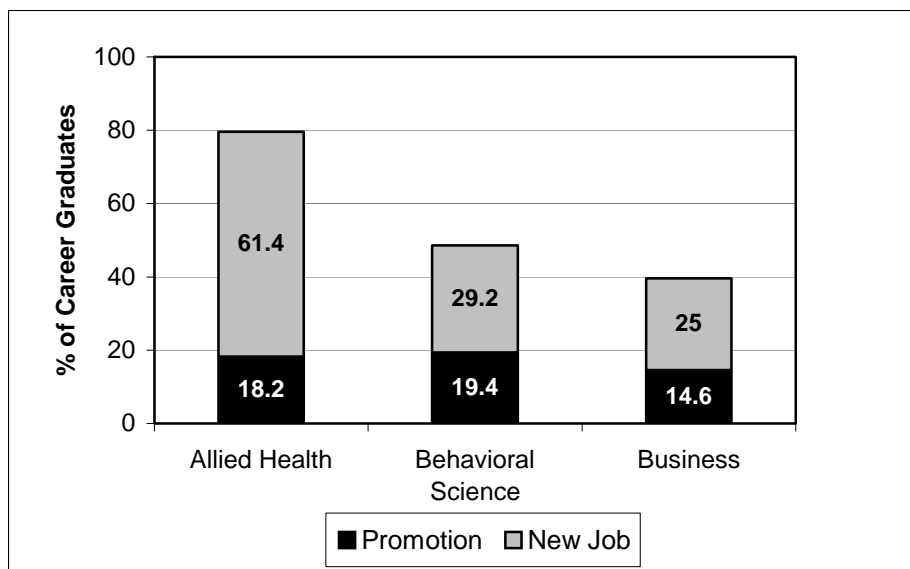
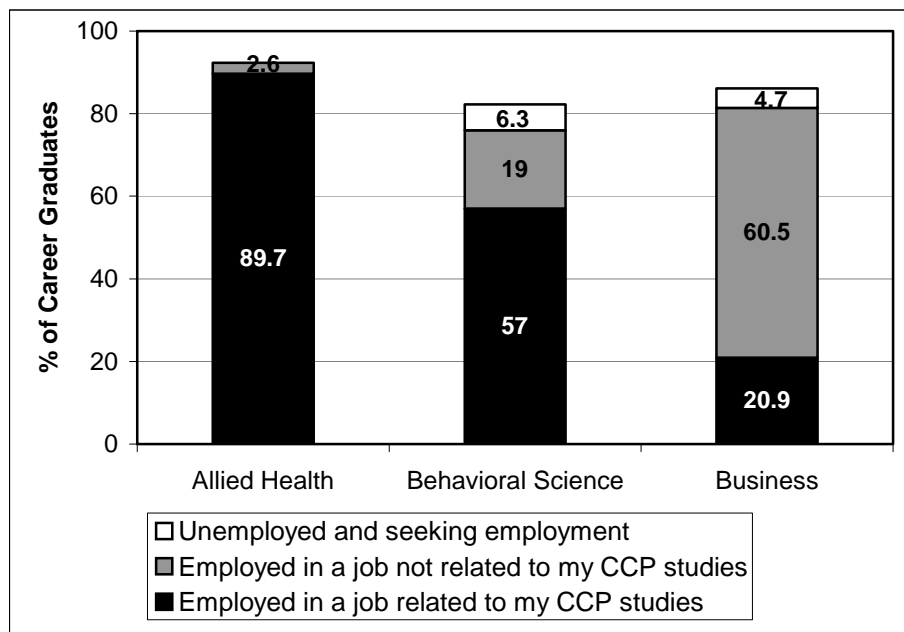


Figure 3 provides information concerning graduates employed in positions related to their program of study, graduates employed in positions unrelated to their program of study, and graduates who were seeking employment at the time of the study.

**Figure 3**

**Relationship of Job to Program of Study and Unemployment Status by Career Program Cluster for 2003 Graduates**



Allied Health graduates had the highest percentage of graduates employed in a job related to their studies at CCP. They were approximately twice as likely as Behavioral Science graduates to be employed in a position related to their CCP studies and more than four times as likely as Business graduates. While almost 90% of Allied Health graduates were employed in a job related to their studies, only 2.6% were employed in a job unrelated to their studies, and 0% were unemployed and seeking employment.

Fifty-seven percent (57%) of Behavioral Science graduates were employed in a job related to their studies. The percentage of Behavioral Science graduates employed in a job unrelated to their CCP studies (19.2%) was higher than Allied Health, but

considerably lower than Business. Behavioral Science had the highest percentage of unemployed graduates still trying to secure a position (6.3%). Behavioral Science graduates were twice as likely as Allied Health graduates and only slightly more likely than Business graduates to be unemployed and seeking employment following graduation.

Business graduates had the lowest percentage of graduates employed in a job related to their CCP studies (20.9%). Business graduates were three times as likely as Behavioral Science graduates and four times as likely as Allied Health graduates to secure employment unrelated to their CCP studies, with 60.5% being employed in an unrelated position. The percentage of Business graduates still seeking employment was 4.7%, almost twice as high as Allied Health.

The average annual salaries of the 2003 graduates can be found in Figure 4. Allied Health had the highest mean salary at \$49,042, and it also had the highest maximum reported salary (\$80,000). Allied Health graduates have consistently earned the highest mean salary since 2000.

**Figure 4<sup>2</sup>**  
**Annual Salaries of 2003 Graduates by Career Program Cluster**

<b>Program Cluster</b>	<b>Graduation Year</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>Minimum</b>	<b>Maximum</b>
Allied Health	2003	\$49,042	\$14,400	\$80,000
	2002	\$48,750	\$28,000	\$77,000
	2001	\$40,528	\$20,800	\$66,000
	2000	\$37,636	\$15,400	\$72,800
Behavioral Science	2003	\$29,608	\$18,000	\$75,000
	2002	\$36,000	\$19,000	\$78,000
	2001	\$35,185	\$12,000	\$58,500
	2000	\$31,702	\$10,400	\$80,000
Business	2003	\$36,175	\$18,000	\$55,000
	2002	\$33,130	\$23,000	\$65,000
	2001	\$37,290	\$20,800	\$61,000
	2000	\$34,620	\$14,180	\$59,600

Figure 5 addresses graduates' assessment of the education they received at CCP as preparation for their current career. Most graduates value the career preparation they received at CCP. All three of the clusters responded similarly, with the majority of responses being either excellent or good.

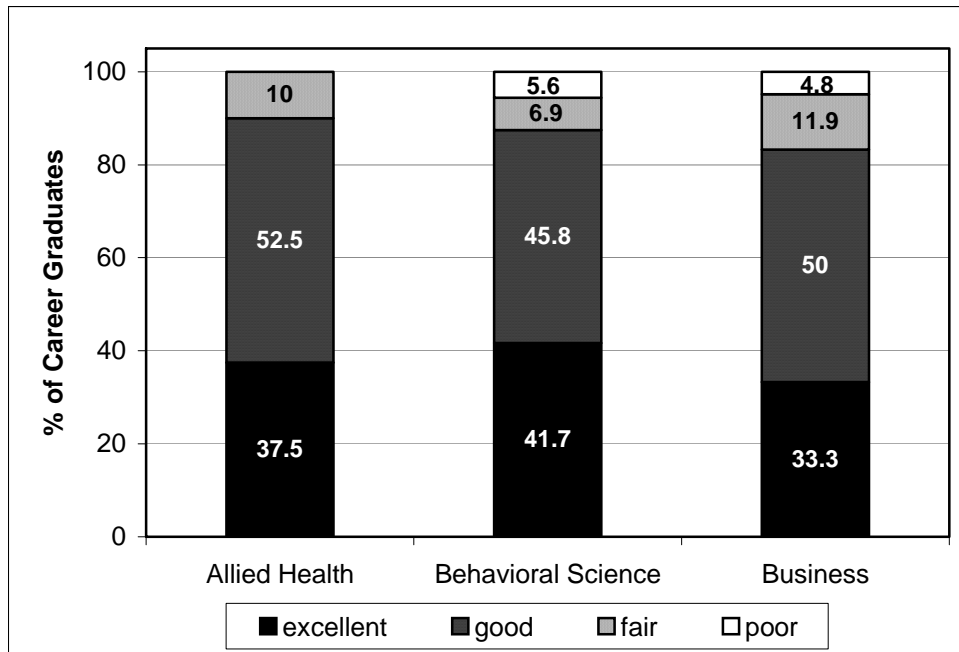
In the Allied Health cluster, 90% of graduates felt their career preparation was excellent or good. Ten percent (10%) thought it was fair, and no respondents (0%) felt it was poor. The majority of Behavioral Science graduates (87.5%) felt their CCP education was good or excellent preparation for their present employment. About 7% felt the preparation was fair and 5.6% felt it was poor; the highest percentage (% poor) reported out of all three clusters. Approximately 83% of Business graduates felt their CCP education was excellent or good. Only 11.9% of Business graduates felt their preparation was fair, and 4.8% felt it was poor.

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<sup>2</sup> Full-time employment was defined as 30 hours or more per week.

**Figure 5**

**Career Program 2003 Graduates Assessment of Their CCP Education as Preparation for Their Present Employment**

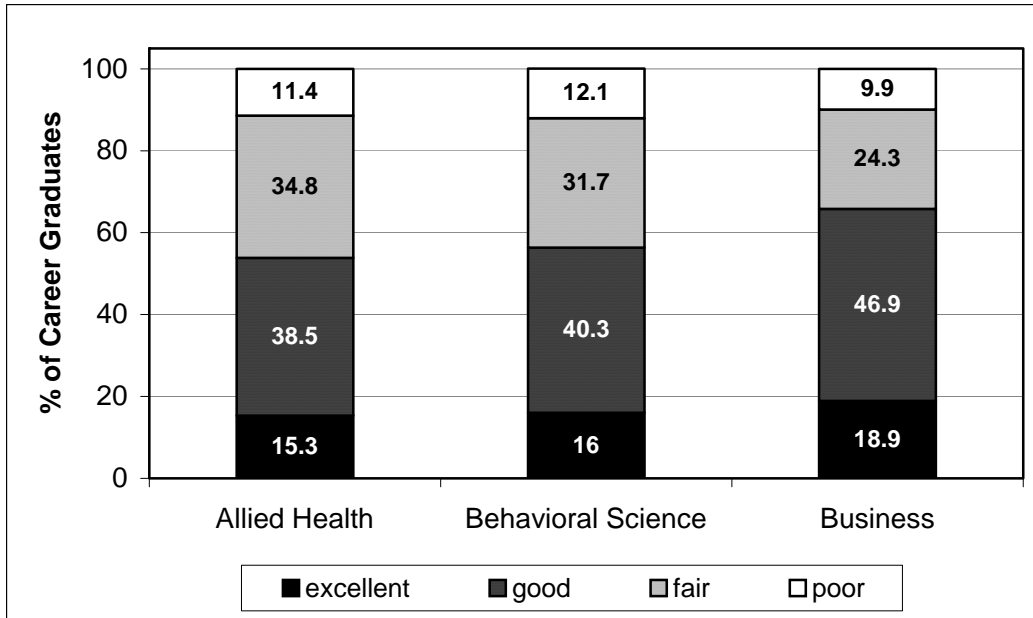


When asked about the quality of their CCP computer technology preparation for the workplace, most graduates' replies were either good or fair (Figure 6). In the Allied Health cluster, 73.3% of graduates felt their computer technology preparation was good or fair, about 15% felt it was excellent, and 11.4% felt their preparation was poor.

Seventy-two percent (72%) of graduates in the Behavioral Science cluster felt their computer technology preparation was either good or fair. Sixteen percent (16%) felt their preparation was excellent, and 12.1% felt it was poor.

In the Business cluster, 71.2% of graduates felt their technology preparation was good or fair. Almost 19% felt it was excellent and 9.9% felt it was poor. This cluster had the highest percentage of graduates who felt their preparation was excellent, and the lowest percentage who felt it was poor.

**Figure 6**  
**Career Program 2003 Graduates Assessment of Their Computer  
 Technology Preparation for the Workplace by Career Program Cluster**



**Conclusions**

All three career program clusters experienced an increase in associate degrees awarded from 2003 to 2004, and both the Behavioral Science cluster and the Business cluster exhibited an increase in certificates awarded from 2003 to 2004. Allied Health graduates experienced the most successful career outcomes, earning the highest mean salaries and exhibiting the highest percentage of graduates employed in positions related to their CCP program of study. Business graduates were least successful at securing employment in their field and were less satisfied with their overall CCP preparation for the workforce than Allied Health and Behavioral Science graduates. However, both Allied Health and Behavioral Science graduates reported lower satisfaction with their technological preparation for the workplace than Business graduates.

## Appendix A

### Program Cluster Divisions

<b>Health Careers</b>
Clinical Laboratory Technician
Dental Assistant
Dental Hygiene
Diagnostic Medical Imaging
Dietetic Technician
Health Information Technology
Medical Assisting and Office Management
Nursing
Nursing- Accelerated Option for LPNs
Respiratory Care

<b>Social and Behavioral Science and Human Services</b>
Addiction Studies Certificate
Behavioral Health/ Human Services
Children in Crisis Certificate
Youth Work Certificate
Early Childhood Education
Family Home Visiting Certificate
Interpreter Education
Criminal Justice
Justice Certificate
Paralegal Studies
Sign Language Studies Certificate
Social Gerontology Certificate

<b>Economics and Business Administration</b>
Accounting
Computer Operations Certificate
CIS- Computer Programming Option
CIS- Internet Operations and Development Option
CIS- Local Area Network Option
CIS- PC Applications Option
Data Processing
Data Processing- Business Programming Option
Data Processing PC Applications Option
Finance
Culinary Arts- Chef Apprenticeship Option
Culinary Arts- Chef Option
Hotel/ Restaurant Management- Hotel Management Option
Hotel/ Restaurant Management- Rest Management Option
International Trade
Management
Management- Entrepreneurship Option
Management- Human Resources Option
Management- International Business Option
Management Certificate
Management- Real Estate Option
Marketing
Marketing Certificate
Office Science
Office Science- Word Processing Option
Office Skills Certificate
Office Technology
Railroad Operations
Real Estate Management
Retail Management
Retail Management Certificate
Retail Management- Fashion Buying Certificate
Retail Management- Fashion Buying Option
Secretarial Science
Secretarial Science- Business Education