



Office of Institutional Research

Career Outcomes: Responses to the 2005 Annual Graduate Survey

IR Report #160

December 2006

Community
College
of Philadelphia

Career Outcomes for 2005 Career Program Graduates

In 2005, the Community College of Philadelphia (CCP) awarded 644 associate degrees and 154 certificates in career-related programs. Compared with 2004, there were 15 more associate degrees and 6 less certificates awarded in 2005 (Figure 1).

Figure 1
Number of Associate Degrees and Certificates Awarded in Career-related Programs
Academic Years 1997-2005

Type of Award	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Associate Degrees	742	671	699	636	569	576	593	629	644
Certificates	181	199	175	188	162	134	133	160	154

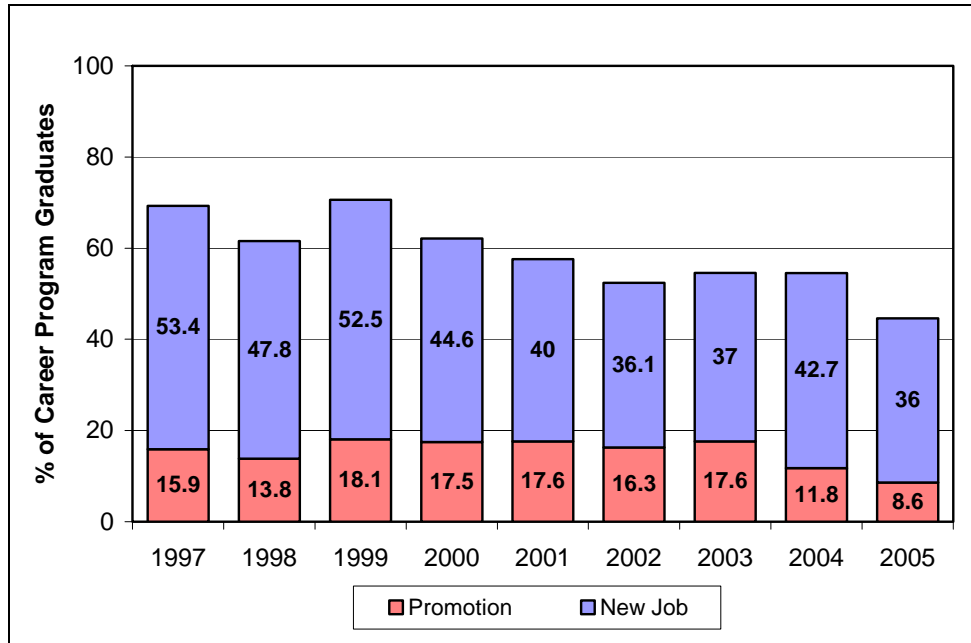
Over the last several years, the Office of Institutional Research has included a standard set of employment-related items on the questionnaire used to survey the College's recent graduates. This survey, which is typically completed eight to twelve months after commencement, gathers information concerning the graduate's employment status, the relationship of the graduate's current job to their program of study at CCP, annual salary, and the graduate's assessment of the career preparation they received while attending the College. The information provided in this report includes CCP graduates from 1997 through 2005.

As of November 2006, 184 career program graduates from 2005 returned completed questionnaires. Forty-four percent (44%) of those enrolled in a career program enrolled at the College because of potential or actual loss of a job or concerns about the lack of future job opportunities in their field of employment.

Thirty-six percent (36%) of 2005 career graduates were employed in a new job at the time they took the survey, compared with 42.7% from the graduating class of 2004 (Figure 2). However, these numbers were consistent with the 2003 graduates. The percentage of graduates who received promotions subsequent to graduating decreased between 2004 and 2005, dropping from 11.8% of 2004 career program graduates to 8.6% of 2005 graduates.

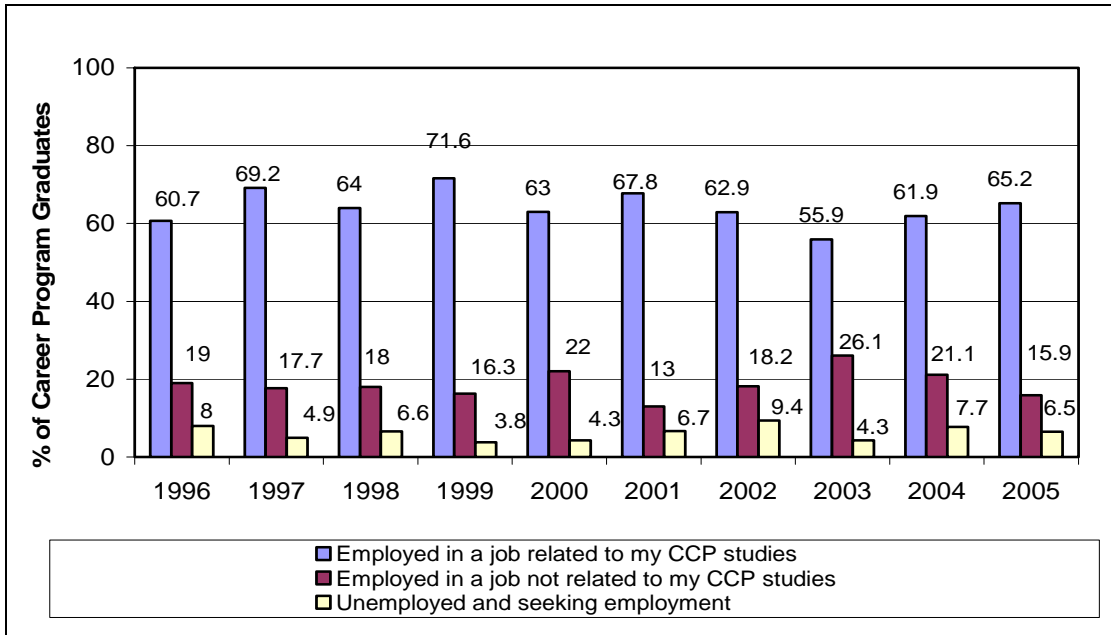
The relatively slightly lower percentage of graduates of a career program who were working in a new job may be attributed to the greater percentage of 2005 career graduates that choose to continue their education subsequent to graduating from CCP. Transfer information is provided in Institutional Research Report #159 which is available at http://www.ccp.edu/VPFIN-PL/ir/ir_reports/ir_report_159.pdf.

Figure 2
Career Graduates Who Were Working in a New Job with a New Employer or
Received a Promotion Shortly After Graduation
1997 – 2005



Only 6.5% of 2005 graduates in a career program were actively seeking employment at the time they answered the survey. Graduates of career programs in 2005 were more likely (65%) than graduates in 2004 (62%) to be working in jobs that were related to their program of study (Figure 3).

Figure 3
Relationship of Job to Program of Study
1996 – 2005



The average annual salary earned by 2005 career program graduates shortly after graduation was \$39,923 (Figure 4) which was a decrease from the previous year.

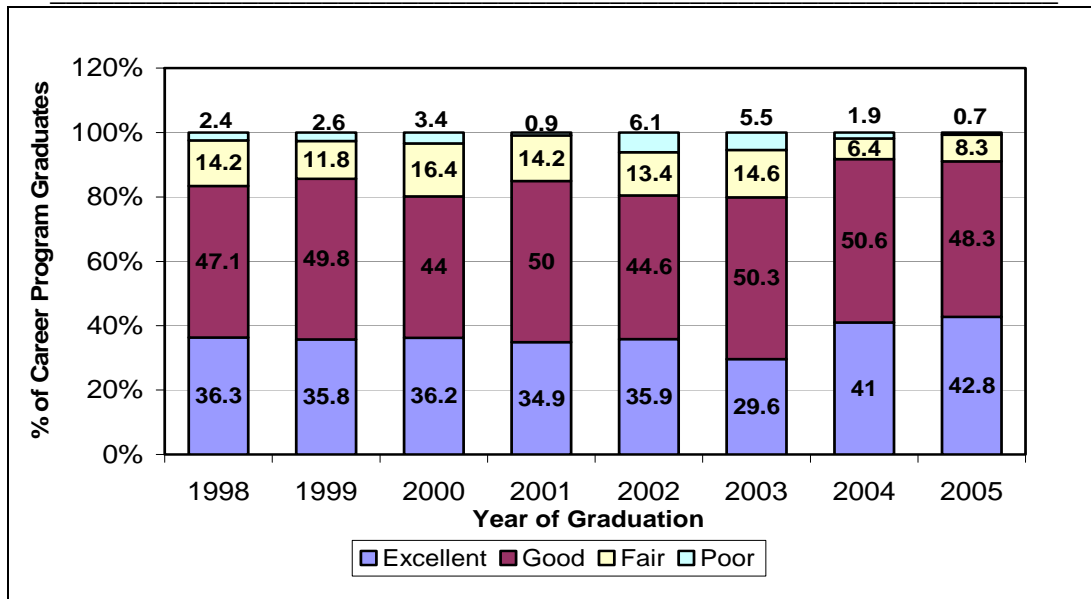
Figure 4
Annual Salaries of Graduates Working in Full-Time¹ Jobs
1996 – 2005

Graduation Year	Mean
1996	\$27,534
1997	\$26,402
1998	\$30,592
1999	\$30,980
2000	\$32,189
2001	\$37,923
2002	\$38,903
2003	\$37,103
2004	\$41,203
2005	\$39,923

¹ Full time employment was defined as 30 hours or more per week.

Most graduates value the career preparation they received while at the College. A total of 91.1% of those who graduated from a career program rated their preparation as either good or excellent (Figure 5).

Figure 5
Career Program Graduates Assessment of Their CCP
Preparation for the Workplace
1998 – 2005



Summary

The number of career-related associate’s degrees awarded in 2005 increased slightly from the previous year. Graduates in career programs that responded to the survey felt the College prepared them very well for their employment. The majority of working career graduates was employed in a career field related to their CCP studies.