

**Tulsa Community College  
2021-2022 Alumni Survey Report**

**November 17, 2023**



## Executive Summary

This report summarizes the results of the 2021-2022 Tulsa Community College Alumni Survey. The survey is designed to assess the employment and educational status of graduating students six months after their program completion and most recent experience at Tulsa Community College. The survey also provides a method for graduates to evaluate their educational experiences in the context of life (e.g., work, continuing education, personal life) after their award. The survey was distributed to 2,596 graduates and 216 were returned yielding an 8.3% response rate.

This report provides a summary of all survey responses received from 2021-2022 graduates. Detailed results and response frequencies for each survey item are also presented.

- ❖ 2,870 degrees and certificates were awarded to **2,604** individuals during the 2021-2022 academic year.
- ❖ The credentials awarded to graduates include university transfer degrees (AA & AS) and workforce development degrees (AAS) and certificates, with the following breakdown of awarded degrees:
  - 73.3% were a university transfer degree (AA or AS).
  - 26.7% were a workforce development credential (AAS or certificate).
- ❖ Alumni were asked about their current educational objectives.
  - 61.1% of the respondents are continuing their education.
  - 21.3% plan to continue, but are not yet enrolled.
  - 17.6% do not plan to continue their education.
- ❖ Respondents were asked about their current employment status.
  - 75.9% of respondents indicated that they were employed. Of those reporting as employed:
    - 69.5% were employed full-time, 30.5% part-time.
    - 80.4% were employed in Tulsa or Northeast Oklahoma.
    - 63.4% were working either in their major field or in an area that is closely related to their field of study at TCC.
  - Of the respondents who provided an estimate of their annual salary, 52.5% indicated an annual income of \$30,000 or more per year.

- ❖ Alumni were asked to indicate the extent their TCC experience contributed to their knowledge, skills, and personal development in specific areas. Following are the percentage of those indicating either **Very much** or **Quite a bit** for each area.
  - Written communication – 71.3%
  - Oral communication – 66.7%
  - Interpersonal interactions – 63.9%
  - Critical thinking – 75.0%
  - Problem solving – 76.9%
  - Quantitative reasoning – 67.6%
  - Teamwork or collaboration – 62.0%
  - Personal responsibility – 77.8%
  - Ethical decision making – 68.5%
  - Diversity awareness – 65.7%
  - Civic responsibility – 61.6%
  
- ❖ Alumni were asked to rate the quality of their relationships with various groups while at TCC. Following is the percentage of those indicating either **Excellent** or **Good** for each group.
  - Other students – 93.5%
  - Instructors – 94.0%
  - Administrators and staff from TCC offices – 89.4%
  
- ❖ Alumni were asked to rate the quality of their educational experience at TCC.
  - 69.0% indicated they were **Very satisfied** with the overall educational experience at TCC.
  - 63.0% indicated they would **definitely** enroll at TCC if they were starting college again.
  - 72.7% indicated they would **definitely** recommend TCC to others.
  - 56.5% characterized the preparation received at TCC for further study at another college or university as either **Exceptional** or **Better than adequate**.
  - 51.9% characterized the preparation received at TCC for employment in their major field as either **Exceptional** or **Better than adequate**.
  
- ❖ Of the Alumni respondents, 76.4% indicated they had attended another college. Of those who had attended another college, 90.9% indicated the quality of education offered at TCC was **Better** than or **About the Same** as they received elsewhere.
  
- ❖ The comparison of the average response to scaled items between the 2021-2022 survey and the 2020-2021 showed only slight variations from year to year.

A complete summary of the demographics of the graduating cohort and survey item responses follows.

## Graduate Demographics for Academic Year 2021–2022

(UDS Graduation Data Summary)

During the 2021-2022 academic year, Tulsa Community College conferred 2,870 degrees and certificates to 2,604 individuals. The tables below break down selected characteristics of these graduates based upon UDS graduation data. See the appendix for a complete listing of awards.

Gender	
Female	1,745 (67.0%)
Male	859 (33.0%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,604</b>

Age	
Under 18 years	5 (0.2%)
18-19 years	160 (6.1%)
20-21 years	653 (25.1%)
22-24 years	526 (20.2%)
25-29 years	458 (17.6%)
30-34 years	313 (12.0%)
35-39 years	188 (7.2%)
40-49 years	206 (7.9%)
50-64 years	88 (3.4%)
65 and Over	6 (0.2%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,604</b>

Race/Ethnicity	
International Non-Resident	54 (2.1%)
Hispanic/Latinx of any race	304 (11.7%)
American Indian or Alaska Native	161 (6.2%)
Asian	117 (4.5%)
Black or African American	175 (6.7%)
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	4 (0.2%)
White	1,406 (54.0%)
More than one race reported	293 (11.3%)
Not reported	89 (3.4%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,604</b>

Award Type	
Associate of Arts (AA)	773 (26.9%)
Associate of Science (AS)	1,331 (46.4%)
Associate of Applied Science (AAS)	527 (18.4%)
Certificate of Achievement	239 (8.3%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,870*</b>

\*Some graduates received multiple awards

## Method

Students were offered an incentive to participate consisting of a chance to win one of four \$50 Amazon gift cards provided by the Tulsa Community College Foundation. Reminder emails were sent to students weekly including a mention of the gift card incentive provided by the TCC Foundation. All surveys were coded with a unique identifier that served as a link between the survey responses and Banner system data for the purpose of reporting. In addition, the index was used for the gift card drawings at the close of the survey cycle. A total of 216 survey responses were collected representing an 8.3% response rate. For comparison, the 2020-2021 Alumni Survey response rate was 6.0%.

All responses from the 2021 - 2022 Academic Year (Summer 2021, Fall 2021, Spring 2022) were aggregated for this report.

## Survey Results

Although 216 surveys were returned, some respondents did not complete all survey items. The tables below report the number (N) and percentage (%) of responses for each item on the survey.

**Please tell us a bit about your current employment and educational status.**

Employment Status*	
Full-time with one job	103 (47.7%)
Full-time with multiple jobs	11 (5.1%)
Part-time with one job	45 (20.8%)
Part-time with multiple jobs	5 (2.3%)
Serving in military	1 (0.5%)
Seeking employment	23 (10.6%)
Not employed, nor seeking job	32 (14.8%)
Other	17 (7.9%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>216</b>

\*Respondents were asked to mark all that apply. Categories may include duplicates.

Employment Location*	
In Tulsa Area	117 (71.3%)
In Northeast Oklahoma	15 (9.1%)
Elsewhere in Oklahoma	19 (11.6%)
Outside Oklahoma	13 (7.9%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>164</b>

\*Those who indicated employment

<b>Employment Field*</b>	
Employed in major or related field	104 (63.4%)
Employed in different field	60 (36.6%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>164</b>

\*Those who indicated employment

<b>Salary Estimate*</b>	
Below \$15,000	34 (21.0%)
\$15,000 - \$19,999	17 (10.5%)
\$20,000 - \$29,999	26 (16.0%)
\$30,000 - \$39,999	30 (18.5%)
\$40,000 - \$49,999	20 (12.3%)
\$50,000 - \$59,999	16 (9.9%)
\$60,000 - \$69,999	6 (3.7%)
Above \$69,999	13 (8.0%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>162</b>

\*Those who indicated employment

<b>Continuing Education</b>	
Continuing full-time	107 (49.5%)
Continuing part-time	25 (11.6%)
Plan to continue, not enrolled yet	46 (21.3%)
No plan to continue	38 (17.6%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>216</b>

<b>Continuing Institutions*</b>	
Oklahoma State University	40 (25.2%)
Northeastern State University	22 (13.8%)
Tulsa Community College	20 (12.6%)
University of Oklahoma	20 (12.6%)
University of Tulsa	7 (4.4%)
Rogers State University	7 (4.4%)
Oklahoma City University	2 (1.3%)
Other	41 (25.8%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>159</b>

\*Indicated by those continuing full-time or part-time.  
Individuals may have listed several continuing institutions.

Please tell us about your experiences while at TCC.

How satisfied are you with the overall educational experience you had at TCC?	
Very satisfied	149 (69.0%)
Somewhat satisfied	50 (23.1%)
Somewhat dissatisfied	9 (4.2%)
Very dissatisfied	8 (3.7%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>216</b>

If you could start college again, would you enroll at TCC?	
Definitely yes	136 (63.0%)
Probably yes	56 (25.9%)
Probably not	21 (9.7%)
Definitely not	3 (1.4%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>216</b>

Would you recommend TCC to others?	
Definitely yes	157 (72.7%)
Probably yes	50 (23.1%)
Probably not	8 (3.7%)
Definitely not	1 (0.5%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>216</b>

How would you characterize the preparation you received at TCC for further study at another college or university?	
Exceptional	69 (31.9%)
Better than adequate	53 (24.5%)
Adequate	63 (29.2%)
Less than adequate	9 (4.2%)
Poor	3 (1.4%)
Unable to judge	19 (8.8%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>216</b>

How would you characterize the preparation you received at TCC for employment in your major field?	
Exceptional	66 (30.6%)
Better than adequate	46 (21.3%)
Adequate	64 (29.6%)
Less than adequate	14 (6.5%)
Poor	6 (2.8%)
Unable to judge	20 (9.3%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>216</b>

<b>To what extent did your experience at TCC contribute to your knowledge, skills, and personal development in the following areas?</b>				
	Very much	Quite a bit	Somewhat	Very little
Written communication	93 (43.1%)	61 (28.2%)	53 (24.5%)	9 (4.2%)
Oral communication	86 (39.8%)	58 (26.9%)	53 (24.5%)	19 (8.8%)
Interpersonal interactions	81 (37.5%)	57 (26.4%)	59 (27.3%)	19 (8.8%)
Critical thinking	91 (42.1%)	71 (32.9%)	47 (21.8%)	7 (3.2%)
Problem solving	89 (41.2%)	77 (35.6%)	42 (19.4%)	8 (3.7%)
Quantitative reasoning	81 (37.5%)	65 (30.1%)	54 (25.0%)	16 (7.4%)
Teamwork or collaboration	74 (34.3%)	60 (27.8%)	57 (26.4%)	25 (11.6%)
Personal responsibility	110 (50.9%)	58 (26.9%)	35 (16.2%)	13 (6.0%)
Ethical decision making	100 (46.3%)	48 (22.2%)	45 (20.8%)	23 (10.6%)
Diversity awareness	90 (41.7%)	52 (24.1%)	45 (20.8%)	29 (13.4%)
Civic responsibility	77 (35.6%)	56 (25.9%)	49 (22.7%)	34 (15.7%)

<b>**How would you compare the quality of education offered at TCC to other colleges you have attended?</b>	
Better	71 (43.0%)
About the same	79 (47.9%)
Worse	15 (9.1%)
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>165</b>
I have not attended any other institutions	51
<b>Total</b>	<b>216</b>

\*\*Percentages are based upon the subtotal of those who responded and did not indicate they had "not attended any other institutions".

<b>Please rate the quality of your relationships with people at TCC.</b>				
	Excellent	Good	Poor	Awful
Other students	74 (34.3%)	128 (59.3%)	12 (5.6%)	2 (0.9%)
Instructors	103 (47.7%)	100 (46.3%)	11 (5.1%)	2 (0.9%)
Administrators and staff from TCC offices	82 (38.0%)	111 (51.4%)	19 (8.8%)	4 (1.9%)

### Average Response to Scaled Items Comparisons with Prior Year

Item	2021 - 2022 Average (N,SD)	2020 - 2021 Average (N,SD)
How satisfied are you with the overall educational experience you had at TCC? (1 - Very dissatisfied to 4 – Very satisfied)	3.6 (216, 0.74)	3.5 (150, 0.80)
If you could start college again, would you enroll at TCC? (1 – Definitely not to 4 – Definitely yes)	3.5 (216, 0.73)	3.3 (150, 0.82)
Would you recommend TCC to others? (1 – Definitely not to 4 – Definitely yes)	3.7 (216, 0.57)	3.6 (150, 0.72)
How would you characterize the preparation you received at TCC for further study at another college or university? (1 – Poor to 5 – Exceptional)	3.9 (197, 0.99)	3.6 (139, 0.99)
How would you characterize the preparation you received at TCC for your employment in your major field? (1 – Poor to 5 – Exceptional)	3.8 (196, 1.09)	3.5 (130, 1.15)
How would you compare the quality of education offered at TCC to other colleges you have attended? (Of those who indicated prior attendance at another college.) (1 – Worse to 3 – Better)	2.3 (165, 0.64)	2.2 (123, 0.66)

To what extent did your experience at TCC contribute to your knowledge, skills, and personal development in the following areas? (1 – Very little to 4 – Very much)	2021 - 2022 Average (N,SD)	2020 - 2021 Average (N,SD)
Written communication	3.1 (216, 0.91)	3.1 (150, 0.94)
Oral communication	3.0 (216, 1.00)	2.9 (150, 1.01)
Interpersonal interactions	2.9 (216, 1.00)	2.8 (150, 1.05)
Critical thinking	3.1 (216, 0.87)	3.1 (150, 0.93)
Problem solving	3.1 (216, 0.86)	3.1 (150, 0.93)
Quantitative reasoning	3.0 (216, 0.96)	3.0 (150, 0.92)
Teamwork or collaboration	2.8 (216, 1.03)	2.9 (150, 1.01)
Personal responsibility	3.2 (216, 0.93)	3.2 (150, 1.01)
Ethical decision making	3.0 (216, 1.05)	3.1 (150, 1.05)
Diversity awareness	2.9 (216, 1.08)	3.0 (150, 1.10)
Civic responsibility	2.8 (216, 1.09)	2.9 (150, 1.02)

Please rate the quality of your relationships with people at TCC. (1 – Awful to 4 – Excellent)	2021 - 2022 Average (N,SD)	2020 - 2021 Average (N,SD)
Other students	3.3 (216, 0.60)	3.2 (150, 0.64)
Instructors	3.4 (216, 0.63)	3.3 (150, 0.73)
Administrators and staff from TCC offices	3.3 (216, 0.69)	3.1 (150, 0.79)

Please share any additional comments you have concerning your most recent experience as a student at TCC.

General comments of a positive nature (26)*
Breath of fresh air. Easy, convenient and flexible options.
Everything was excellent and also the stuff.
Everything was great.
Fantastic
Graduating Debt Free
Having a college with free tuition to start is very helpful and my experience was overall good.
I am actually very sad to leave TCC and move on to OU
I am so thankful for TCC and I wouldn't have attempted school without TCC and how comfortable and the confidence I had gotten from TCC. I am so blessed and truly thankful for everything you have done for me.
I am very grateful for my TCC experience and proud to be a graduate. I teach in Tulsa Public Schools now and direct nearly all of my college bound students towards my Alma Mater. I received my bachelor's degree from Rogers State University shortly after graduating from TCC and TCC was a vastly better educational experience. TCC is the only school I claim as my Alma Mater.
I appreciate how tcc was a close knit college. It made me feel like a person rather than just a number for documentation.
I do not have any concerns but I enjoyed my time at TCC and the Tulsa Achieves program was amazing!
I love TCC!
I loved how cheap my tuition was.
I made lifelong friends during my time at TCC and we are still friends after nursing school.
I really enjoyed my time at TCC. I felt safe going to college during a pandemic. Almost all my teachers were amazing and knowledgeable in their fields. I don't regret going to TCC.
I started TCC in August 2019, right before covid hit. So I completed 1.5 semesters in person. And the rest of my classes online. I enjoyed both in person and online classes/instructors. I had a smooth transition when covid was new and safety was taken seriously!
In my last semester at TCC I made two friends that I know will be life long friends. We get together whenever we are all in town and TCC definitely fostered a community enviro for me to make those connections
Miss the atmosphere there
New buildings are nice.
Overall amazing.
TCC helped me achieve my associates degree in pre-nursing and I am so thankful to have gone.
TCC is like the step between highschool and college. It was helpful for stalling my time, trying to figure out what career path i wanted to pick.
TCC was able to offer me classes with flexible hours to work with my life schedule. I was able to obtain a degree in a little over 2 years and now I have a nice job!
TCC was an amazing experience overall. Met some amazing people and lifelong friends. Sometimes I wish it had never ended :)
Thank you for creating a schedule that allows working adults to further our education.
The remodeled northeast campus is a hidden gem of all the TCC campuses. I wish I had taken more classes there.

\*Comments were transcribed as written.

General comments of a negative nature (6)*
<p>Compared to my experience in 2010, this felt like a knuckle fight. Working only online presented some challenges, so did the whole covid thing. Getting copies of transcripts was cumbersome and difficult. Dealing with administrative issues was also very difficult. Student accessibility services needs a bit of attention as well. In the end I got what I needed but at every turn it felt like I had to fight for it, talk to 4 different people, whine, panic and complain before anyone could connect me to the right people for the given situation. Everything was one sided, institution first, then staff, then faculty, then maybe the students. This paradigm seems backwards. I'm on holiday break at the moment so now I have time to take this survey. What is slightly frustrating is TCC was aware I was already an undergraduate student at OSU. This didn't stop the regular requests to take the survey. I'm hoping taking it now stops the relentless requests but I expect I will be harassed a bit more before its over. In the spring of 2011 I had to withdraw from some classes. I was under the impression Student Accessibility representative Jacob Poole had taken care of it for me. He hadn't and now I have poor grades on my transcript. All this over something directly related to my disabilities. I tried to get withdrawals for the grades but was told I couldn't get a refund (not what I was requesting). I finally became aware of the AW (academic withdrawal) but became so jaded about the issue it will be easier to simply litigate in the future once I have a job and the financial ability to legally rectify the situation without the stress associated with a complete lack of willingness to help me. I can just pay the attorney and let it be his business to motivate TCC to want to help do the right thing and abide by the Americans with Disabilities Act. Seems the only thing education institutions understand these days is through the courts.</p>
<p>I think they need to be more clear about volunteering hours while you are attending! Now I am stuck still attending volunteer hours after graduating.</p>
<p>I would appreciate lectures with more personal experiences.</p>
<p>Making students participate in WEEKLY discussions daily for online courses, defeats the purpose of an online course being able to be completed on the STUDENT'S time.</p>
<p>Overall good just would have liked better communication</p>
<p>The only thing is we need more choices for weekend classes.</p>

*\*Comments were transcribed as written.*

<b>Comments concerning faculty and staff of a positive nature (4)*</b>
I love the interaction that professors have with the students. It means so much more to have them pulling for you to succeed as well.
Most of my instructors were engaging and helped make my classes challenging, but approachable for a non-traditional, student working full time. I found TCC staff members to be friendly and helpful.
my experience as a tcc student has been a long one but I have loved every single class I have taken and every instructor I've had, even the ones I thought I wasn't going to like.
Thankful for the distinguished faculty and staff at TCC. I was able to obtain a goal in my life and put in a position to continue my education. Thankful TCC Alumni

*\*Comments were transcribed as written.*

<b>Comments concerning faculty and staff of a negative nature (5)*</b>
I think the biggest area for improvement would be the academic advising staff. I am not saying they are bad in any way but they do not know what other universities are going to accept. I have had friends having to retake most of their classes because their TCC advisor had no idea what they were doing.
"I wish I had had a consistent counselor and that he/she would have recommended a stronger mathematical foundation.
Also, my classes were mostly "Covid era" online classes and these classes (for example: anatomy for health care professionals) did not prepare me well for more advanced classes at OU. I struggled hard for lack of a quality anatomy class, and physics."
It's been years but the office staff were not friendly. I'm not a Debbie downer and never complain but they seriously were not pleasant.

*\*Comments were transcribed as written.*

**Comments concerning student services of a positive nature (2)\***

Thank you so much to The Financial group with their support while I was studying at TCC. It was a big help for me to pursue my career. I could not continue my study without their support. I would like to say a big thanks to Bridging the Gap Scholarship with their support throughout my study at TCC. With their help I could accomplish my degree as Early Childhood Education without depts. I will help young people as best I can in the future. TCC is the best college for me as a first generation college student and I am the first one to graduate from college in my family. I also recommend my two younger brothers to study at TCC while they are in high school.

The thing I miss the most about TCC is the amount of recourses they have for student! Especially the study rooms

*\*Comments were transcribed as written.*

**Comments concerning student services of a negative nature (8)\***

Getting anything done using call 2000 was absolutely miserable. TCC should move to having a centralized office that can generally answer questions, OR have a better way to get a hole of the right people. Also consistency.

I chose TCC because it was free, but it was a struggle of an experience cause it didn't feel like anyone cared about your education other than a few professors. Your academic advisor is supposed to be your guide through college and card and show you they want to help however they can. Mine never even reached out to me. My first advisor even gave me false information so I didn't get my classes that I needed to. I didn't have much of a problem with the education because I was going for free so I saw it as I can't be mad about what I'm receiving. However, not being responded to and hearing several other students mention how bad the advisor is is really sad and can ruin an experience.

I enjoyed my time at tcc. Getting enrolled was difficult; I hope improvements have been made since then.

I think it's definitely difficult for all transfer students. Most four year universities struggle to hand out scholarships, work with schedules, and place students in the right direction for their major. Transferring needs to be easier because as universities increase their tuition in the next few years to stay with inflation, community college enrollment numbers are going to grow significantly and I don't think Universities are prepared to deal with the mass number of transfer students.

I wish TCC released your funds earlier as it was difficult to get materials from anyone but TCC and I felt that was unfair. I'm at OSU now and funds are released the first day of class. At TCC it might be a month after class starts before student aid is released. This is crazy it takes so long. The financial aid being released is probably the biggest complaint I had with TCC.

It is hard to find a job I don't know if it's cause of the debt I'm in but I'm a bit sour that all the career center did to help me was to show me how to sign up for indeed.com and ziprecruiter.com. I already knew that. And it's been over 6 months since I graduated and I still haven't been able to find a job. All those professors telling me how jobs wanted a degree over just a GED or high school diploma was not true. I may end up at McDonald's if I don't find anything else ASAP. So thanks for the debt. It so wasn't worth it.

My advisor and financial aid was hard to get in contact with and didn't seem to know what was going on once I did get in contact. I found myself having to do the work of advisor and financial aid myself.

I would like to suggest that TCC should offer more scholarships for DACA recipients.

*\*Comments were transcribed as written.*

**Comments concerning programs or instruction of a positive nature (0)\***

*\*Comments were transcribed as written.*

**Comments concerning programs or instruction of a negative nature (2)\***

I was a student in the Rad Tech program. I made good grades, did well in clinical, participated and excelled in the certification prep course and prep test. I failed the certification test the first time. Many of the questions were over topics I had not been exposed to. I hired a private tutor and spent 4 weeks with the tutor then hired another one for another month. I failed the test a second time. I am now studying with my mom, I purchased and wrote flash cards for the exam, I've taken multiple exams and I'm finally getting familiar enough that I'm passing the practice tests. I am very knowledgeable in the areas that are required to do my job, and I'm doing very well-I had almost no exposure to medications and their uses and symptoms, deciphering poorly taken x-rays and several other areas. I've reached out to my instructors and they offered zero assistance or suggestions to help me pass this exam. I have one opportunity left and I'm a worried basket case. If I do not pass, I will not return to TCC to take the necessary coursework to become eligible again. The instructors did not do enough to help prepare for the exam.

Love TCC, but the computer courses were sorely lacking in substance. Almost no lab work or equipment for experimentation. Was all done by computer simulation, which is no where near good enough. I was able to provision a server and build a network one time. This left me lacking when hired to work in a server and sys admin environment. Need hands on experience and repetition.

*\*Comments were transcribed as written.*