



Graduate Survey Report

2021-2022 Academic Year

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Summary

This report details the results of the 2022 Graduate Survey. This survey is administered at the end of each academic year to all students graduating in that year and serves as an important measure of student satisfaction. The survey includes a number of the College's Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and is evaluated as part of the College's strategic planning process.

Methodology

This year, the College continued to use the revised version of the Graduate Survey with 27 questions, which included the COVID-19 related questions added in 2020. It asks graduates about their experiences at the College, but also references their backgrounds, and future plans. Revisions were made jointly by the Chief Student Affairs Officer and Director of Institutional Effectiveness with feedback from other staff members as well as a number of students.

The 2022 Graduate Survey was administered via Survey Monkey to all 274 graduates of the Class of 2022, with a 97% response rate.

Analysis

Survey results were, on the whole, very positive and provided insight into the student population. Students indicated a high level of support and awareness regarding most aspects of the College. The following is a question by question analysis of the results:

- Q1: 93.98% of graduates indicated they will be attending a four-year college or university and 3.38% plan on attending a two year college immediately following their graduation from Doral College. While 2.63% of graduates plan to attend an academic institution in the future but not immediately. This is consistent with the results of the last five years, further supporting the understanding that the College's student population is more concerned with pursuing continued postsecondary study than employment opportunities.
- Q2: 50.38% of graduates indicated they had applied to more than four colleges, universities, or technical schools to continue their academic careers compared with 22.56% applying to 3-4 schools, and 26.32% applying to 1-2 schools. There is a slight decrease in the percentage of students applying to more than four schools when compared with last year's graduates. There is also an increase in the percentage of students applying to only one or two schools, which may reflect that many in this year's class felt they needed fewer options than those in the past. Possible factors might include application fees, narrowing down choices in advance of 12th grade, or change in financial situation due to COVID-19.
- Q3: 42.48% of graduates indicated they had been accepted to more than four colleges, universities, or technical schools in order to continue their academic careers compared with 21.8% accepted to 3-4 schools, and 32.33% accepted to 1-2 schools. Results are consistent with last year and still indicate the majority of graduates are competitive candidates for continued postsecondary study and have a number of options available to them.
- Q4: Regarding how many scholarship dollars they had been offered, 25.94% of graduates indicated they had been offered \$75,000 or more, 10.90% had been offered between \$74,999-\$50,000, 14.29% had been offered between \$49,000-\$25,000, 27.07% had been offered less than \$24,999, and 21.80% indicated they had been offered no scholarship dollars. When compared with last year's results, there was a slight increase in the percentage of graduates receiving a higher number of dollars. Also compared to last year's graduates a higher percentage reported being offered no scholarship dollars. The graduates were only asked if they received scholarship dollars, not if they applied for scholarships. These results indicate the majority of graduates are able to obtain financial assistance to help them fund continued study.

- Q5: Concerning employment regardless of continued education, the majority of graduates (55.64%), indicated they intend to look for part-time employment, while 19.55% intend to look for full-time employment. 31.21% of graduates intend to continue employment currently held, whether part-time or full-time, and 15.41% have no plans for employment. Similar to last year, the majority of students have plans to work part time, and the overall majority indicate plans to work in some capacity.
- Q6: Regarding future careers, graduates indicated interest in a wide variety of fields. The most popular options include Medicine, health-related professions (38.35%); Engineering, computer programming (16.17%); Law (7.14%); Business, finance-related professions, sales, and real estate (13.91%). Only 4.14% indicated they were undecided. These fields were also popular with graduates in previous classes. Results also indicate the majority of graduates have very specific plans for their future professional life.
- Q7: This question asked graduates to indicate the highest degree they intend to earn. An impressive 36.09% indicated plans to earn a doctorate or medical doctorate degree. A significant number of graduates (39.85%) plan on earning a masters degree. A bachelors degree was the fourth most popular option at 11.65%. A law degree (6.77%) was the fifth most popular. These results reflect the quality of the graduating class and the extent of their academic plans.
- Q8: Regarding the quality of instruction, 77.07% of students indicated their instructors taught either extremely or very well, which was a slight decrease from last year. Only eight students selected the “not so well” and one student selected the “not at all well” options. These results are similar to last year’s and indicate the College is maintaining a quality faculty.
- Q9: This multi-part question asked students to indicated how well the College prepared them for each of the Associate in Arts degree’s program outcomes. Results strongly indicate the program is succeeding in preparing graduates to excel in each of the program outcomes, as follows:
 - Reading effectively (78.57% said “very well” or “well”)
 - Writing effectively (81.95% said “very well” or “well”)
 - Speaking effectively (72.18% said “very well” or “well”)
 - Thinking critically (83.68% said “very well” or “well”)
 - Understanding human behavior, institutions, and culture (81.95% said “very well” or “well”)
 - Understanding and applying mathematical principles and methods (75.94% said “very well” or “well”)
 - Understanding and applying scientific principles and methods (74.81% said “very well” or “well”)
 - Finding, evaluating, organizing, and using information effectively (83.08% said “very well” or “well”)
- Q10: 42.11% of students indicated the Office of Admissions & Student Services was “Extremely useful” or “Very useful” in helping them with their post-graduation plans, with approximately 34.96% indicating they had not made use of the services. Only 13 students indicated they found the services to be only slightly helpful, and two (2) students indicated the services were not at all helpful. This is a slight decrease from last year’s results, although still similar, and though it indicates graduates are not dissatisfied with student services, it also means fewer are using the services. The decrease in the percentage indicating the usefulness correlates with the increase in the percentage of graduates indicating they had not made use of the service
- Q11: This multi-part question addressed satisfaction with the College’s admissions and registration processes. Regarding admissions, 87.89% of graduates indicated they were either “very satisfied” or “satisfied”. Regarding registration, 90.54% of graduates indicated they were either “very satisfied” or “satisfied. The remaining percentage of students indicated neither satisfied nor dissatisfied in both categories. These results indicate an improvement in satisfaction when compared with past years as no respondents indicated “dissatisfied” or “very dissatisfied”.
- Q12: Regarding LIRN (the online library) 78.93% of graduates indicated they were either “very satisfied” or “satisfied”
- Q13: 98.65% of graduates indicated they achieved, or will have achieved upon completing their studies, the goals they had when they started the course or program, which is a slight increase from last year. This question indicates the College is doing an excellent job of helping graduates meet their personal goals.
- Q14: 96.99% of graduates indicated they were satisfied with their studies with the College. Note: only eight students stated they were dissatisfied with their studies.
- Q15: 93.98% of graduates indicated they would recommend the College to a friend, which is a slight decrease from last year..
- Q16 48.50% of graduates estimated their Doral College grade point average between 3.5-3.99, 23.68% selected 4.0 and the lowest range selected was 2.5-2.99. This indicates the majority of graduates felt confident in their performance in the College.

- Q17 56.77% of graduates indicated that at least one parent had attended college, which is a slight increase from last year, which was 47.66%
- Q18 The majority (71.8%) of graduates, indicated they receive free or reduced lunch at their home high school, evidence that Doral College continues to serve “at-risk” populations.
- Q19: This open-ended question asked graduates to identify their most favorite experiences at the College. Students listed many different experiences including:
 - Starting a new course was always fun, but then finishing it was very fulfilling. We also had a beautiful graduation from Doral College which was filled with students from all types of schools, I would say that was my favorite experience.
 - My favorite experiences at Doral College included the ease of access to coursework, allowing for an environment in which I could work steadily.
 - Getting to know my classmates through discussion posts.
 - My favorite experiences was creating bonds with the instructors. In addition, the flexibility that instructors would provide us with was extremely helpful.
 - The online courses and flexibility they gave you
 - The teachers were so helpful and so nice, the way they replied to every email expressing my concerns was definitely one of my best experiences.
 - Being able to connect with students and teachers from different schools and cultures.
 - Being able to graduate high school with my associates degree.
 - My favorite class was my Macroeconomics course because I felt like it taught me so much on how to not just look at the economy as a responsible a citizen, but also how to approach life using economic concepts.
 - My most favorite experiences at Doral College were when I learned something that truly inspired me to learn more about it. Mostly, I found this within Philosophy and Psychology.
 - I enjoyed getting to explore new courses that I would’ve never had the chance to study if it wasn’t for Doral.
 - I absolutely loved the Introductory Philosophy, ENC 1102, and Abnormal Psychology. Each class presented me with information that I was thrilled to be learning and helped me think critically over the matters. I feel like I improved in critical thinking from those classes and it gave me a new perspective of the world, people, and the arts.
 - Being able to take classes that weren’t dictated by a school program but rather what I was interested in
 - My favorite experience was my student internship.
 - My favorite experiences were receiving prompt and helpful responses from the Student Affairs office.
 - During my time attending Doral College, my favourite experiences were being able to meet and talk to the professors, some of whom have left a lasting impression on me both as a student, and as a person.
 - My time spent with the SGA
 - My favorite experiences at Doral College were during my ethics class, were we would have many discussions about various ethical dilemmas that were both fun and also provided me with many different point of views and overall had a positive lasting impact to my perspective of the world.
- Q20 This open-ended question asked graduates to identify their least favorite experiences at the College. Students listed several different experiences including:
 - How credits can only transfer to Florida colleges.
 - The amount of classes I look each semester.
 - Missing out on my AA because of one D, which is unfortunate because I didn’t realize a C was required for the college credit.
 - Sometimes the work load would be a lot when you are assigned several things during the week.
 - Having had to switch and get accustomed to a different platform (Canvas, Schoology, etc.).

- Trying to switch classes since we have to go through our school counselor first and they are the ones who have to request the change.
 - Some of the professors graded way too hard and assigned too much work.
 - My least favorite experiences at Doral College would be the difference in deadlines for each professor. Sometimes the workload piled up where it made it harder to balance school and college.
 - Online zoom calls
 - My least favorite experiences at Doral College were noticing instructions that were not very clear or professors editing information on an assignment once students already had the opportunity to do it.
 - My least favorite experiences at Doral college were the lack of real connection with my peers. I don't know anything about the other students in my class.
 - I did not enjoy certain criteria made by professors. I did not enjoy how others I knew took the same courses as me with different professors but had more leniency, whereas for me I was not given those privileges. It was also harder to understand/connect with certain professors.
 - When certain assignments would lag on the website and I couldn't complete them.
 - When professors take so long to answer messages or emails. Some would take like three whole weeks and not get to help me with an assignment because by that time it was past it's due date.
 - My least favorite experiences were incompetent instructors who often spoke down to students and would ignore their emails, which makes it difficult because there is no way to visit the instructor in person.
 - My least favorite experience at Doral college had to be when 3 of my teachers decided to assign 1 page or more essays in the same week.
- Q21 This open-ended question asked graduates to indicate how the program might be improved. Many students said the College did not need to be improved and was enjoyable as is. Others made suggestions including:
 - I would say a little more teacher to student interaction in the online classes would help. I know that there is a lot of teachers that offered that but there's also a lot that did not.
 - If the mobile app were to be updated to allow for discussion posts to be posted easier the experience would be improved.
 - Just listen to their voices.
 - Communicate requirements, deadlines, and standards more effectively, possibly with illustrated examples to solidify a mental image in the mind of students.
 - More opportunities for students to get to know each other
 - Maybe have more classes that require Zoom meetings. However, I had a great experience overall.
 - I think one improvement is increasing how personal professors are with their students. Whether it be through video lectures, video calls, or in-person classes, I think student's would take a lot more initiative with their education at Doral College if they had a learning experience with their teachers.
 - Adding events that include those who are currently taking Doral college classes would be a great way to get students to socialize through in person connection given that the classes are completed virtually.
 - More clubs.
 - More teacher interaction with students. I believe that a weekly check-in on how students are getting along completing the course would help tremendously.
 - Students should be made aware of the importance of having a strong GPA at the beginning and maintaining it. A few lower grades makes a surprising difference and it's worth putting in the extra effort to maintain those grades.
 - Only way how I could see the experience improving is keeping the student's mind a focus and providing them events to congratulate them in the progress and acknowledge how much they've done already.
 - A better explanation of the academic plan for incoming students.
 - More counseling and updates regarding graduation requirements and time for students to make these decisions.

- Q22: The majority, 54.51%, indicated they would be interested in appearing in a Doral College Alumni directory, which is a slight increase from year.
- Q23 A slight majority, 62.77%, indicated they would not be interested in joining a Doral College Alumni Association.
- Q24 The majority, 70.13%, indicated they would not be interested in learning about a leadership position in an alumni association.
- Q25 Similar to last year's responses, 42.86% responded "yes" and 57.14% responded no regarding attending activities hosted by the alumni association.
- Q26 This new question had been added in 2020 to learn about challenges alumni had completing the program due to COVID-19. The decision was made to retain the question in 2022. Responses included:
 - During the outbreak I had not yet been enrolled with Doral College, however I have friends that were and I could tell that although it was a challenge Doral helped the students a lot.
 - I would say that learning to adapt to the online environment was a challenge I had to overcome due to the Coronavirus outbreak.
 - It was a lot harder to complete assignments because I had to pick up a Job, so my gpa lowered.
 - The pandemic simply effected my mental health and that then affected how I did my coursework.
 - The source of motivation to complete work efficiently and on time was lacking because of the convenience and ease of being at home and in bed most of the time.
 - Helped further my educational career
 - Due to COVID-19, challenges regarding remaining focused or motivated really affected my studies.
 - I found it difficult to stay motivated and focus on completing my coursework on time.
 - I faced depression because I was not able to see friends or family.
 - Coronavirus I believe impacted my in person classes, but since Doral College courses were predominantly online, I believe that I was already accustomed to an online environment so no major challenges were faced.
 - I went and am going through the hardest time in my life due to the passing of my mom, and even with that immense pain, grief, and challenge I continued to try and excel in my school work.
 - It made me revisit most of my values in life.
 - When it came to the Covid outbreak, it was more that I felt a bit robbed with my high school career since I will be graduating from my high school early.
 - The change to virtual was different but being able to stay connected via Zoom was very useful.
 - My step mom passed away and my mom loses her job. Couldn't attend class and missed a lot of lessons.
 - Doral college actually facilitated other coursework that became online after the Coronavirus outbreak, since I was already used to the online platform and way of learning.
 - It took me a lot of work to adapt to the Corona Virus outbreak, but thanks to Doral I pushed through.
 - I don't feel as if I faced any major challenges other than personal issues. Doral College stayed strong during the pandemic
 - Reliability on internet connection along with the number of assignments or certain classes due in a given day and/or week.
 - It was very hard to adapt back to in person classes.
 - My biggest challenge was finding motivation to finish my assignments but i'm glad i did!

Use of Results

Overall, this year's results are overwhelmingly positive and indicate the majority of graduates enjoyed a high level of satisfaction with the College with very few, if any exceptions. There is room for improvement in the area of student services. In addition, the department continues to explore ways to assist students with their academic plans. One of the most significant increase was in the percentage of students not receiving scholarships. The College does post scholarship opportunities on the College 101 site and information on

scholarship webinars, even though technically the students should be working with high school counselors regarding scholarships. Based on responses regarding the impact of COVID-19, an assumption is the decrease in scholarship rewards is a result of the pandemic. The Office of Admissions and Student Services will be exploring additional methods to provide financial resource information to students.

The majority of students indicate they will be pursuing careers requiring higher level math and science courses. Therefore, development has begun on these types of courses to assist students in meeting degree prerequisite requirements.

Students indicated they would appreciate more opportunities to network and interact with each other. In May 2022, Doral College held its first soiree for alumni. It was positively attended, and plans are already in place to conduct similar types of events. In June 2022, a strategic planning retreat was conducted, and it was acknowledged that students are interested in clubs and activities that will result in acknowledgements as part of graduation, such as cords and stoles to be added to caps and gowns. During the Fall 2022 semester, a student focus group will be conducted to get input directly from the students.

Additionally, individual comments reflected a need for improvement in student-teacher communication and the students' desire to interact with each other even virtually. Beginning with the Fall 2022 semester, teachers will be required to hold weekly office hours and hold a minimum number of Zoom sessions during the semester.