



Liberty University
School of Education
Alumni Survey Fall 2024

Alumni Survey: LU Institutional Effectiveness and Research (IER)
– Initial BED & MAT/Advanced MED

Overview

The Alumni Survey assesses the achievement and success of recent graduates from Liberty University. Topics on the survey include employment, job relevance, and overall satisfaction with the program. There are 7 questions (rating CAEP skills) specific to initial teacher licensure in the School of Education, and 14 questions (rating CAEP 6 professional skills) specifically for advanced programs.

The Alumni Survey is completed in the fall semester post-graduation and is used post-graduation in years 1, 5, 10, and 20. The Alumni Office, the Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Research, and the School of Education use this assessment to measure the success and satisfaction of program completers. The survey results are used by the Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Research for SACSCOC accreditation and by the School of Education for CAEP Program Accreditation (Standard 4). The survey is used to measure the success and satisfaction of program completers during the first year after graduation and subsequent increments of five years.

Administration

Each Fall semester, the Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Research administers the annual alumni survey, data collection runs from mid-fall through January. The planning and logistics are done in coordination with Alumni Relations, Marketing, and the Call Center. Alumni from the most recent academic year as well as 5, 10, and 20-year cohorts are invited to participate. Several methods are used to reach out to alumni including: call center; phone blasts; emails to both EDU and non-EDU emails with reminders going to those who have not completed the survey and a link on the MyLU page. These methods are spread out from October through January. People who ask not to be contacted are removed from our lists. Alumni survey administration as a university-wide, collaborative effort began in 2011.

Content

Development of survey content is aligned with best practices regarding the collection of employment data and first destination surveys as described by National Association of Colleges and Employers. Survey content is developed to align with reporting needs for both regional and programmatic accreditors, and national surveys, including: National Association of Colleges and Employers; US News and World Report – Best Colleges for Veterans; and US Department of Education gainful employment reporting requirements for certificate programs prior to 2019.

Survey content is developed in coordination with several stakeholders across the university and is informed by best practices and the reporting needs of various departments. This process is done each year, findings and content from the previous year are reviewed to inform updates. Survey content is reviewed by a team of internal stakeholders, if edits are needed the team must be in agreement on changes. The survey is designed and reviewed to ensure it meets the following criteria for validity of self-reported data: requested information is known to responders, items phrased clearly, items refer to recent events or activities, items are taken seriously by respondents, items are not threatening or embarrassing. Content is then reviewed by Liberty's internal marketing department which proposes edits if items do not appear to collect the desired information, are double-barreled, leading, are not clear, response options not matching item content, or would be unfamiliar to Liberty alumni. These edits are reviewed by stakeholders to determine course of action. Stakeholders include: Student Financial Services, Career Center, the Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Research (IER), Marketing, Alumni Relations, and each academic department or program.

The survey contains both a core and department-specific sections of questions. The survey core includes questions regarding gainful employment, skill preparation, and overall satisfaction with the school. Academic departments or programs include items for their graduates in the department-specific sections. Feedback is used to inform improvement efforts and for accreditation reporting needs. Program specific items are developed and reviewed by each program, this content also reviewed by OIE and Marketing with the same criteria noted above.

The process described above, with multiple levels of review and criteria set by best practices in survey writing, help to ensure both face validity and content validity. A high level of internal consistency has been found between the various survey items regarding employment, contributing to the reliability of employment data.

Fall 2024 Data Set (Overall Response Rate = 12.20%)

How closely related was your first job after graduation to your major or area of study at Liberty?				
		%	Count	Total %
	Directly related	74.85%	250	93.19%
	Somewhat related	19.16%	64	
	Not related	5.99%	20	
	Not employed	0%	0	
Total	100%	334		

If you were employed prior to graduation, did your most recent degree from Liberty result in a raise or promotion?				
		%	Count	Total %
	Yes	55.38%	180	55.38%
	No	44.62%	145	
	Total	100%	325	

Advanced Licensure: Professionalism: <i>Application of professional dispositions, laws and policies, codes of ethics, and professional standards appropriate to their field of specialization</i>				
		%	Count	Total %
	Score 0 - No Evidence of Preparation	0.00%	0	95%
	Score 1 - Unsatisfactory Preparation	4.76%	1	
	Score 2 - Satisfactory Preparation	14.29%	3	
	Score 3 - Outstanding Preparation	80.95%	17	
Total	100%	21		

Initial Licensure: Learning Environments: <i>Working with others to create environments that support individual and collaborative learning and that encourage positive social interaction, active engagement in learning, and self-motivation</i>				
	Distance + Residential	%	Count	Total %
	Score 0 - No Evidence of Preparation	1.22%	1	
	Score 1 - Unsatisfactory Preparation	1.22%	1	
	Score 2 - Satisfactory Preparation	35.37%	29	97.56%
	Score 3 - Outstanding Preparation	62.20%	51	
Total	100%	82		

Initial Licensure: Assessment: <i>Understanding and using multiple methods of assessment to engage learners in their own growth, to monitor learner progress, and to guide the teacher's and learner's decision making</i>				
	Distance + Residential	%	Count	Total %
	Score 0 - No Evidence of Preparation	1.22%	1	
	Score 1 - Unsatisfactory Preparation	4.88%	4	
	Score 2 - Satisfactory Preparation	32.93%	27	93.90%
	Score 3 - Outstanding Preparation	60.98%	50	
Total	100%	82		

