

NC STATE UNIVERSITY

2018 Alumni Survey Highlights

NC State conducted its triennial survey of alumni from January-March of 2018. Alumni who received a bachelor's degree from NC State from Summer 2012 through May 2015 (N=14,591) were asked to participate in the online survey. A total of 2,527 surveys were completed for a response rate of 17.3 percent.

Alumni are very satisfied with the undergraduate education they received at NC State.

Over 90 percent of respondents said the undergraduate education they received from NC State was either “very strong” or “strong,” that they would still choose NC State again if starting over, and that they would recommend NC State to a friend.

NC State alumni are successful in getting full-time employment for after graduation, and feel well prepared for those jobs.

Close to half of NC State graduates not going on to graduate/professional school had secured a full-time permanent position by the time they graduated, with another 20 percent starting a job within three months after graduation. Over three-fourths of currently employed alumni are working in areas either “directly” or “somewhat related” to their major field of study while at NC State. Almost eight-in-ten respondents reported either “excellent” or “good” preparation by NC State for both their first job and their current position, and 90 percent agreed that their NC State education prepared them to be competitive with graduates from other institutions.

Many NC State alumni pursued advanced degrees, and those who did felt well prepared for their graduate/professional school studies.

About one-third of all respondents have attended graduate/professional school, with over one-third of those attending graduate/professional school doing at their alma mater, NC State. More than one-half of those going on to graduate/professional school received some type of scholarship, honor, award, or assistantship to support their further education. Over 85 percent of those who are or were enrolled in graduate/professional school said that they received “excellent” or “good” preparation through their program of study at NC State for their continued studies.

Alumni feel well prepared by NC State on a wide range of skills, but, there is room for improvement.

Although large majorities of respondents were satisfied with the extent to which NC State helped them develop numerous skills related to communication, problem solving, professionalism, general education, and diversity/global awareness, they were generally less likely to think NC State contributed to their development of skills related to diversity/global awareness than to other areas. They were, however, also generally less likely to view skills related to diversity/global awareness as important in them currently. Skills most likely to be seen as important to them currently are those related to communication and professionalism, such as *conducting work in an ethical manner* and *working under pressure*.

Alumni reap benefits from experiential and extra-curricular programs available at NC State.

A majority of alumni had a work-related experience at NC State, such as through an internship, research with a faculty member, or through a Cooperative Education Program; almost two-thirds of them said that those experiences had a positive impact on their career. Over one-third of respondents had an international experience through an NC State Study Abroad or service trip, with over three-fourths of those participants saying the experience did “a great deal” to help them better understand world problems and issues and to better appreciate diverse perspectives and different cultures. Over 80 percent participated in a community service or service-learning project while they were an undergraduate, something that over three-fourths of them agreed had a positive impact on their commitment to helping to improve society.

There are opportunities to help alumni feel more connected to NC State.

Almost two-thirds of alumni respondents said it is “very” or “moderately important” for them to feel connected to NC State. However, most alumni said that they actually do feel either “very” or “moderately connected” to NC State since graduation. Almost 10 percent who say it is “very important” to them to feel connected reported feeling “not very” or “not at all connected,” as to over 20 percent of those who say it is “moderately important” for them to feel connected.

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