

# CAREER AND PROFESSIONAL ASPIRATIONS SURVEY

## 2010 Student Affairs' Student Voice Survey Results

Student Voice Survey Report #7



Student Affairs periodically conducts surveys about issues which impact students. In April 2010 Student Affairs conducted four surveys utilizing Student Voice, an entity which develops surveys in partnership with national experts. The surveys assess students' perceptions and experience, providing comparative data with national respondents. Every currently registered Evergreen student was randomly selected to participate in one of the four surveys, and upon completion of one survey they were invited to participate in another survey. Total response rate across all surveys was 38%. Overall, the respondents were similar to the Evergreen student population, with females and upper-class students responding at a higher rate. Participation was voluntary and all responses were completely confidential; the resulting data is reported only in the aggregate.

This report highlights some results from the **Career and Professional Aspirations Survey related to the job search and professional aspirations**. The survey had 397 respondents for a response rate of 33%.

We welcome questions or comments. Please direct them to [Michael Sledge](#) or [Wendy Endress](#), Co-Chairs of the Student Affairs Assessment Initiative.

How do you perceive the current job market?	TESC	National
I already have a job in my chosen field`	12%	16%
I will find a job before I graduate	15%	23%
I will find a job soon after I graduate	21%	29%
It will take me a few months to find a job	27%	27%
It will take me more than a few months to find a job	21%	9%

\*207 respondents who indicated they planned to begin my own or work for the government, a non-profit organization, or w a private sector company or organization



What do you think you will do immediately after graduation?	TESC	National
Military service	<1%	2%
Begin my own business	9%	4%
Work for the government	14%	12%
Other	16%	10%
Take time off	20%	9%
Work for a non-profit organization	21%	12%
Work for a private sector company or organization	22%	33%
Go to graduate or professional school	38%	46%

\*396 respondents

**How much do you expect to earn during your first year of employment?**

	TESC	National
Less than \$30,000	53%	33%
\$30,001-\$50,000	34%	44%
\$50,001-\$75,000	10%	19%
\$75,000+	3%	4%

**How many times do you think you will change careers during your lifetime?**

- 1 or less times 24%
- 2-5 times 67%
- 6-9 times 7%
- 10 or more times 1%

**How long will you stay with your first employer after graduation?**

- Less than 2 years 39%
- About 2-5 years 41%
- About 6-10 years 9%
- More than 10 years 11%

**How many times do you think you will change employers during your lifetime?**

- 1 or less times 5%
- 2-5 times 51%
- 6-9 times 20%
- 10 or more times 23%

\*207 respondents who indicated they planned to begin my own or work for the government, a non-profit organization, or w a private sector company or organization

Evergreen students placed **greater importance** than the national respondents on the following factors when considering a job opportunity: **relaxed dress code, job responsibilities consistent with their area of emphasis, organization is known as 'GREEN'**, and less importance on the following: benefits, future career opportunities, organization is recognized as a leader in the field, salary higher than graduating peers.

Evergreen students were **less comfortable than the national respondents** with the following: a potential employer viewing their Facebook (or other online community profile); searching for their name on Google; or running a credit or background check. Evergreen students were **more likely** to view visible tattoos/body piercing as **having neither a positive or negative impact** on an employer's evaluation of a candidate.



**Evergreen respondents indicated that it was less important to know or learn the following:**

- the history of the primary product/service
- general understanding of the secondary/emerging product/service
- emerging issues affecting the organization/industry
- organization's standing in the marketplace
- recent mergers or acquisitions
- stock symbol/what their stock traded for recently

\*The data above is based on 294 respondents who agreed to answer additional questions.