



EMPLOYER SURVEY: COLORADO TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY ONLINE GRADUATES ARE WELL PREPARED FOR THEIR CAREERS

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- **Nearly all employers rated the preparation of CTU graduates as “excellent” or “good”**

Colorado Springs, Colo. (March 5, 2009) – A majority of companies that employ Colorado Technical University’s online graduates report that these workers have the skills and knowledge necessary to succeed in today’s competitive, technology-driven work environment, according to a survey of employers released today by the University.

More than 190 employers from every state within the continental United States responded to the survey, which asked employers to evaluate the career-preparedness of CTU Online graduates working in their organizations. Employers were asked about an array of professional competencies, including information technology skills, reasoning abilities and ethical conduct. Responses were received from multinational corporations, mid-sized and small businesses, government agencies, and non-profits, among other organizations.

According to the survey, 97 percent of employers indicated they are “extremely likely” or “likely” to hire another CTU Online graduate if an employment opportunity opened within their organization. Roughly 94 percent of respondents rated the educational preparation of graduates as “excellent” or “good.”

“It is gratifying to hear companies from across the nation validate the work we do preparing our students for successful careers,” said Dr. Wallace K. Pond, president and chief executive officer of Colorado Technical University and chancellor of CTU Online. “Our current students and alumni can take pride in knowing that employers are pleased with the skills and training of CTU Online graduates.”

The CTU Online Class of 2008 Employer Survey also gauged employers’ attitudes about online programs compared to traditional classroom programs. When asked if an employer had a preference in the delivery method of its employees’ higher education, 56 percent reported they had no preference between students graduating from a traditional classroom, a 100-percent online classroom, or a blend of those two educational methods (i.e. hybrid education). Roughly 19 percent of respondents indicated a preference for a blended education, while 13 percent preferred online-only graduates.

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“Greater numbers of employers are recognizing the merit of 100 percent online and blended online/physical classroom experiences for training their employees,” said Adam Malson, a director of career services for CTU. “The feedback we received from employers is consistent with data from other recently published employer surveys, which indicates that employers are embracing online graduates.”

The CTU Online Class of 2008 Employer Survey used a stratified random sample methodology, with responses coming from employers nationwide. The 2008 online class consists of 6,172 graduates who earned Associate, Bachelor’s or Master’s degrees.

The survey is an example of CTU’s commitment to seeking feedback from the employers and communities that the University serves, according to Dr. Scott van Tonningen, CTU University dean of engineering and vice president for educational quality.

“We will leverage the insight from these employers and seek to improve the learning outcomes for our students,” said van Tonningen. “Employers are clearly pleased with the training provided by CTU’s online campus, and we will seek to enhance that by expanding and improving our robust curriculum.”

About Colorado Technical University

Since 1965, Colorado Technical University (CTU), an institution of higher learning that provides career-oriented education by teaching applied industry programs, has provided students with a pathway towards personal, academic, and professional advancement. CTU offers degree-track programs at the Associate’s, Bachelor’s, Master’s, and Doctoral levels in a variety of disciplines. For more information about Colorado Technical University, please visit www.coloradotech.edu. CTU operates campuses in Colorado Springs, CO; Denver, CO; Pueblo, CO; Kansas City, MO; and Sioux Falls, SD; as well as an internet-based virtual channel that delivers degree programs 100% online. For additional information about online programs, please visit www.ctuonline.edu.

Colorado Technical University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission, is a member in good standing of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, and is a member of the Career Education Corporation (NASDAQ: CECO) network of universities, colleges, and schools.