

San Diego Miramar College

Spring 2026 Graduation Survey Report

Prepared by the *Office of Planning, Research, and Institutional Effectiveness*

What was the purpose of the study?

- (1) Learn about 2026 graduates' experiences at San Diego Miramar College (SDMC) to inform institutional planning and effectiveness.
- (2) Learn more about the students' post-graduation plans.

What was our research method?

We distributed individualized links to an online survey to all students who applied to graduate between Fall 2025 and Summer 2026. One \$100 Visa gift card incentives were provided to encourage participation.

Who responded to the survey?

A total of 88 students answered the survey for a response rate of 7%. A total of 1,262 students were contacted for this survey. There were slightly more female graduates than male graduates. The age range of 18-24 was the most prevalent.

Ethnicity	%	Age	%	Gender	%
Asian	26	<18	6	Female	47
Black/African American	4	18 - 24	63	Male	51
Filipino/a	12	25 - 29	13	Non-Binary	1
Latinx	32	30 – 39	11	Unknown	1
Multiple Ethnicities	8	40 - 49	5		
American Indian/Alaska Native	<1	50+	3		
Pacific Islander	1				
White	28				
Unknown	1				

What did we find?

Level of Agreement.

Students were asked to rate their agreement with six statements on aspects of their college experience. 85% of respondents felt prepared for the next step of their journey. 90% of respondents felt like they have gained meaningful knowledge, skills, and experiences during their education at Miramar College. 79% felt their skills, talents, abilities, and experiences were appreciated by someone at Miramar College. 78% felt that someone at Miramar College motivated them to reach their goals. 62% felt like they were part of a community at Miramar College. 45% became involved in meaningful on-campus activities. (See table 8 and figure 3)

Here's what students said SDMC did well in supporting their goals (see table 12):

- Student Services
- Education & Professors
- Community & Social Support

Here's what students said SDMC could do better (see table 13):

- Resource Accessibility/Access
- Supplies, Equipment, and Facilities
- Communication From Faculty & Staff

Students faced barriers (see tables 16 and 17):

25% of respondents said they faced barriers that impacted earning their degree or certificate. The most prevalent were financial barriers, employment, health, and family.

Supporting alumni after graduation (see table 23):

62% of respondents said they would find networking helpful, and 57% would like the ability to attend campus career fairs and other career events as alumni, and 28% were interested in an alumni newsletter.

Appendix I: Itemized Responses

Question 1: For the majority of your time at Miramar College, were you employed in your field of study?

About 36% of respondents said they were employed for the majority of their time as students at Miramar College.

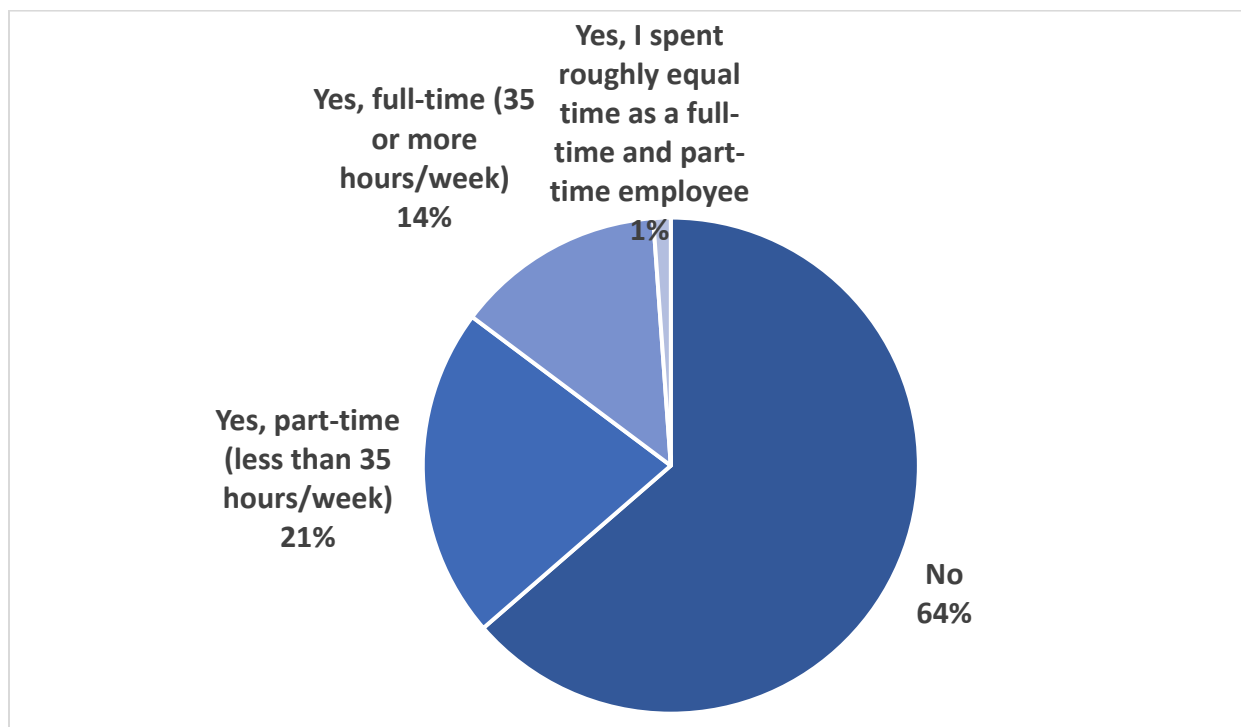
Table 1

Responses to the Question: "For the majority of your time at Miramar College, were you employed in your field of study?" (n = 88)

Answer choice	Count	%
Not Employed	56	64%
Yes, part-time (less than 35 hours/week)	19	21%
Yes, full-time (35 or more hours/week)	12	14%
Yes, I spent roughly equal time as a full-time and part-time employee	1	1%
Total	88	100%

Figure 1

Graduation Survey Respondents' Employment Status as Students (n = 88)



Question 2: Was your work experience directly related to your field of study?

Table 2

Responses to the Question: "Was your work experience directly related to your field of study?" (n = 32)

Answer choice	Count	%
Yes	12	38%
No	20	62%
Total	32	100%

Note. Question 2 was shown only to respondents who said they were employed for the majority of their career at SDMC in a previous question.

Question 3: What was the name of your employer?

Respondents worked for a wide variety of organizations as students: 32 respondents reported employers in 8 different job fields: legal, nonprofit, military, self-employment, healthcare, education, or retail. Some students reported working in several different jobs. The below table does not represent the employers by category but the employers by employer name. The items that were not “other” were the items appearing most frequently. Details for the “Other” items are in the ** note below the table.

Table 3

Responses to the Question: “What was the name of your employer?” (n = 32)

Answer category	Count	%
San Diego Community College District	2	6%
School District (Poway, San Diego, etc.)	3	9%
Self-employed	3	9%
US Military	2	6%
Other**	22	67%
Not Applicable	1	3%
Total*	33	100%

Note. This question was shown only to respondents who said they were employed for the majority of their career at SDMC in a previous question. The question was open-ended; responses were analyzed and grouped by employer.

* Some respondents reported more than one employer, making the total in the table to be greater than the number of respondents who answered the question.

** Other employers include:

A family with kids, Amazon, California Department of Transportation, Clinic Tri Nguyen, MD, Dunkin, Private Nanny, Milagro, Easterseals Southern California, Francine McCorkell, Islands Restaurant, La Jolla Post Acute, Laboratory Corporation of America, Law office, Linda Woods, NA, Nothing Bundt Cakes, Ramona Head Start, Rosner Barry & Babbitt LLP, Scripps Health, Self, Sprouts Farmer Market, Starbucks, Summit Gasoline, Theres several, United Legwear LLC, Vons, YMCA.

Question 4: What was your job title?

Table 4

Responses to the Question: “If you were employed, what was your job title?” (n = 32)

Answer category	Count	%**
Assistant	5	14%
Assistant - Administrative	1	
Assistant – Front Desk	1	
Assistant – Legal/Paralegal	2	
Assistant - Student	1	
Business Associate	4	11%
Cashier	2	
Delivery	1	
Representative – Patient Services	1	
Educator	3	8%
After School Leader	1	

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Tutor	1	
Teacher	1	
Manager/Supervisor	1	3%
Car Wash Manager	1	
Nursing	1	
Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA)	1	
Representative - Customer Service	3	3%
Representative – Client Services	1	
Representative – Guest Service	1	
Representative – Patient Service	1	
Receptionist	1	3%
Receptionist – Medical	1	
Service Worker	7	19%
Baby Sitter	1	
Barista	2	
Bartender	1	
Busser/Host	1	
Deli	1	
Service Partner	1	
Specialists	3	8%
Student Success Specialist – MESA	1	
Student Success Specialist – Unspecified	1	
Signal Support Systems Specialist	1	
Technician	1	3%
Technician - Behavior	1	
Other	6	17%
Credit Collections	1	
Gymnastics Coach	1	
Private Investigator	1	
Program Aide	1	
Several Occupations	1	
Sped IA	1	
Not Applicable	1	3%
Total*	36	100%

Note. This question was shown only to respondents who said they were employed for the majority of their career at SDMC in a previous question. The question was open-ended; responses were analyzed and sorted into categories.

* Some respondents reported more than one title resulting in a different total compared to number of respondents.

** The % column reflects the number of each job over the total number of job titles provided, not over the number of respondents who answered this question.

Question 5: What was your primary education goal when you began taking courses at Miramar College?

63% of respondents said their primary goal when they started at SDMC included transferring to a four-year institution.

Table 5

Responses to the Question: “What was your primary education goal when you began taking courses at Miramar College?” (n = 88)

Answer choice	Count	%
Obtain an associate’s degree and transfer to a 4-year institution	55	63%

Transfer to a 4-year institution without an associate's degree	8	9%
Obtain a 2-year associate's degree without transfer	10	11%
Obtain a 2-year technical degree without transfer	1	1%
Discover/formulate career interests, plans and goals	2	2%
Earn a career technical certificate without transfer	7	8%
Advance in current job/career (update job skills)	1	1%
Complete credits for high school diploma or GED	2	2%
Undecided on goal	2	2%
Total	88	100%

Question 6: Describe your course modality in the past year

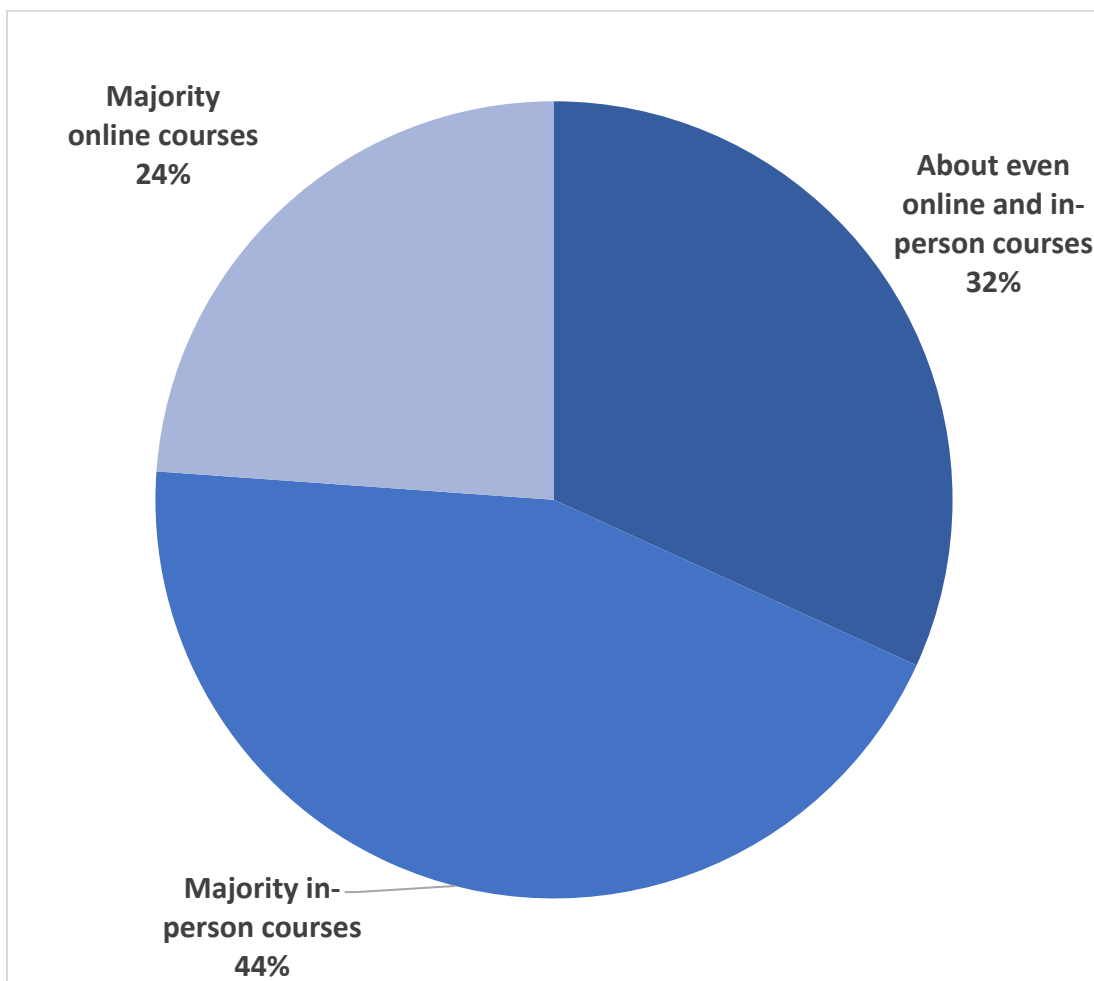
Table 6

Responses to the Question: "Describe your course modality in the past year" (n = 88)

Answer Choices	Count	%
Majority in-person courses	39	44%
Majority online courses	21	24%
About even online and in-person courses	28	32%
Total	88	100%

Figure 2

Percentages of Respondents by Modality (n = 88)



Question 7: Did your education goal at Miramar College change over time? If yes, please explain how.

73% of respondents did not change their education goals over time. For the 27% who did, the top 3 reasons were uncertainty about their major, a plan in shifting careers, and a perspective change.

Table 7

Responses to the Question: "Did your education goal at Miramar College change over time? If yes, please explain how." (n = 88)

Answer choice	Count	%
No	64	73%
Yes	24	27%
Total	88	100%

Question 8: Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements regarding your experience at Miramar College.

Respondents were asked to rate their level of agreement with six positive statements about their experience at Miramar College. The majority of respondents agreed or strongly agreed with most of the statements. Only one statement resulted in less than half (45%) of respondents: "I became involved in on-campus activities that were meaningful to me." The average agreement/strong agreement by percent is 73%. Calculating the standard deviation of the average agreement percentages gives 16.7. These values lead to a z-score of -1.65. In a one-tailed p-value, 45% is significantly smaller with a p value of 0.049.

Table 8

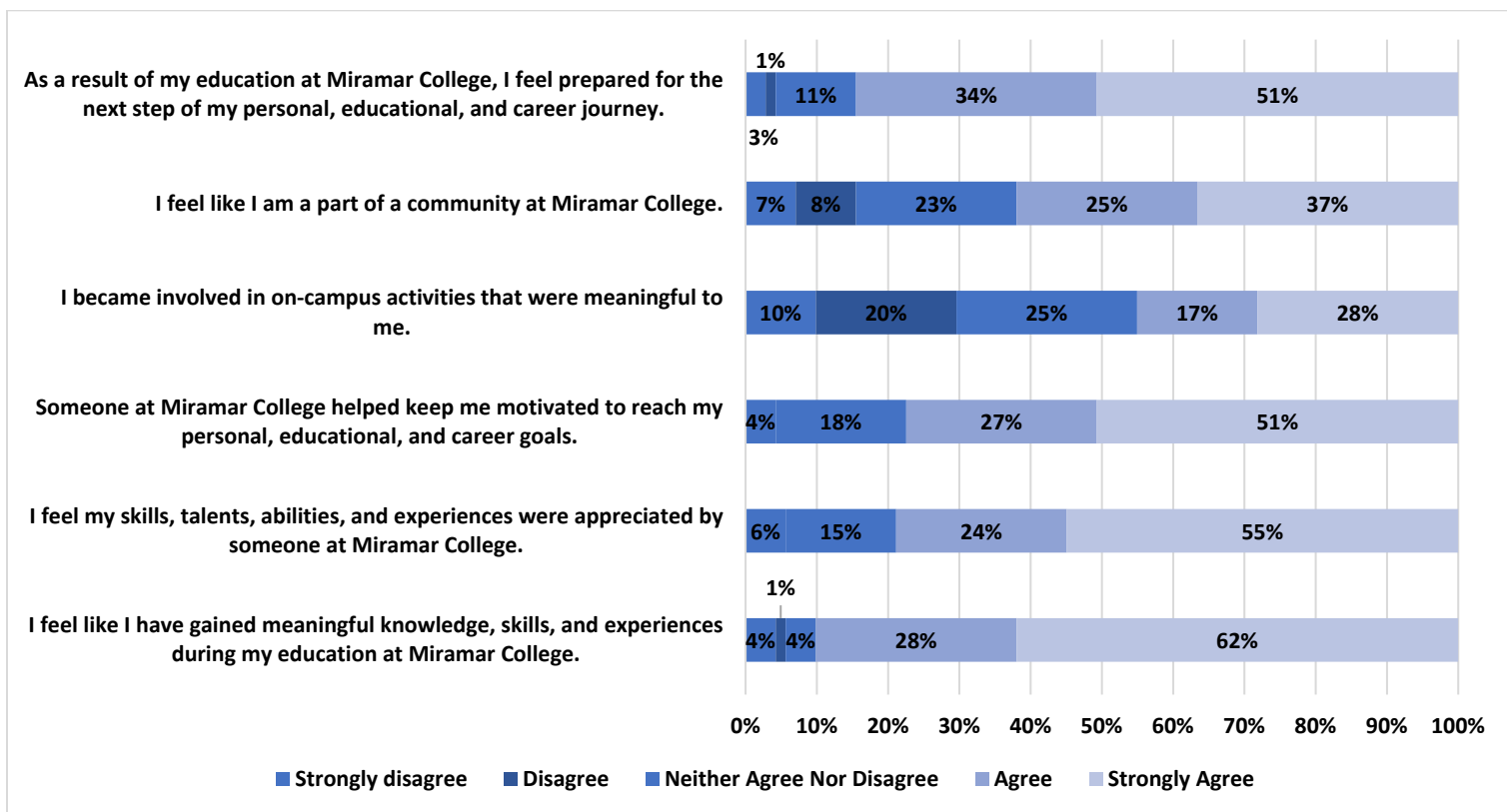
Responses to the Question: "Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements regarding your experience at Miramar College." (n = 71)

	Total	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
I feel like I have gained meaningful knowledge, skills, and experiences during my education at Miramar College	71	3	1	3	20	44
I feel my skills, talents, abilities, and experiences were appreciated by someone at Miramar College	71	4	0	11	17	39
Someone at Miramar College helped keep me motivated to reach my personal, educational, and career goals	71	3	0	13	19	36

I became involved in on-campus activities that were meaningful to me	71	7	14	18	12	20
I feel like I am a part of a community at Miramar College	71	5	6	16	18	26
As a result of my education at Miramar College, I feel prepared for the next step of my personal, educational, and career journey	71	2	1	8	24	36

Figure 3

Percentages of Respondents by Level of Agreement to Satisfaction Statements (n = 71)



Question 9: Please describe what Miramar College has done well in supporting your career, educational and personal goals.

The largest group of respondents said that Student Support Services & Resources were part of what SDMC had done well in supporting them, followed by Education & Professors, and then by Community & Social Support.

Table 9

Responses to the Question: "Please describe what Miramar College has done well in supporting your career, educational and personal goals." (n = 71)

Answer category	%	Count
Student Support Services & Resources (DSPS, EOPS, CalWorks, etc.)	55%	39
Education & Professors	55%	39
Community / Social Support	24%	17
Environment & Scheduling (Class / Resource Schedules)	11%	8
Not Applicable	1%	1

Note. This question was open-ended; responses were analyzed and sorted into categories. Some student responses included more than one category.

Question 10: Please describe what Miramar College could have done better in supporting you in reaching your career, educational and personal goals.

Respondents reported a wide variety of ways that SDMC could have supported them better. The most common responses were quality or access of Resource Accessibility (42%), Supplies, Equipment, & Facilities (6%), and Direct Communication (6%).

Table 10

Responses to the Question: "Please describe what Miramar College could have done better in supporting you in reaching your career, educational and personal goals." (n = 71)

Answer category	%	Count
Resource Accessibility*	42%	30
Supplies, Equipment, & Facilities	6%	4
Direct Communication	6%	4
Schedule / Course Availability	4%	3
Student Culture	3%	2
Funding	3%	2
Staff Accountability	3%	2
Hire More Staff	3%	2
Leadership	1%	1
Not Applicable/Did a Great Job	35%	25

Note. This question was open-ended; responses were analyzed and sorted into categories. Some student responses included more than one category.

***Resource Accessibility** here means access and knowledge of resources like EOPS, MESA Center, Automotive Technology Career, Equal Access To Classroom Resources, etc.

Question 11: Did you face any barriers which impacted your completing your degree/certificate program?

75% of respondents reported that they did not face any barriers which impacted their degree/certificate completion, while 25% indicated that they did.

Table 11

Responses to the Question: "Did you face any barriers which impacted your completing your degree/certificate program?" (n = 71)

Answer choice	Count	%
No	53	75

Yes	18	25
Total	71	100

Question 12: Please list the barriers that impacted your completing your degree/certificate program.

Respondents reported a wide variety of ways that SDMC could have supported them better. The most common responses were Financial Barriers (33%), Employment (22%), and Health (17%).

Table 12

Responses to the Question: "Please list the barriers that impacted your completing your degree/certificate program." (n = 18)

Answer category	%	Count
Financial Barriers	33%	6
Employment	22%	4
Health	17%	3
Children / Family	11%	2
Class Accessibility	6%	1
Cultural Differences	6%	1
Food Insecurity	6%	1
Lack of Housing	6%	1
Discrimination	6%	1
Transportation	6%	1
Not Applicable	28%	5

Note. This question was only shown to respondents who said they faced barriers in a previous question. The question was open-ended; responses were analyzed and sorted into categories. Some respondents included more than one category.

Question 13: Did Miramar College do well in helping you overcome these barriers? If so, please explain how. 25% of the respondents reported that Miramar College was able to help overcome barriers they faced.

Table 13

Responses to the Question: "Did Miramar College do well in helping you overcome these barriers? If so, please explain how." (n = 18)

Answer choice	Count	%
Yes	10*	56%
Services & Programs (Financial AID, EOPS, etc.)	6	60%
Accessibility / Communication	2	20%
Class Accessibility /Flexibility	1	10%
No	8	44%

Note. This question was only shown to respondents who said they faced barriers in a previous question. Respondents who selected "Yes" were asked to elaborate in an open-ended text field. Some respondents provided more than one answer for the given categories. The % breakdown for the yes answer choice subcategories is out of the number of yes answers.

* The total for the yes answer choice does not accurately reflect the sum of the subcategories. One of the people who answered yes to this question said "I had no barriers", which mismatches the answer choice they chose.

Question 14: Are you currently employed?

15% of respondents reported that they were employed full-time, while 37% reported they are employed part-time. The proportion of non-working respondents was 48%.

Table 14

Responses to the Question: "Are you currently employed?" (n=71)

Answer choice	Count	%
No	34	48%
Yes, part-time	26	37%
Yes, full-time	11	15%
Total	71	100

Question 15: What are your employment plans for the next six months? (Not currently employed)

About 68% of currently non-working respondents said they planned to search for a job in the next six months.

Table 15

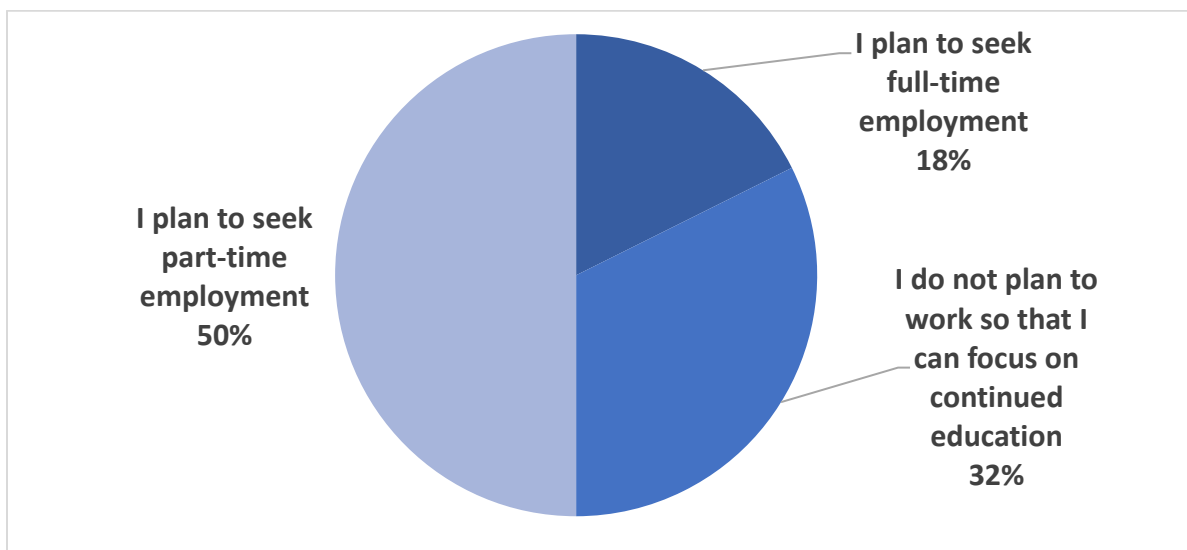
Currently Non-Working Respondents' Responses to the Question: "What are your employment plans for the next six months?" (n = 34)

Answer choice	Count	%
I plan to seek part-time employment	17	50%
I do not plan to work so that I can focus on continued education	11	32%
I plan to seek full-time employment	6	18%
Total	34	100

Note. This question was shown only to respondents who said that they were not currently employed in a previous question.

Figure 4

Unemployed Respondents' Employment Plans for the Next Six Months (n = 34)

**Question 16: What are your employment plans for the next six months? (Currently employed)**

A majority of respondents did not plan to stay at their current job or organization and nearly one-third said they plan to stay at their current job.

Table 16

Currently Employed Respondents' Responses to the Question: "What are your employment plans for the next six months?" (n = 37)

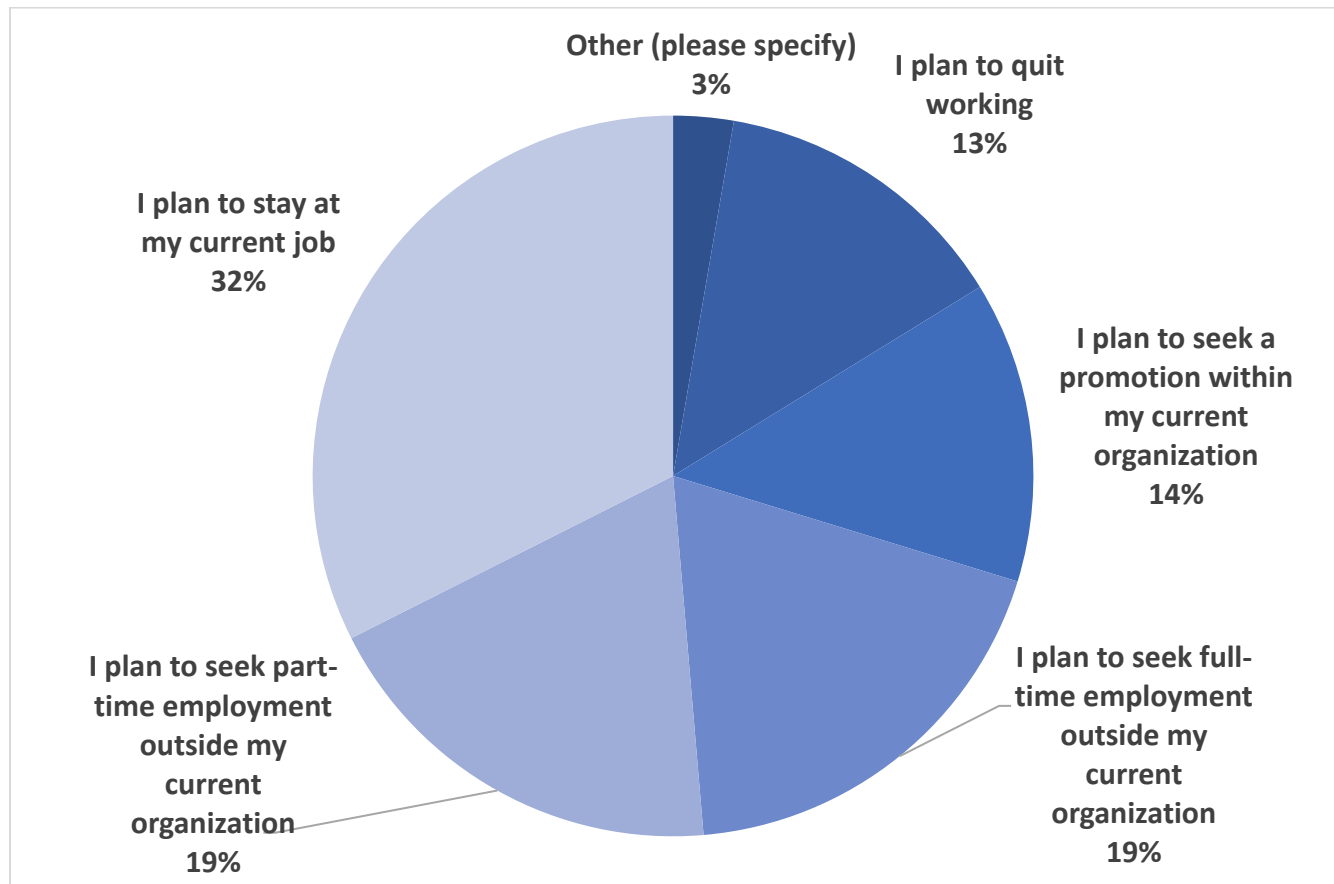
Answer choice	Count	%
I plan to stay at my current job	12	32%
I plan to seek a promotion within my current organization	5	14%
I plan to seek full-time employment outside my current organization	7	19%
I plan to seek part-time employment outside my current organization	7	19%
I plan to quit working	5	13%
Other*	1	3%
Total	37	100

Note. This question was shown only to respondents who said that they were currently employed in a previous question.

*Other included someone who is currently not working due to layoffs and will be seeking work within a month after completing the survey.

Figure 5

Employed Respondents' Employment Plans for the Next Six Months (n = 37)



Question 17: What are your education plans for the next six months?

70% of the respondents planned to transfer to a 4-year university and 19% planned to continue their education at a community college at a college, including Miramar College.

Table 17

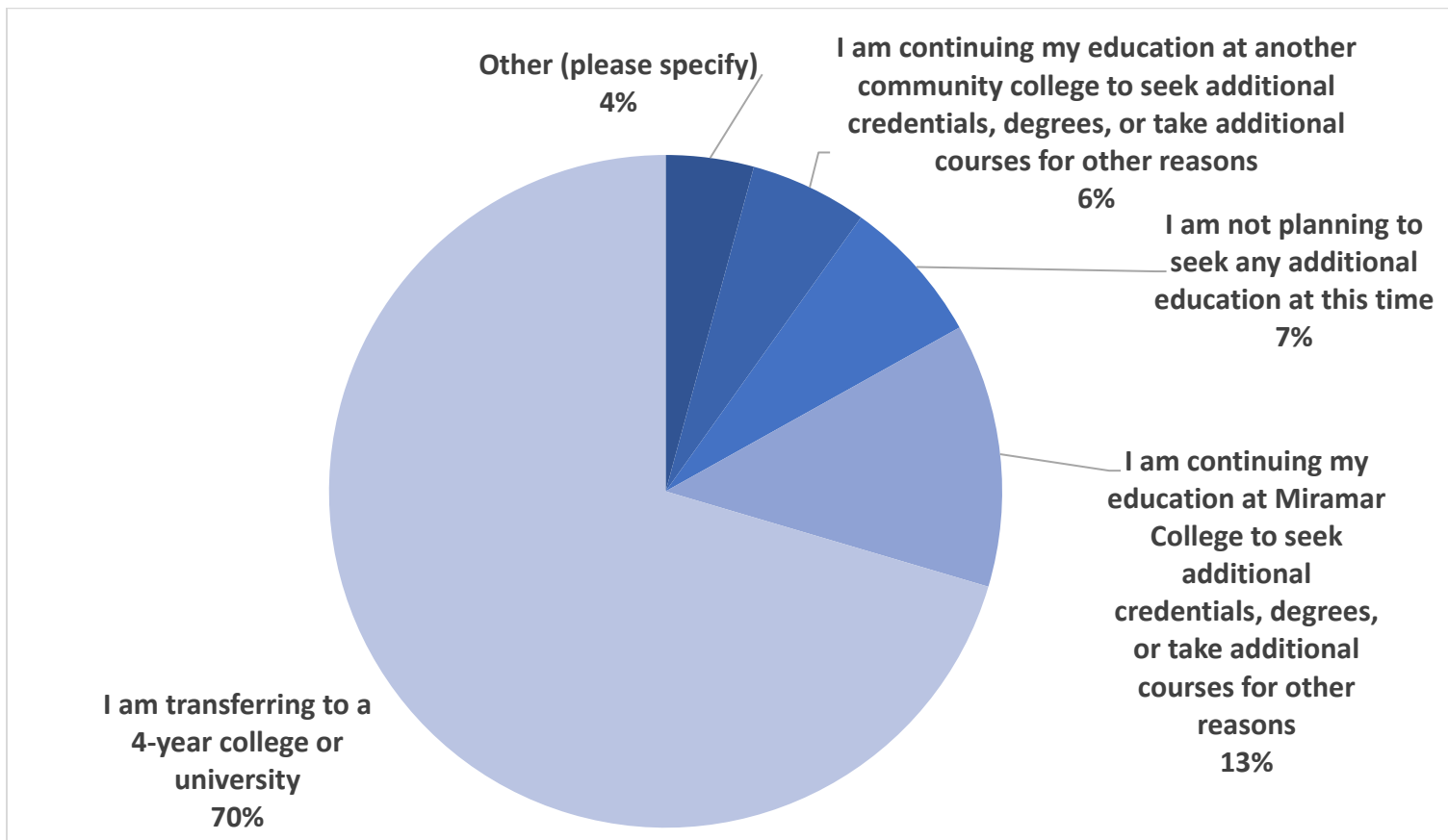
Responses to the Question: "What are your education plans for the next six months?" (n = 71)

Answer choice	Count	%
I am transferring to a 4-year college or university	50	70%
I am not planning to seek any additional education at this time	5	7%
I am continuing my education at Miramar College to seek additional credentials, degrees, or take additional courses for other reasons	9	13%
I am continuing my education at another community college to seek additional credentials, degrees, or take additional courses for other reasons	4	6%
Other*	3	4%
Total	71	100%

*Other category includes "Stated they were only graduating", "One aims to take the MLT exam to bridge to CLS", "Considering book keeper certification."

Figure 6

Respondents' Education Plans for the Next Six Months (n = 71)



Question 26: Which of the following supports and services would be helpful to you as a graduate of Miramar College?

62% of the respondents said they would find alumni networking opportunities helpful, and 57% of the respondents are interested to come back to campus to attend career fairs and other career-related events. 28% would be interested in an alumni newsletter.

Table 18

Responses to the Question: “Which of the following supports and services would be helpful to you as a graduate of Miramar College?” (n = 68)

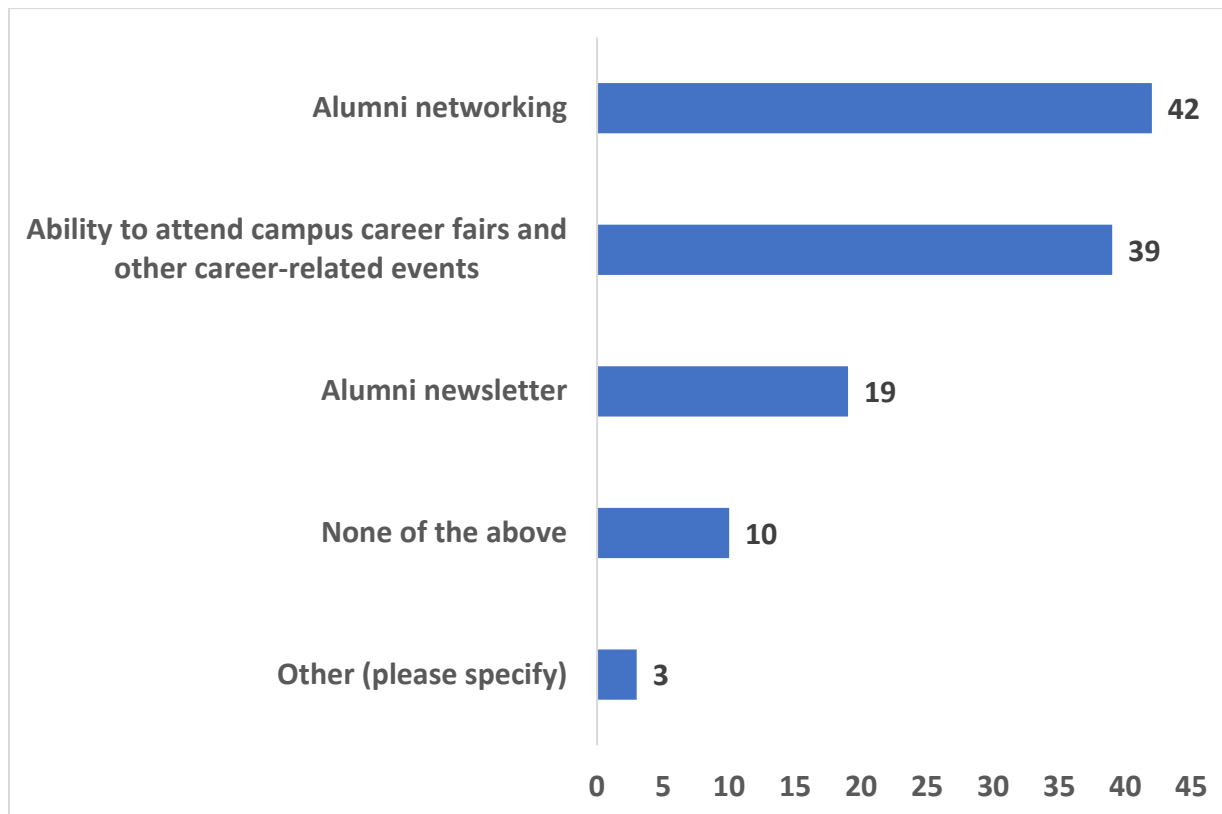
Answer choice	Count	%
Alumni networking	42	62%
Ability to attend campus career fairs and other career-related events	39	57%
Alumni newsletter	19	28%
None of the above	10	15%
Other* (please specify)	3	4%

Note. Some respondents provided more than one answer choice.

*Other responses were not clarified in great detail to provide additional information; i.e. it displays “NA” or they were left blank.

Figure 7

Respondents’ interest in post-graduation supports and services (n = 68)



Question 27: What types of alumni events would you be most likely to attend?

75% of the respondents said they would like to attend Career Fairs and Other Career-Related Activities, 65% would like Skill Development or Certification Courses, and 57% are interested in Networking Events.

Table 19

Responses to the Question: "What types of alumni events would you be most likely to attend?" (n = 68)

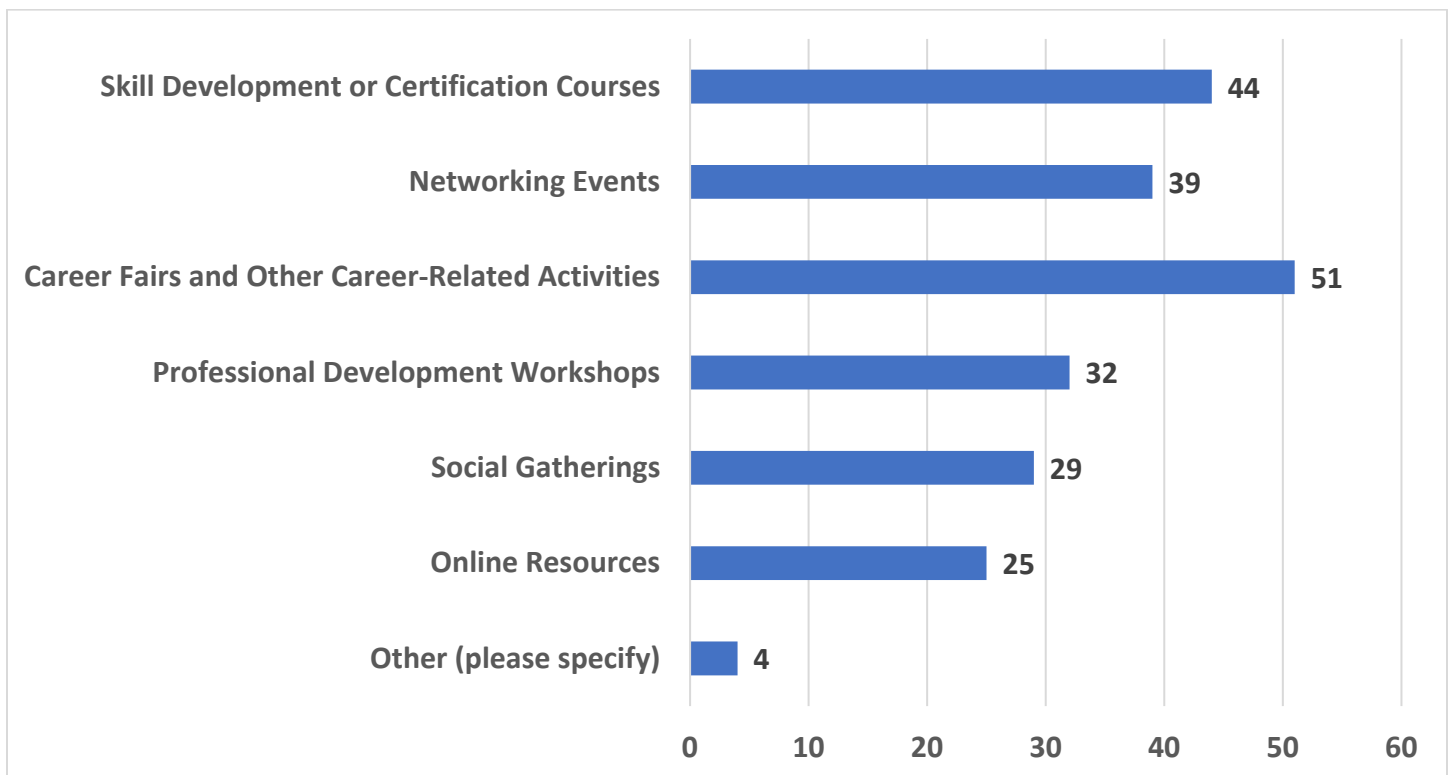
Answer choice	Count	%
Professional Development Workshops	32	47%
Networking Events	39	57%
Social Gatherings	29	43%
Career Fairs and Other Career-Related Activities	51	75%
Skill Development or Certification Courses	44	65%
Online Resources	25	37%
Other*	4	6%

Note. Some respondents provided more than one answer choice.

Other* "Ability to pick up associates". No other details were provided in the other category, indicating that answers were potentially left blank.

Figure 8

Respondents' interest in alumni events (n = 68)



Question 28: What alumni perks or benefits would encourage you to stay engaged?

Among respondents, the perks or benefits that generated the most interest were Job Placement Assistance (63%), Job Access to the Library (57%), and Career Counseling (53%).

Table 20

Responses to the Question: “What alumni perks or benefits would encourage you to stay engaged?” (n = 68)

Answer choice	Count	%
Career Counseling	36	53%
Transfer Services	26	38%
Cover Letter & Resume Support	34	50%
Job Placement Assistance	43	63%
Veterans Office Support	6	9%
Access to the Library	39	57%
Discounts at the Bookstore, Cafeteria, or Sports Facilities at Miramar	35	52%
Other*	2	3%

Note. Some respondents provided more than one answer choice.

*Other responses were not clarified in great detail to provide additional information; i.e. it displays “NA” or they were left blank.

Figure 9

Respondents’ interest in alumni perks and benefits (n = 68)

