Alumni Survey

The University of Northern Colorado's alumni survey is conducted by the Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness. The survey was traditionally conducted annually approximately 12-18 months after students graduated from UNC. Beginning in 2017, a few items were added to the survey instrument and data collection was shifted to a biannual schedule in an effort to align our survey with national trends and best practices outlined by the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE). Aligning our standards and practices with NACE enables UNC to compare our outcomes to national benchmarking data as well as peer institutions.

Starting with the 2016-2017 cohort, alumni outcomes data was sought approximately 6 months after students graduated from UNC. Individuals who graduated in the summer and fall semesters were contacted in May/June and individuals who graduated in the spring semester were contacted in Nov/Dec. Additionally, our definition of the term "placement" was changed to align with NACE's standards. Previously, UNC defined placement as having obtained full-time employment or being enrolled in a full-time educational program. Starting with the 2016-2017 cohort, placement is defined as having obtained any employment, educational, or service position.

Response rates for the alumni survey vary by program and level, but typically approximately 30% of alumni who are contacted complete the survey. Primary outcomes assessed and reported from the alumni survey include:

- **Employment** (e.g., salary, time to employment, whether UNC adequately prepared them for employment).
- **Further educational pursuits** (e.g., enrollment in graduate or other educational programs, whether UNC adequately prepared them for graduate school).
- **Satisfaction** (e.g., UNC education, career activity, career services support).

Please note program-specific questions required for accreditation can be added to the survey. Please contact Allison Grant (Allison.Grant@unco.edu or 351-4022) to discuss this possibility.