Graduate Follow-up Project for 2011 – 2012 Graduates

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The purpose of the graduate follow-up project for the third year was to systematically track the 2011-2012 graduates to determine their employment or continuing education status. The extensive progress developed and documented in 2009-2010, was again used with the addition of Constant Contact (an email marketing program) being used to contact graduates.

A database was created using three sources:

1. A follow-up survey to graduates.
2. The National Student Clearinghouse (NSC) for continuing education data from August – December 2012.
3. VEC/VCCS data based on 2012, 4th quarter employment status

Employment Rates

After all results were compiled, data on 84% of graduates were obtained (463 out of 550). Overall, 80% of MECC's graduates were found to be employed and/or continuing their education. Of the 84% located, 95% were found to be employed and/or continuing their education. Tables 1 and 2 show the status of graduates.

Table 1. Overall, 80% of MECC graduates were found to be employed and/or continuing their education.

Employment & Continuing Education	**# grads**	**% grads**
Employed	234	43%
Employed & Continuing Education	134	24%
Continuing Education	70	13%
Subtotal Employed & Continuing Education	438	80%
Not Continuing Education & Unemployed	25	4%
Unknown	87	16%
Total	550	100%

Table 2. Of the 84% located graduates, 95% were found to be employed and/or continuing their education.

Employment & Continuing Education for Located Graduates	**# grads**	**% grads**
Employed	234	51%
Employed & Continuing Education	134	29%
Continuing Education	70	15%
Subtotal Employed & Continuing Education	438	95%
Not Continuing Education & Unemployed	25	5%
Total	463	100%

Follow-up Survey

If only the VEC and NSC data were used to determine MECC's graduates' employment and continuing education, then 71% of 11-12 graduates would be listed as employed and/or continuing their education (388 out of 550). The MECC follow-up survey was an important adjunct to the database, and more importantly the survey provided more extensive data for 207 of the graduates than that obtained through the VEC and NSC sources. However, as shown in Table 3, the survey results require more extensive time to obtain since the most successful follow-up method is to contact graduates by phone.

Table 3. Process and sources to obtain employment and continuing education status of graduates.

#	%	Graduates Located
138	25%	by email
55	10%	by phone
16	3%	by faculty
209	38%	Subtotal by survey contact methods
134	24%	by VEC
76	14%	by NSC & VEC
44	8%	by NSC
463	84%	Total all located graduates

The results of the survey are based on the 209 graduates who completed the survey. Overall, 75% of MECC's graduates are working (49% full-time and 26% part-time). Sixty-nine percent are working in Virginia; 23% are working in Tennessee. Fifty-seven percent of all employed graduates are working in their field of study. Sixty-eight percent rated the education provided by MECC for their current job as excellent or very good.

Forty percent of graduates are continuing their education; 76% rated the preparation MECC provided to continue their education as excellent or very good; 85% found it very easy to transfer their credits to another college or university.

Appendix B provides the detailed results of the survey.

Appendix B. 2011-12 Graduate Follow-up Survey Results

(Results on based on the completed 38% (207) completed surveys.)

Method of survey: 0% mail 25% email 10% phone 3% faculty

1. What is your employment status? (209)

49% Full-time (working 40 or more hours)

26% Part-time (working less than 40 hours)

15% Unemployed, but still job hunting

10% Unemployed and no longer job hunting

If you are working part-time, would you prefer a full-time job? (55) 55% No 42% Yes 3% Unanswered

Is your job related to the certificate or degree you received from MECC? (158) 43% No 56% Yes 1% N/A

Did you find the information provided by Career Services (i.e. job fairs, job postings, etc) helpful in your job search? (209)
43% No 34% Yes 23% N/A Comments on Career Services: For those who answered No or N/A, 14% (22 out of 162) made the comment of either already had a job or never used Career Services.

2. If working, what is your job title? See Appendix B.1

Who is your employer? (Name of Company) See Appendix B.1

Where is your job located? (City/Town, State Location by state listed below, for additional data See Appendix B.1 (158)

69% Virginia 23% Tennessee 3% Kentucky 2% Declined to answer 3% Other States

Overall, would you say the education and training MECC provided for your current job was (158)

33% Excellent

35% Very good

11% Adequate

4% Poor

17% N/A (working outside field of study or unanswered)

3. Are you currently enrolled at a college or university? (209)

40% Yes 60% No

If you are enrolled at a college or university, is your enrollment (84)

67% Full-time (12+ credits) 25% Part-time 8% Declined to Answer

At which college/university are you enrolled? See Appendix B.2

If you are at a college other than MECC, how was the transfer of your MECC credits? (40)

85% Very easy 10% Somewhat easy 3% Somewhat difficult 2% Very difficult

If anything other than very easy, what problems did you have? (6)

Overall, how was the preparation MECC provided for you to continue your education? (84)

41% Excellent 35% Very good 8% Adequate 2% Poor 14% No answer

In comparing the overall findings from 2010-2011 versus 2011-2012:

	'10-11	'10-11	'10-11	'10-11	'11-12	'11-12	'11-12	'11-12
Employment & Continuing Education	**# Total grads**	**% Total grads**	**# Located grads**	**% Located grads**	**# Total grads**	**% Total grads**	**# Located grads**	**% Located grads**
Employed	193	36%	193	45%	234	43%	234	51%
Employed & Cont. Ed.	149	28%	149	34%	134	24%	134	29%
Cont. Ed	72	14%	72	16%	70	13%	70	15%
subtotal employed & cont. ed.	**414**	**78%**	**414**	**95%**	**438**	**80%**	**438**	**95%**
Not Cont. Ed & unemployed	23	4%	23	5%	25	4%	25	5%
Unknown	94	18%			88	16%		
Total	**531**	**100%**	**437**	**100%**	**550**	**100%**	**463**	**100%**

Of the total graduates: There was a 2 point increase in the number of graduates that were working/continuing education in 2011-12. There was a slightly lower rate (16% vs. 18%) of graduates in 2011-12 that couldn't be reached or choose not to respond through the most recent contact information on file.

Of the located graduates: Ninety-five percent of the located graduates were found to be working and/or continuing their education in both years. Overall, there was a 6 point decrease in the number of students continuing their education from 2010-11 to 2011-12.

Of the completed surveys: In 2011-12, 207 graduates completed surveys compared to 299 completed surveys in 2010-11. In 2011-11, fewer graduates reported working in their field of study (56% vs. 60%). The number of full-time, employed graduates increases 6 points with part-time employment decreasing 4 points. Overall, there was an increase of 2 points for graduates working in Tennessee, a 1 point increase for graduates working in Kentucky, and a decrease of 6 points for graduates working in Virginia.

The biggest continuing challenge is reaching the graduates. Five percent of the graduates in 2011-12, did not have a current phone number or email address. This was up 5 points from the 2010-11 graduates.

The VEC data provided additional employment data for 210 graduates in 2011-12 versus 118 graduates in 2010-11.

Appendix B.1 Job title, Employer name, and Location for 2011-2012 Graduate Follow-up Report (158)

1st Plan Description	Job Title	Employer Name	Employer Location
Accounting	Logistics Specialist	Alliance Imaging	Big Stone Gap Va
ADJ-Law Enforcement Option	Produce Helper	Food City	Pennington Gap, VA
Admin Support Tech	Surgical Services Financial Coordinator	Wellmont Holston Valley Hospital	Kingsport, TN
Air Cond Refrigeration	Industrial Maintenance Facilities Tech	Thompson Industrial	North Charleston, SC
Air Condition & Refrigeration	works in store	GMM McConnell	Gate City, VA
Business Administration	Administrative Assistant/Records Clerk	APD Town of Appalachia	Appalachia, VA
Child Development	Office Services Specialist	Virginia Department of Health	Gate City, VA
Clerical Assistant	Administrative Office Specialist	MECC	Big Stone Gap
Comp-Aided Drafting/Design	Farmer	Self-employed multiple farms	Stickleyville (Duffield), VA
Comp-Aided Drafting/Design	Head Engineer	Allegiance Ammunition	Clintwood, VA
Comp-Aided Drafting/Design	Journeyman/Electrician	Norfolk Southern	Bluefield, WV
Comp-Aided Drafting/Design	Lidar Tech	Tuck Mapping Solutions	Big Stone Gap, VA
Comp-Aided Drafting/Design	Lidar Technician	Tuck Engineering	Big Stone Gap, VA
Computer Networking	Clinical Application Analyst	Wellmont Health System	Kingsport, TN
Computer Networking	It analyst / data systems coordinator	TeleMed and the health wagon	Wise va
Computer Networking	IT Specialist	Luna Innovations	Blacksburg, VA
Computer Networking	Manager	David Crusenberry	Pennington Gap VA
Computer Networking	Networking	Pikeville Medical Center	Pikeville, KY
Computer Networking	Self-employed	Self-employed	Virginia
Computer Networking	Website Design	MECC	Big Stone Gap, VA
Computer Software Spec.	Member Service Representative	Sykes	Wise, VA
Corrections Mgmt & Supervision	Lt-Corrections Officer	Southwest Regional Jail	Abingdon, VA
Corrections Mgmt & Supervision	Shift Commander	Southwest Virginia Regional Jail	Haysi,Va
Corrections Science	corrections officer	Federal Prison	Jonesville, VA
Emer Med Tech Intermediate	Deputy Sheriff	Scott County Sheriff's Office	Gate City, VA
Energy Tech-HVAC	President/ Sales	Hce Systems inc.	Norton, Va.
Environmental Science	corrections officer	Virginia Department of Corrections	Bigstone Gap,VA
Environmental Science	Corrections Officer	Duffield Regional Jail	Duffield, VA
Environmental Science	Unknown	NANOQUANTICS, INC.	Virginia
General Education	Friday assistant/substitute	Scott county head start	gate city, VA
General Education	Teacher's Assistant	Kid's Central Inc.	Big Stone Gap, VA
General Education	Unknown	VIRGINIA CVS PHARMACY LLC	Unknown
General Studies	Cashier	Food City	Pennington Gap. VA
General Studies	Cashier	E & S Grocery	Haysi,VA
General Studies	Cashier/stock	DSY partners	Norton, Va
General Studies	Customer Service	Dial America	Johnson City, Tn
General Studies	Delivery Driver	Pizza Plus	Big Stone Gap, VA
General Studies	Digital Entertainment Installer/Security	Scott County Telephone Coop.	Gate City, VA
General Studies	Service Technician	Walmart	Jonesville, VA
General Studies	substitute teacher	Lee County Schools	Jonesville, VA
Graphic Design	Associate	Wal-Mart	Bristol, TN
Health Sciences	Airforce	US Airforce	Italy
Health Sciences	Cashier	Mutual Drug	Big Stone Gap, VA
Health Sciences	Cashier	Food City	Clintwood, VA
Health Sciences	CNA & Med Tech	Kingston	Duffield, VA
Health Sciences	LPN	Wellmont	Norton, VA
Health Sciences	Lpn	Stone mountain health	St charles va
Health Sciences	Paralegal	Jim Williams & Associates	Kingsport, TN
Health Sciences	Pharmacy Tech	Wildcat Pharmacy	Pound, VA
Health Sciences	Pharmacy Technician	Village Pharmacy	Duffield, Va
Health Sciences	Private Duty Nurse	Private Individual	Nicklesville, VA
Health Sciences	rehab tech	Cornerstone Therapy Svs	Pennington Gap, VA
Health Sciences	Sales Associate	Advance Auto	Gate City, VA
Health Sciences	Surgery Secretary/PCT	Holston Valley Hospital	Kingsport, TN
Health Sciences	Teller/member services	Eastman Credit Union	Johnson City Tn.
Health Sciences	Waitress/Cook	Pizza Plus	Pennington Gap, VA
Industrial Supervision	Driller	Highlands Drilling llc.	Various - Appalachian Basin
Information Tech Readiness	Account Executive	Total Home Health and Hospice	Big Stone Gap Va
Information Tech Readiness	Public Service Representative	SERCO	Clintwood, VA
Information Tech Readiness	R.A,	Dickenson County Behavioral Health	Clintwood, VA
Law Enforce Mgmt & Supervision	Captain	Washington Co Sheriff's Dept.	Warrenton, VA
Law Enforce Mgmt & Supervision	Lieutenant	Damascus Police Department	Damascus Virginia
LPN	Cleaning Services	Brock Services	Kingsport, TN
LPN	CNA	Asbury Place	Kingsport Tn

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LPN	LPN	Holston Medical Group	Kingsport, TN
LPN	LPN	Private Doctor's office	South Carolina
LPN	LPN	Wallens Ridge State Prison	Big Stone Gap, VA
LPN	LPN	PHYSICIAN PROFESSIONAL SERV LL	Norton, VA
LPN	lpn	heritage hall	wise va
LPN	LPN	Ridgecrest Manor	Duffield Va
LPN	LPN	Heritage Hall Healthcare	Wise,VA
LPN	LPN	MSHA	JC/Kpt
LPN	Sales Associate	Walmart	Jonesville, VA
LPN	Waitress	Huddle House	Wise, VA
Management	assistant manager	Waffle House	Kingsport, TN
Management	court reporter	roundtable	norton, va
Management	Sales Associate	Wal-Mart	Wise, VA.
Manufacturing Technology	Trades Tech	MECC	Big Stone Gap, VA
Med. Office Coding & Proc.	Coding Practice Specialist	highlands physicians, Inc	Kingsport tn
Med. Office Coding & Proc.	CSR Customer Service Representative	Sykes Enterprises	Wise, VA
Med. Office Coding & Proc.	Customer Service Manager	Ingles	Norton, VA
Med. Office Coding & Proc.	Head Cake Decorator	Food City	BIg Stone Gap, VA
Med. Office Coding & Proc.	Patient Account Representative	Mountain States Health Alliance	Johnson City, TN
Medical Office Support	Medical Office Assistant	Mountain Region Home Health	Coeburn, VA
Medical Office Support	Medical Records/Central Suppiles	Lee Health and Rehab Center	Pennington Gap, Virginia
Medical Office Support	Patient services assistant	University of Michigan Hospital	Ann Arbor, MI
Medical Office Support	RESIDENCY PROGRAM SECRETARY	MSHA	NOTON, VA
Medical Records Tech	Admissions and Financial Aid clerk	Appalachian College of Pharmacy	Oakwood Virginia
Medical Records Tech	Billing Clerk	Awan Opthamology Clinic	Norton, VA
Medical Records Tech	Billing Office Manager	HealthCare Management Systems	Grundy, VA
Medical Records Tech	Coding/Billing Specialist	Family Health Care Associates	Lebanon, VA
Medical Records Tech	CSR	SYKES	Wise, Va
Medical Records Tech	Financial Counselor	Wellmont Southwest VA Cancer Center	Norton, VA
Medical Records Tech	Healthcare Aid Provider	PPL	Gate City, VA
Medical Records Tech	Library Assistant	Lonesome Pine Regional Library	Clintwood
Medical Records Tech	Medical Records Technician	ECS, Inc.	Phoenix, Arizona
Medical Records Tech	Office Cashier	PayLess Supermarket Inc.	Wise,Va
Medical Records Tech	Office Service Specialist	Wise County Health Department	Wise,Virginia
Medical Records Tech	REGISTRATION CLERK	MSHA	NORTON VA
Medical Transcriptionist	Data Entry Clerk	Abrams Technical Services	Coeburn, Virginia
Nursing	ER Nurse	Mountain View Regional	Norton, VA
Nursing	Fligh Paramedic/RN	JCMC Cardiac ICU/Wings Air Rescue	Johnson City, TN
Nursing	nurse	school system	scott county
Nursing	RN	Intrepid USA	Big Stone Gap, VA
Nursing	RN	wellmont holston valley	kingsport tn
Nursing	RN	Pikeville Medical Center	Pikeville, KY
Nursing	RN	Mt. View Regional Medical Center	Norton, Va
Nursing	RN	Indian Path Medical Center	Kingsport, TN
Nursing	RN	Holston Valley-Critical Care	Kingsport, TN
Nursing	RN	Indian Path	Kingsport, TN
Nursing	RN	Wallens Ridge State Prison	Big Stone Gap, VA
Nursing	RN	Wellmont Lonesome Pine Hospital	Big Stone Gap, Va
Nursing	RN	Lonesome Pine Hospital	Big Stone Gap, VA
Nursing	RN	Holston Medical Group	Church Hill/Kingsport, TN
Nursing	RN	Indian Path-Mountain States Health	Kingsport, TN
Nursing	RN	Holston Medical Group	kingsport, tn
Nursing	RN	Holston Valley	Kingsport, TN
Nursing Assistant	CNA	Mountain Region in Home Health	Duffield Va
Paralegal Studies	Bakery/Deli Associate	Food City	Lebanon, VA
Paralegal Studies	Data imaging analyst	Wise County Circuit Court	Wise, VA
Paralegal Studies	Legal Assistant	Wilson Worley PC	Kingsport, TN
Paralegal Studies	Paralegal	Leonard D. Rogers, P.C.	Wise, Virginia
Pharmacy Aide	General Sales/Retail	Dollar General	Pennington Gap, VA
Pharmacy Aide	Security Guard	A&A ent.	Wise, VA
Pharmacy Aide	Stocker	Walmart	Norton, Va
Phlebotomy	Crew Trainer	McDonalds	Duffield, Va 24244
Phlebotomy	Phlebotomist	Wellmont-Mountain View	Norton, VA
Phlebotomy	Secretary	Bailey and associates	Kingsport Tennessee

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Phlebotomy	Unknown	GPM INVESTMENTS LLC	Virginia
Police Science	Assistant Manager	Murphy USA	West Stone Dr. Kingsport Tn.
Police Science	Bagged/cashier	Food city	Weber city, virginia
Police Science	Contractor (for family business)	B&B Construction	Norton, VA
Police Science	Security	Fort Henry Mall	Kinsport, TN
Pre-Teacher Education	shift manager	cvs pharmacy	big stone gap virginia
Pre-Teacher Education	Veterinary Assistant	Lee County Animal Hospital	Jonesville, VA
Respiratory Therapy	PRN	Holston Valley	Kingsport, TN
Respiratory Therapy	registered respiratory therapist	holston valley medical center	kingsport, tn
Respiratory Therapy	Respiratory therapist	Pikeville Hospital	Pikeville, KY
Respiratory Therapy	Respiratory therapist	Pikeville Hospital/Wexford House	Pikeville, KY/Kingsport, TN
Respiratory Therapy	Respiratory therapist	JCMC/Indian Path	Johnson City, TN/Kingsport, TN
Respiratory Therapy	Respiratory therapist	Select Specialty	Bristol, TN
Respiratory Therapy	Respiratory therapist	Greystone Healthcare	Bountville, TN
Respiratory Therapy	Respiratory therapist	Johnson City Medical Center	Johnson City, TN
Respiratory Therapy	Respiratory therapist	Wexford House	Kingsport, TN
Respiratory Therapy	Respiratory therapist	Holston Valley	Kingsport, TN
Respiratory Therapy	Respiratory therapist	Lincare	Weber City, VA
Respiratory Therapy	Respiratory therapist	Holston Valley Medical Center	Kingsport, TN
Science	Administrative Assistant	Wise County Public Schools	Wise, VA
Science	Retail worker	Ross	Kingsport, TN
Software Dev I	IT Specialist	Regional Adult Education	Gate City, VA
Tech Studies-Electrical	Assistant Professor	Mountain Empire Community College	Big Stone Gap, VA
Water Plant Operator	Water Plant Operater	Richmond Water Plant	Richmond Va
Water/Wastewater	Assistant plant manager	Chesterfield county	Chesterfield county va
Water/Wastewater	Superintendent I	City of Richmond (DPU)	Richmond, Virginia
Water/Wastewater	Utility Operator	City of Richmond	Richmond VA
Water/Wastewater	Utility Plant Superintendent II	City of Richmond	Richmond Va
Water/Wastewater	Water distribution operator	Western Va Water Authority	Roanoke, Va
Water/Wastewater	Water Plant Operator	Town of Appalachia	Appalachia, VA

Appendix B.2 College or University for 2011-2012 Graduates Continuing Education (83)

At which college/university are you enrolled?	Total by College/University
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY Total	1
CHANCELLOR UNIVERSITY Total	1
EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY Total	4
KENDALL COLLEGE Total	1
KING COLLEGE Total	7
LINDSEY WILSON COLLEGE Total	1
MOUNTAIN EMPIRE COMMUNITY COLLEGE Total	46
OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY Total	2
SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE Total	1
UNIVERSITY OF VA'S COLLEGE AT WISE Total	16
VIRGINIA POLYTECH AND STATE UNIV Total	2
VIRGINIA WESTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE Total	1
WESTERN GOVERNORS UNIVERSITY Total	1
Grand Total	84