

“Year Out” Survey

In gathering data for the annual Educator Preparation Institution (EPI) Performance Score Report, the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) seeks to collect information about the satisfaction that recent EPI graduates have regarding their preparation as teachers.

This information provides perception data that indicates how teachers feel about the quality of the teacher preparation programs delivered by each of Michigan’s EPIs. This data will be combined with the data gathered from the Teacher Candidate and Candidate Supervisor surveys, as a further measure of graduate satisfaction with the quality of their preparation

This is collected, in part, to mitigate the effect that the recency of the exit from the program might have on the teacher candidate’s perceptions by asking a similar battery of questions after teaching experience has been gained; or, in other words, to remove the “halo effect” from the perceptions that recent program graduates have about the quality of their preparation.

In that year, the person who graduated from a preparation program and now holds a teaching certificate may have gotten a job, or has not held a teaching job. The survey has been structured so that recent graduates of teacher preparation programs that were not employed between the time of graduation and the survey collection window can still respond to questions regarding job readiness and experiences in pursuing employment.

It is possible that factors may be attributed to the teacher’s preparation, or to the support the teaching program provided in aiding job readiness and placement, or both. As a result, information about the graduate’s perceptions of these factors is collected to review whether the graduates feel the preparation at their EPI had a measurable effect on a graduate’s ability to obtain employment in his/her area(s) of endorsement.

Thus, the Year Out Survey has two purposes:

1. For all respondents, to measure the graduate’s perception regarding how well the education program prepared him or her for the job search, as well as job readiness for teaching; and
2. For respondents having been employed for all or part of the 2013-2014 academic year, to measure how the graduate perceives the preparation received from the EPI that recommended them for certification, given a period of job experience during the 2013-2014 academic year.

A respondent pool was generated following these business rules:

- Use a query generated from current MOECS data
- Include only teachers recommended at Michigan EPIs for initial provisional or initial occupational cert
- Include only teachers with an initial certification recommendation date from December 1, 2012 to December 30, 2013
- Include only teachers with an e-mail listed in MOECS data
- Can be teachers who are currently employed or not employed, during this academic year or the 2013-2014 year, in any setting