Background
This survey is part of a multi-year project exploring the integration of curricular and co-curricular activities. A cohort of undergraduate students is participating in the project throughout the 2005-2006 school year.

The purpose of this study was to benchmark Texas A&M students’ employment history and their opinions about work.

638 out of 741 participants completed the Work History survey for an 86% response rate.

Results
Did you work for pay during high school (not including summers)?
• 59% said yes

During each academic year in your college career, please indicate if you work or worked for pay.
• 19% of freshmen were working this year
• 37% of sophomores were working this year
• 65% of juniors were working this year
• 75% of seniors were working this year

If not currently employed, when was the last time you were employed?
• 92% had been employed before
• 8% said they had never been employed

If not currently employed, how likely is it that you will work at some point in your time as a student at A&M?
• 51% said it was very likely

If not currently employed, why do you not currently work?
• 72% wanted to focus on academics

Have you ever had a co-op or internship related to your major while a student at A&M?
• 15% had a co-op or internship

If did not have a co-op or internship, do you plan on pursuing a co-op or internship related to your major while a student at A&M?
• 66% said yes

What percent of the total cost of attending Texas A&M do you pay yourself (tuition and fees, housing, food, etc.)? [Please exclude financial aid, scholarships, or family contributions.]
• 73% paid between 0-25% of their expenses

In how many student organizations are you currently involved at Texas A&M?
• 73% of those who worked were involved in at least one student organization
• 82% of those who did not work were involved in at least one student organization

Please indicate your agreement with the following statements:
• Working provides skills students can apply in their future careers
  o 96% agreed or strongly agreed
• Working improves the ability to work effectively in a diverse environment
  o 93% agreed or strongly agreed
• Working improves communication skills
  o 92% agreed or strongly agreed
• Working provides skills students can apply in their academics.
  o 82% agreed or strongly agreed
• Working improves the ability to think critically
  o 77% agreed or strongly agreed
• Working interferes with academic performance
  o 56% agreed or strongly agreed

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For a complete report, please visit the Student Life Studies web page.