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**ABSTRACT**

This study summarizes responses to a questionnaire sent to graduates of the Educational Aide program, an off-campus program conducted by Los Angeles City College (LACC). The Educational Aide program was designed to upgrade skills and knowledge for individuals employed to assist teachers in the classroom, on the playground, and in several administrative offices of the Los Angeles Unified School District. Questionnaires were returned by 81 graduates, 33 percent of the total of 246 mailed. Over 90 percent of the respondents were women, over 90 percent were married or had been married, over half were over 40 years of age, nearly 80 percent were black, and two-thirds had transferred to a four-year college, with the remaining third currently employed as Education Aide K-12. Graduates were highly complimentary of their LACC experience. Nearly 90 percent of those responding indicated that their LACC courses prepared them for upper division work and that their A.A. degree work increased their skills as a teacher aide. The respondents also indicated that the opportunities provided for off-campus learning were important. Two-thirds indicated they would not have attended LACC had the classes not been provided off-campus, and over half claimed they would not have furthered their education. (Author/AH)

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LOS ANGELES CITY COLLEGE

"FOLLOW-UP STUDY OF EDUCATIONAL AIDES GRADUATES 1971-1974"

Research Study #75-4

Ben K. Gold  
Research Office  
February, 1975

JC 750 131

## **"FOLLOW-UP STUDY OF EDUCATIONAL AIDES GRADUATES 1971-1974"**

### **PURPOSE OF THE STUDY**

In cooperation with the Los Angeles Unified School District, Los Angeles City College inaugurated in 1970 a program to upgrade skills and knowledge for individuals employed (under a 1968 Education Code addition) to assist teachers in the classroom, on the playground, and in several Administrative Offices of the Unified District. The program began with nine classes offered from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. at various Junior High Schools throughout the city.

Since 1970, the program has been developed into an A.A. degree curriculum, with graduates being designated as Educational Aides.

This study, performed at the request of Miss Caquese Chaffin, Coordinator of the Program, attempts to assess the value of the program to its graduates by means of a follow-up questionnaire.

### **PROCEDURE OF THE STUDY**

The questionnaires used in the study were prepared and mailed to 246 graduates of the program from 1971 through 1974 by Miss Chaffin. After a deadline date for return of the questionnaires, the Research Office was asked to assist in tallying and analyzing the completed questionnaires.

### **FINDINGS**

Questionnaires were returned by 81 Educational Aide graduates, 33% of the number mailed. The following tables summarize the responses.

TABLE 1 - Sex

Sex	No.	%*
Male	5	6
Female	<u>76</u>	<u>94</u>
Total	81	100

\*Percents figured on basis of 81 respondents.

TABLE 2 - Marital Status

Marital Status	No.	%
Married	51	63
Single	5	6
Separated/Divorced	15	19
Widowed	<u>9</u>	<u>11</u>
Total	80	99

TABLE 3 - Age

Age	No.	%
18-24	2	2
25-34	16	20
35-44	35	43
45	<u>26</u>	<u>32</u>
Total	79	98

Median Age = 41

TABLE 4 - Ethnic Background

<u>Ethnic Background</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>%</u>
Black/Negro	64	79
Spanish surname	9	11
Caucasian	2	2
Oriental	1	1
Other non-white	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
Total	78	96

TABLE 5 - Mode of Transportation

<u>Mode of Transportation</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>%</u>
Own car	58	72
RTD	9	11
Ride with others	<u>12</u>	<u>15</u>
Total	79	98

TABLE 6 - What level have you reached successfully in your L.A.C.C. curriculum?

<u>Level</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>%</u>
one semester	0	0
two or more	4	5
sixty units	27	33
CSU or other college	<u>50</u>	<u>62</u>
Total	81	100

**TABLE 7 - If you have transferred to a four year college,****(a) Name of college**

<b>College</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>%</b>
CSULA	49	60
DSULA	3	4
MSULA	0	0
UCLA	0	0
USC	0	0
Pepperdine	0	0
Other	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>64</b>

**(b) What level have you reached successfully?**

<b>Level</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>%</b>
Junior	27	33
Senior	17	21
Practice Teaching	7	9
Teaching	6	7
Other Fields	3	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>74</b>

**(c) Do you feel the courses completed at LACC prepared you for upper division level?**

<b>Prepared</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>%</b>
Yes	71	88
No	4	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>93</b>

**TABLE 8** - If your answer is YES in 7c, please indicate those items that effected this outcome.

Items	No.	%
Courses offered	62	77
Instructional Level	35	43
Instructor/Student Relation	46	57
Counseling	44	54
Tutoring	15	19
	<u>202</u>	<u>249</u>
Total	202	249

**TABLE 9** - If your answer is NO in 7c, please indicate those items which effected this outcome.

Items	No.	%
Courses offered inadequate	1	1
Instructional Level below par	2	2
Instructor/Student relation poor	2	2
Counseling inadequate	3	4
	<u>8</u>	<u>10</u>
Total	8	10

**TABLE 10** - If you have earned an A.A. degree but have not transferred to a four year college, what is your present job position?

Present job	No.	%
Ed aide K-12	30	37
Ed aide children's center	0	0
P.S.A. aide	1	1
Counseling aide	1	1
other	6	7
	<u>38</u>	<u>47</u>
Total	38	47

**TABLE 11** - On a scale from least to most effective in results, indicate what the A.A. degree offered to you.

	Least		Most		Ave.
	1	2	1	2	
a. Helped me to improve in basic skills needed to perform as an aide.	0	8	31	36	3.37
b. Increased my skills as a teacher aide in providing learning activities for pupils	0	7	24	45	3.50
c. Improved my relationship with the teaching staff in my school.	8	8	21	38	3.19
d. Provide me with other employment opportunities.	8	6	17	37	3.22

**TABLE 12** - The L.A.C.C. staff member(s) who were most helpful to you were:

Staff Members	No.	%
Off-campus instructors	60	74
On-campus instructors	19	23
Off-campus counselors	31	38
On-campus counselors	17	21
Administration	9	11
Coordinators	57	70
Peer counselors	15	19
Other	7	9



**TABLE 13** - If classes were not provided off-campus would you have attended L.A.C.C.?

	No.	%
Yes	22	27
No	<u>54</u>	<u>67</u>
Total	76	94

**TABLE 14** - If classes were not provided off-campus would you have furthered your education?

	No.	%
Yes	34	42
No	<u>41</u>	<u>51</u>
Total	75	93

**TABLE 15** - Do you feel this educational program should be continued off-campus? .

	No.	%
Yes	74	91
No	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>
Total	77	95

## SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

This study summarizes responses to a questionnaire sent to graduates of the Educational Aide program. Questionnaires were returned by 81 graduates, 33% of the total of 246 mailed.

Analysis of the completed questionnaires reveals that over nine out of ten respondents are women, over nine out of ten are married or have been married, over half are over 40 years of age, nearly 80% are Black, and two thirds have transferred to a four year college (nearly all CSULA) with the remaining third currently employed as Education Aide K-12.

Graduates are highly complimentary to their L.A.C.C. experience. Nearly 90% of those responding indicated that their L.A.C.C. courses prepared them for upper division work and that their A.A. degree work increased their skills as a teacher aide.

The respondents also indicated that the opportunities provided for off-campus learning were important. Two thirds indicated they would not have attended L.A.C.C. had the classes not been provided off-campus, and over half claimed they would not have furthered their education.

About a fourth of the respondents offered written comments. Most were highly complimentary to the program, e.g., "am very grateful", "best thing that ever happened to me", "gave me incentive", "a grand and magnificent program", with several offering gratitude to the program coordinator. The only negative comments (by two respondents) were that "employers want a B.A. rather than an A.A.", and off-campus classes deprived the student of campus facilities such as the library.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIF.  
LOS ANGELES

MAR 14 1975

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INFORMATION

## Questionnaire

### For Graduates of Educational Aide LACC Off-Campus Program

Your help is needed in evaluating the Los Angeles City College program for Educational Aides off campus. Please consider each item carefully before answering. The numbers in parenthesis are for the computer only; pay no attention to them. Note, your name is not requested.

1. Sex: Male \_\_\_\_ (1) Female \_\_\_\_ (2)
2. Marital Status: Married \_\_\_\_ (1) Separated/Divorced \_\_\_\_ (3)  
Single \_\_\_\_ (2) Widowed \_\_\_\_ (4)
3. Age: 18-24 \_\_\_\_ (1) 35-44 \_\_\_\_ (3)  
25-34 \_\_\_\_ (2) 45 \_\_\_\_ (4)
4. Ethnic Background: Black/Negro \_\_\_\_ (1) Oriental \_\_\_\_ (4)  
Spanish Surname \_\_\_\_ (2) Other Non White \_\_\_\_ (5)  
Caucasian \_\_\_\_ (3)
5. Mode of Transportation: Own car \_\_\_\_ (1) Ride with others \_\_\_\_ (2)  
RTD \_\_\_\_ (3)
6. What level have you reached successfully in your LACC curricula? One semester \_\_\_\_ (1)  
Two or more \_\_\_\_ (2)  
Sixty units \_\_\_\_ (3)  
Cal State or other college \_\_\_\_ (4)
7. If you have transferred to a four-year college,
  - a. Name of college CSULA \_\_\_\_ (1) UCLA \_\_\_\_ (4)  
DSULA \_\_\_\_ (2) USC \_\_\_\_ (5)  
MSULA \_\_\_\_ (3) Pepperdine \_\_\_\_ (6)  
other \_\_\_\_ (7)
  - b. What level have you reached successfully? Junior \_\_\_\_ (1) Practice Teaching \_\_\_\_ (3)  
Senior \_\_\_\_ (2) Teaching \_\_\_\_ (4)  
other fields \_\_\_\_ (5)
  - c. Do you feel the courses completed at LACC prepared you for upper division level? Yes \_\_\_\_ (1) No \_\_\_\_ (2)
8. If your answer is YES in 7c, please indicate those items that effected this outcome.  
Courses offered \_\_\_\_ (1)  
Instructional Level \_\_\_\_ (2)  
Instructor/Student Relation \_\_\_\_ (3)  
Counseling \_\_\_\_ (4)  
Tutoring \_\_\_\_ (5)

If your answer is NO in 7c, please indicate those items which effected this outcome.

Courses offered inadequate \_\_\_\_\_(1)  
Instructional Level below par. \_\_\_\_\_(2)  
Instructor/Student relation poor \_\_\_\_\_(3)  
Counseling inadequate \_\_\_\_\_(4)

If you have earned an A.A. degree but have not transferred to a four year college, what is your present job position?

Ed aide K-12 \_\_\_\_\_(1)  
Ed aide children's center \_\_\_\_\_(2)  
P.S.A. aide \_\_\_\_\_(3)  
Counseling aide \_\_\_\_\_(4)  
other \_\_\_\_\_(5)

On a Scale from least to most effective in results, indicate what the A.A. degree offered to you.

	Least		Most	
	1	2	3	4
a. Helped me to improve in basic skills needed to perform as an aide.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Increased my skills as a teacher aide in providing learning activities for pupils.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Improved my relationship with the teaching staff in my school.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Provide me with other employment opportunities.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

The L.A.C.C. staff member(s) who were most helpful to you were:

Off-campus instructors _____(1)	Administration _____(5)
On-Campus instructors _____(2)	Coordinators _____(6)
Off-campus counselors _____(3)	Peer counselors _____(7)
On-campus counselors _____(4)	Other _____(8)

If classes were not provided off-campus would you have attended L.A.C.C.?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_(1) No \_\_\_\_\_(2)

If classes were not provided off-campus would you have furthered your education?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_(1) No \_\_\_\_\_(2)

Do you feel this educational program should be continued off-campus?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_(1) No \_\_\_\_\_(2)

Comment: