

# Highlights of Spring 2017 Survey of TPCB Certificants

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The Transportation Professional Certification Board (TPCB) surveyed certificants in 2017 to learn how they perceive, use, and value their certifications. 545 responses representing a 15% response rate were received. The TPCB expresses its appreciation of the input and time spent by certificants to respond to the survey in its ongoing efforts to continually improve the certification program. The following is a summary of what was learned.

Representation. The responses equitably reflect the number of PTOEs and PTPs. 2/3 of respondents were consultants and 1/3 were government/educator.

Hiring staff. Although few organizations represented in the survey response (1.3%) *require* certifications of the people they hire, 2/3 of the survey responders *give preference* in hiring those who are certificants (60% PTOE, 7% PTP).

Hiring consultants. 60% of respondents who hire consultants responding to RFPs either require or give preference to individuals/teams who have certification holders.

Compensation value. 1/3 of responders stated individuals holding PTOE/PTP certifications are compensated more highly than those who do not with a breakdown as follows:

- 56% said an additional 5% compensation
- 30% said an additional 10% compensation
- 6% said an additional 15% compensation
- 6% said an additional 20% compensation
- 2% said an additional 25% compensation

Use. 88% of responders who submit work proposals in response to RFPs include PTOEs and PTPs in their proposals.

Overall value. More than 60% of respondents highly value having team members with certifications. Consultants place more importance in holding certifications, proving their level of expertise, and providing a competitive advantage in responding to RFPs, than government employees. A significant number of certification holders are more highly compensated than non-certification holders.

Promotion. There is a desire to see more promotion of certification programs. Note: An increased level of promotion of the value of certifications has begun and will continue, particularly with the updating of the PTOE and PTP exams and the advent of Safety Certifications.