

# Survey Results of Ohio Certificate of Qualification (CQE) Recipients<sup>1</sup> January 11, 2016

Survey Conducted by:

**University of Akron School of Law**



The University of Akron  
OHIO's POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY  
**School of Law**

For Questions about the Survey:

Joann Sahl  
Associate Clinical Professor of Law  
[Jsahl1@uakron.edu](mailto:Jsahl1@uakron.edu)  
330-972-7189  
University of Akron School of Law

---

<sup>1</sup> This program was made possible in part by a Grant from the Ohio State Bar Foundation. The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent those of the Ohio State Bar Foundation.

## **I. Overview**

In 2015, the University of Akron School of Law conducted an audit of Ohio CQE recipients to determine the applicants' success in using the CQE to find or to keep employment. The survey involved 397 CQE recipients. UA attempted to contact each person by telephone, e-mail and regular mail. Although UA had three methods to contact the CQE recipients, it failed to reach a majority of them. After conducting the survey for ten months, UA reached just 22% of the CQE recipients. The specific questions asked in the survey, and the gathered responses are below.

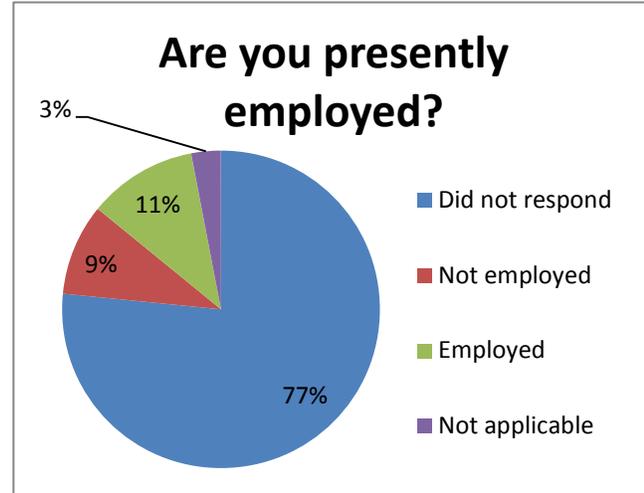
## **II. Summary of Survey Responses**

- Thirty-nine (42%) of those surveyed reported that the CQE made a difference in getting a job or keeping a job. Forty-four (48%) reported it made no difference in their search for employment.
- Those surveyed routinely reported that most employers are not aware of the CQE and its benefits – some reported that employers were even unwilling to look at the CQE. Twenty-five percent of the surveyed recipients never showed the CQE to an employer.
- Of the surveyed CQE recipients, 44 (47%) were employed, 37 (40%) were not employed. Those employed reported working in fast food restaurants, mental health facilities, nursing homes, as plumbers, in a heating and cooling company, and in hair salons. Some refused to answer the question for fear of retaliation from their employer.
- None of the surveyed recipients had recidivated since receiving the CQE.

### III. Survey Questions and Responses

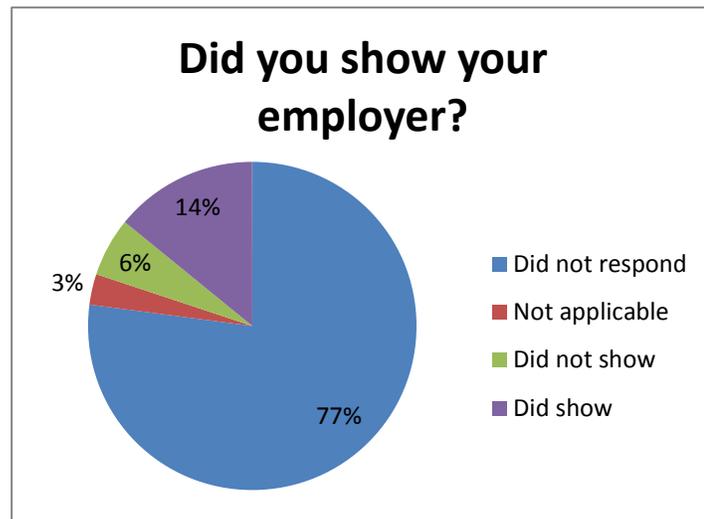
**1. Are you presently employed? If so, what is the place of employment and title of your position? If you were already employed before receiving your CQE, what was the reason for requesting a CQE?**

Out of 397 CQE recipients, 304 did not respond to the question. Thirty-seven said they were not employed. Forty-four were employed. The type of employment included fast food restaurants, mental health facilities, nursing home facilities, plumbing, heating and cooling and hair salons. Many declined to answer for fear of retaliation from their employer.



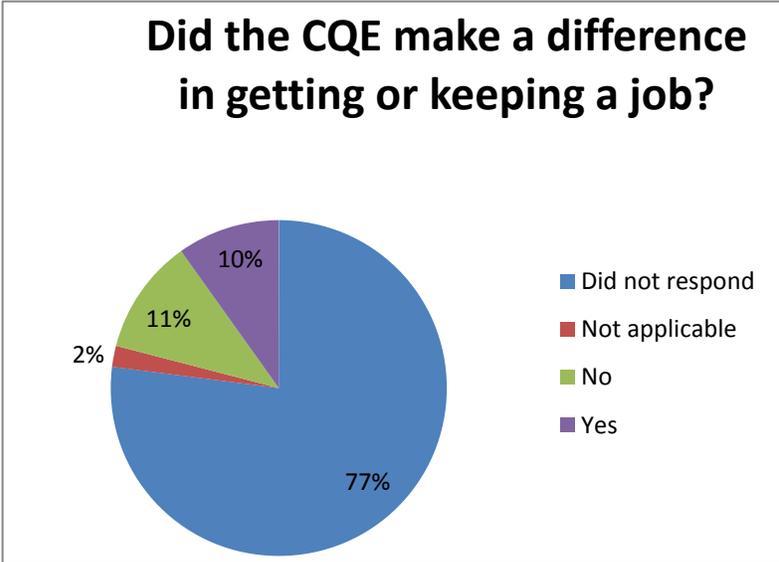
**2. Did you show your employer or potential employer the CQE?**

Out of 397 recipients, 306 did not respond to the question. Twelve said that it was not applicable to their situation. Twenty-three said they did not show their CQE to an employer or potential employer. Fifty-six did show it to their current employer or to a potential employer during the interview process.



**3. In your opinion, did the CQE make a difference?**

Out of 397 CQE recipients, 305 did not respond to the question. Eight said that it was not applicable to their situation. Forty-four said that the CQE did not make a difference in getting or keeping employment. Thirty-nine said that the CQE did make a difference in allowing them to keep their job, or to be hired for a new job. The largest complaint recipients voiced was that many of their employers or potential employers did not understand what the CQE did or was. Some said that because of that reason, the employer did not even want



to look at the CQE, and was not interested in how it would protect the employer if they hired someone with a CQE. The majority of those surveyed thought that the CQE really helped people who were trying to get a professional license.

**4. Recidivism, if any?**

Out of 397 CQE recipients, 311 did not respond to the question. Nine said that it was not applicable to their situation. None of the participants that responded had recidivated.

