

Surveys for the respective groups of interest (students, professionals, clinical program directors) were generated through Qualtrics. Links to the survey were distributed via email to clinical exercise physiology or like Masters of Science program directors across the country. Surveys intended for professionals were distributed via email to members of the Clinical Exercise Physiology Association, while surveys to clinical program managers/directors in the Midwest were contacted via email.

## SURVEY RESTULS

### STUDENTS

- 78 of the 102 returned surveys expressed interest in enrolling in the Doctor of Clinical Exercise Physiology program with 15 undecided and 9 not interested.
- To gain a deeper understanding of the level of interest and rationale for the respective level of interest in enrolling in the proposed DCEP program, an additional survey was generated and distributed across the nation. Results (Table 1) demonstrate that a majority of current students (83%) expressed some level of interest in pursuing a DCEP degree, with 36% “absolutely interested” and 47% “mildly interested”.

**Table 1** Expanded survey assessing current student’s interest in enrolling in the proposed DCEP program

<b>Working Towards</b>	<b>Absolutely Interested</b>	<b>Mildly Interested</b>	<b>Unsure</b>	<b>Not Interested</b>
<b>Bachelor’s</b>	1	7	1	2
<b>Master’s</b>	20	22	5	3
<b>PhD</b>	3	2	0	0
<b>Total</b>	24	31	6	5

### PROFESSIONALS

- Of the 153 CEP professionals surveyed (Table 2), 58% expressed some level of interested in enrolling (27% “absolutely interested” and 31% mildly interested). However, a greater proportion (72%) of professionals within their first 5 years of employment expressed interest in pursuing a DCEP degree compared to professionals that have been working for over 5 years.

**Table 2** Expanded survey assessing current employee interest level in enrolling in the proposed DCEP program

<b>Years of work Experience</b>	<b>Absolutely Interested</b>	<b>Mildly Interested</b>	<b>Unsure</b>	<b>Not Interested</b>
<b>0-5 (n= 67)</b>	23	25	6	13
<b>6-10 (n= 31)</b>	4	15	2	10
<b>11-15 (n= 16)</b>	7	3	3	3
<b>16-20 (n= 18)</b>	6	1	3	8
<b>21-25 (n= 5)</b>	0	1	1	3
<b>26-30 (n= 10)</b>	1	2	0	7
<b>31-40 (n= 6)</b>	1	0	2	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>47</b>

## MANAGERS

- 18 managers of clinical programs that employ CEPs stated that they would prefer hiring a DCEP prepared student over an MS prepared student, 6 preferred MS, 4 had no preference and 5 were undecided.
- 23 reported that they would pay a higher starting salary (on average \$10,000 more per year) for a DCEP over a master's prepared student with 18 providing specific values (see figure below).

