Class of 2016: Passionate, prepared and committed

Are employers doing enough to attract, develop and retain entry-level talent? 2016 graduates are both passionate and prepared, but 51% of those who graduated in 2014 and 2015 consider themselves to be underemployed or working in jobs that don’t require a college degree.

The Accenture Strategy 2016 U.S. College Graduate Employment Study highlights the disparity between new graduate expectations and the reality of the working world, and examines how employers can improve the employee experience to attract and retain top talent.

Expectations of the Working World 2016 Class of 2016

- 77% believe their education prepared them well
- 80% expect their first employer to provide formal training
- 68% completed an internship, apprenticeship or co-op

Realities of the Working World 2014 and 2015 Grads

- 68% felt their education prepared them well
- 54% received training from their first employer
- 43% found a job as a result of an internship, apprenticeship or co-op

Finding that first job after graduation

- 79% considered job availability before selecting a major
- 72% are willing to relocate for a job
- 82% expect to earn more than $25,000 a year

- 65% are working in their chosen field
- 21% relocated for a job
- 39% earn $25,000 or less a year

To access the full report please visit www.accenture.com/USCollegeGradResearch

Source: Accenture Strategy conducted an online U.S. survey of 1,005 students graduating from college in 2016, and 1,013 participants who graduated college in 2014 or 2015. Survey conducted in March, 2016. Note: Data has been rounded to the nearest whole number.