

## What Does it Mean to Have a Degree From CSUSB?

### Executive Summary

The purpose of this exploratory endeavor was to gain insight into the meaning, quality, and integrity of a CSUSB degree in order to satisfy CFR 2.2 of the upcoming WASC accreditation. Accordingly, students, alumni, faculty, and staff were asked via an open-ended survey question to explain what it means to them to have a degree from CSUSB. A qualitative analysis was conducted from 397 responses (see Appendix for methodology and individual responses). Overall, “sense of personal achievement/success” was the most common theme, followed by “Increased chance of a good job/career”, “better opportunities for oneself & their family”, and “quality well-rounded education”. One interesting between-group difference was that faculty described a “Quality, well-rounded education” more often than all other groups, and mentioned “Increased chance of a good job/career” least often. One interesting within-group difference was that alumni from older graduating classes were more likely to describe better opportunities for themselves and their families compared to recent graduates.

### Emergent Themes

Table 1. Responses by Theme

	Label	Total	Alumni	Students	Faculty	Staff
<b>Responses</b>	-	397	90	81	115	111
Sense of Personal Achievement/Success	<i>Achievement</i>	34%	24%	43%	27%	41%
Increased Chance of a Good Job/Career	<i>Job/Career</i>	27%	29%	30%	20%	32%
Better Opportunities for Oneself & Their Family (Not Job/Career Related)	<i>Opportunities</i>	21%	10%	20%	26%	24%
Quality, Well-Rounded Education	<i>Quality Education</i>	18%	14%	7%	24%	22%
General Requirement Met	<i>Requirement Met</i>	14%	23%	12%	12%	9%
Acquisition of Pertinent Knowledge and/or Skills	<i>Knowledge &amp; Skills</i>	13%	9%	10%	18%	14%
Supporting and/or Helping Others or the Community as a Whole	<i>Helping Others</i>	8%	2%	5%	12%	10%
Little to no Value	<i>Little Value</i>	5%	6%	2%	9%	1%
Social Capital	<i>Social Capital</i>	5%	2%	2%	4%	9%
Affordable Education	<i>Affordable</i>	4%	6%	2%	5%	2%

Note: overall response rate was less than 3%. Some responses fell into multiple themes.

### Between-Group Differences and Similarities

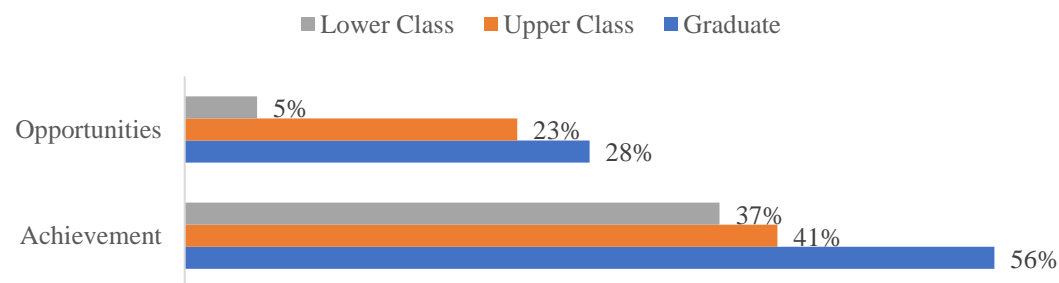
One of, if not the most common theme for faculty, staff, alumni, and students was Achievement. Although Job/career was also a relatively high response type across all groups, it was mentioned least often by faculty (20%). Compared to all other groups, both faculty (24%) and staff (22%) were more likely to reference Quality Education compared to alumni (14%) and students (7%). Likewise, faculty and staff also mentioned Knowledge and skills (faculty= 18%; alumni=14%) and Helping Others (faculty= 12%; alumni= 10%) more often than Alumni (Knowledge & Skills= 9%; Helping Others= 2%) and Students (Knowledge & Skills= 10%; Helping Others= 5%). Interestingly, faculty also had the highest response rate for Little Value (9%).

## Within-Group Differences and Similarities

### Students

The top three themes for students were: Achievement (43%), Job/Career (30%), and Opportunities (20%). These themes remained the most frequent response categories even when responses were observed separately by gender (male= 20, 25%; female= 61, 75%), URM status (URM= 49, 60%; non-URM=32, 40%), first generation (FG) status (FG= 56, 75%; non-FG= 19, 25%), and Pell status (Pell= 43, 53%; non-Pell= 38, 47%). Responses were also evaluated by class level (lower class= 19, 23%; upper class= 44, 54%; graduate= 18, 23%). While Achievement, Job/career, and Opportunities were still the most popular themes across class levels, references of better opportunities and sense of personal achievement both increased at higher class levels (See Figure 1 below).

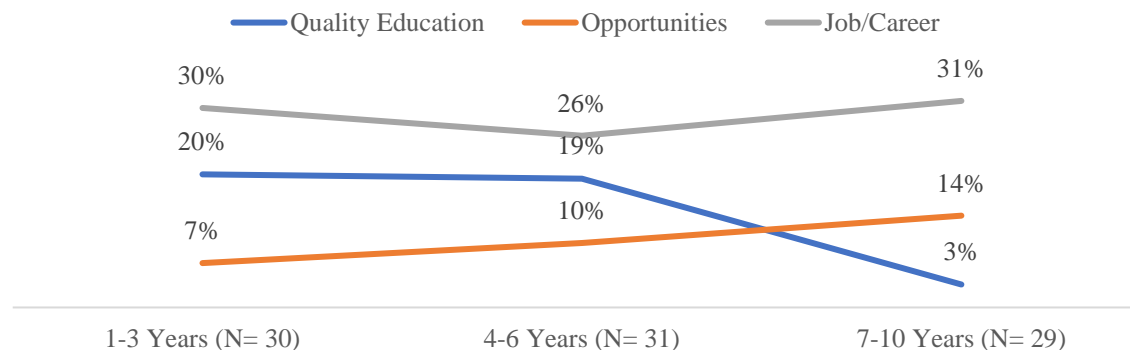
Figure 1. Differences by Class Level



### Alumni

The top three themes for alumni were: Job/Career (29%), Achievement (24%), and Requirement Met (23%). However, if we look at responses by years from CSUSB graduation, some interesting differences begin to emerge. As seen in Figure 4 below, alumni from older graduating classes were more likely to mention better opportunities for themselves and their families compared to more recent graduates. The opposite trend was found with regard to references of education quality. Moreover, Job/Career remained the top theme across years from graduation.

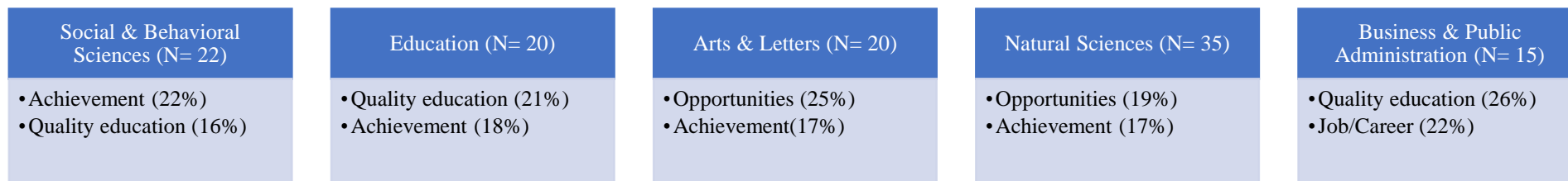
Figure 7. Responses by Years from Graduation



## Faculty

The top three themes for faculty were: Achievement (27%), Opportunities (26%), and Quality Education (24%). Illustrated in Figure 3, Quality Education, Achievement, and Opportunities were the most popular themes across colleges. The college of Business and Public Administration, however, was the only college with Job/Career as a top response category.

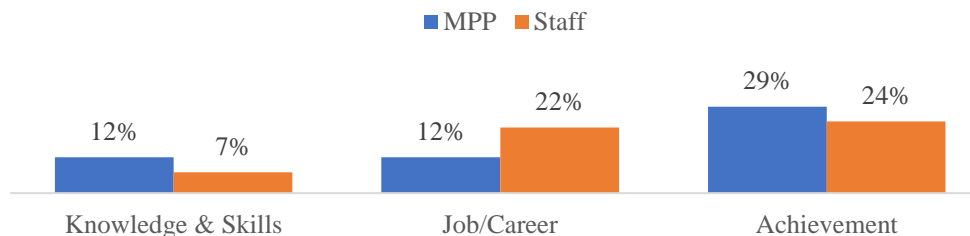
Figure 3. Top Themes by College



## Staff

Similar to students, the top three themes for staff were: Achievement (41%), Job/Career (32%), and Opportunities (24%). Staff and MPP responded similarly (0 - 4% difference) on Quality Education, Opportunities, Requirement Met, and Social Capital. Figure 2 presents some of the more noticeable differences. Moreover, based on departments with at least 5 respondents (Academic Affairs, Administration and Finance, Auxiliary Services, Information Technology Services, and Student Affairs), the top theme across each of these departments, except for Auxiliary Services (Job/Career), was Achievement.

Figure 2. Differences Between Managers and Staff



## Summary

Based on a qualitative analysis of 397 responses (including students, alumni, faculty, and staff) to an open-ended survey question concerning the meaning of a CSUSB degree, our degrees are most commonly described as offering a “sense of personal achievement/success”, “increased chance of a good job/career”, “better opportunities for oneself & their family”, and a “quality well-rounded education”. When responses are examined separately, the most common theme among students, faculty, and staff was “sense of personal achievement/success”. The most common theme for alumni was “increased chance of a good job/career”, which remained the top theme for alumni from one to ten years post-graduation.

## Appendix

### Methodology

The primary-rater read through all responses and highlighted key terms and phrases, which were later aggregated into themes. Once those themes were defined, a secondary-rater was employed to evaluate interrater reliability via Cohen's kappa. The secondary-rater was provided the list of themes and definitions and instructed to read all responses carefully, indicate which theme or themes the comment falls into, and then highlight the terms and/or phrases that prompted their theme selection.

### Emergent Themes

<b>Theme</b>	<b>Definition</b>	<b>Cohen's Kappa</b>
(+) Acquisition of pertinent Knowledge and/or skills	Gained understanding, knowledge, and skills through education (not job/career related).	0.64
(+) Sense of Personal Achievement/Success	Successfully completing a goal through hard work even if there are barriers that lead to a feeling of pride or personal accomplishment.	0.78
(+) Better Opportunities for Oneself & Their Family (not job/career related)	Circumstances that open doors and create current or future opportunities for oneself and/or family that are not directly related to a job/career (e.g., grad school, mobility).	0.61
(+) Increased Chance of Good Job/Career	Increased chance of being able to get a job or pursue a career, and acquisition of requisite knowledge, skills, and abilities	0.77
(+) Supporting and/or helping others and/or the community as a whole	Engaging and contributing to local community and/or helping others in a multitude of ways including financial contributions.	0.73
(+) Quality, well rounded education	Provides students with a well-rounded education, and/or a diverse learning environment from a reputable university	0.65
(+/-) General requirements met	Fulfilling generic requirements needed to graduate	0.64
(-) Little to no value	Don't see much value to obtaining a degree from CSUSB, and/or see it as a poor investment.	0.74
(+) Affordable Education	Reasonable cost for education	0.88
(+) Social Capital	Being part of a valuable network of relationships and connections	0.78
(+/-) Other	Other reasons for what it means to have a degree from CSUSB.	0.15

Note: Some responses fell into multiple themes.

## Individual Responses

- Alumni: To be honest I have a degree from CSUSB and I really don't feel like it means much. Compared to all other schools I don't see it as distinguished. Even though I'm grateful.
- Alumni: Graduates from CSUSB should be able to afford the lifestyle they want.
- Alumni: I am now an accomplished citizen, worthy of all my titles and awards. It means I survived rigorous courses and sit atop the mountain. It means the world is open to me.
- Alumni: It means I will have the educational requirement for my career choice
- Alumni: unfortunately I don't believe CSUSB has a good reputation - many of my community college instructors told me to not attend here.
- Alumni: It means I received a degree from a college that is acceptable.
- Alumni: The same as a degree from any other university.
- Alumni: The same as it does to have a degree from any four year university. They are all the same. The push to send everyone to college has lessened the value of a degree, yet not educated the masses and created a huge financial burden on generations.
- Alumni: It makes you qualified for jobs that require that degree.
- Alumni: It means commitment
- Alumni: For me this is especially important as I am Hispanic and only the second member of my family to earn a college degree. I know that I bring and hold value to employers and more importantly my family's financial security.
- Alumni: It means to have more opportunities for a better future.
- Alumni: It means I accomplished the academic requirements needed in my program and am a professional expert
- Alumni: Achievement
- Alumni: To have a degree at CSUSB is to make yourself more marketable in the workplace
- Alumni: Globally, I have a college degree from a US university. Locally, I do not feel I have much competitive advantage because of where my degree is from. As well, I was not catered to by large organizations seeking our students, whereas I did have that experience in my master's studies from a 'famous' university.
- Alumni: I graduated with a dual major from two of the most popular academic programs at CSUSB and I'm happy to say that I have my dream job
- Alumni: To have accomplished a goal.
- Alumni: It means doors were open to me that would have not been available had I not had a degree. Having a degree from CSUSB gave me a competitive advantage over candidates who did not have a Bachelors degree, and helped me enter both the field of business and IT.
- Alumni: I can apply for competitive jobs in my local communities
- Alumni: Advanced knowledge in your chosen field. Learned skills, such as, working with others, breaking through challenges, and expanding general knowledge.
- Alumni: My overall experience at CSUSB was that i was transfer student transferring from a community college semester to a quarter system. It was hard making that transition. I learned time management and persistence and not giving up. I belief that a person who doesn't give up , tries, works hard, is motivated can be successful no matter what college they go to.
- Alumni: A degree from CSUSB says that you completed a degree program. You have the paper to say that which a handful of companies have as a prerequisite for earning a job at their company.
- Alumni: Having a degree from CSUSB means having a widely recognized educational background that helps me achieve my career objectives.
- Alumni: A checkpoint in life when the odds said it was not possible. CSUSB not only took a chance on a first generation graduate but a student who asked for a second chance when the grade didn't show that conclusion to be possible.
- Alumni: The degree itself allowed me to increase my salary. The knowledge and skills I gained earning it help me to be a better teacher.
- Alumni: Since the school isn't a giant of academia, it checks the box and shows employers and other prospective institutions that you have the minimum skillset needed to be successful.
- Alumni: Having a degree from CSUSB to me means that I am just as capable to work in a field with colleagues who went to ivy league schools.
- Alumni: Success and a great foundation of upper level knowledge.
- Alumni: It means that I have a good educational foundation from which to build on.
- Alumni: It means I was able to do it close to home, in a college I truly enjoyed being a part of.
- Alumni: It means to have accomplished a specified amount of course work at a school site with many resources.
- Alumni: I earned my MPH from CSUSB, and to me it is one of my greatest accomplishments.
- Alumni: I believe having a degree from any college is a statement in the workplace.
- Alumni: It is a key to many jobs and it earns you well deserved respect from the community.
- Alumni: Empowerment and awareness that the journey isn't over.
- Alumni: An academic achievement
- Alumni: Obtaining a degree can mean the difference between getting a job or having a career. A degree from CSUSB means you have learned in smaller sized classes and that may provide more knowledge than a larger school.
- Alumni: To have the most basic level of intellectual qualification required by jobs. Having a degree from CSUSB has not helped me via CSUSB's reputation, but rather has shown that I am a competent person that is strategic in gaining a bachelors without overpaying.
- Alumni: I don't care where the degree came from, a degree is a degree.
- Alumni: Out of high school, I was accepted to 8 different schools. I chose CSUSB because of proximity and cost. I later realized CSUSB is more than just an affordable school, it is an excellent institution with quality instructors. I attended both CSUSB and Palm Desert Campus and I am proud to say I am a Coyote. Shout out to Dr. Robert Cupp for teaching me how to write academically. I am now a doctoral student at Brandman and I can confidently say having Dr. Cupp as an instructor in 2013-2014 has given me an advantage now.
- Alumni: I HAVE A DEGREE IN THE FIELD IM STUDYING
- Alumni: Opportunities that challenge and cause a broadening of learning as the degree is evidence that the person has learn the skills to meet the needs / adversities as they present in life.

- Alumni: Having a degree from CSUSB means you've received the education from a diverse campus that has broadened your perspective.
- Alumni: Career ready.
- Alumni: I get to have the job I worked so hard to get!
- Alumni: It means I received a quality education without having to go into massive debt.
- Alumni: It means that I have acquired the skills to continue to study English into my MA program that I am working on currently.
- Alumni: A degree from CSUSB means one attended a school that is local, affordable and has high acceptance rate.
- Alumni: This degree enables me to gain employment
- Alumni: Means nothing if they are not able to get a job in their respective career or able to help them get a job to their satisfaction.
- Alumni: Means you worked hard and succeeded with the help of great scholars around you
- Alumni: To have a degree from CSUSB means that I have the skills and knowledge to work in the field a selected.
- Alumni: that you studied and completed the necessary tasks at CSUSB.
- Alumni: To me it means the estense of who I am as a father, husband, and worker. I loved the investment I made at CSUSB.
- Alumni: Having a degree from CSUSB means that I am and always will be a coyote at heart. I feel that the school is a great representation of growth and success, and at a lower cost than most other schools. I am proud, and worked hard to get through school, and my degree means a lot to me. I am a teacher now, and have recommended CSUSB to a lot of my students because it is a community that I am proud to be a part of.
- Alumni: It means that I have accomplished an important educational goal by obtaining a master's degree and credential through a highly respected educational institution.
- Alumni: The evidence of hard work completed and competence in the field.
- Alumni: It means nothing if I can't find a job.
- Alumni: My dollars stayed local
- Alumni: Certificate of program completion from highly accredited school. You understand that field of study and can utilize skills learned to acquire jobs
- Alumni: it is a check box to get past hr
- Alumni: It means that I worked hard for greatness. I was surrounded by a tight knit campus that helped me along the way.
- Alumni: It means that you have gained enough knowledge to build your career. Having a degree means you can help and empower others in your specific field.
- Alumni: It means I have completed multiple units and recurved a degree.
- Alumni: So far it means I need to get a higher degree
- Alumni: To have a degree from csusb means that I am and other students have the MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS to be able to get a job in the chosen field. And this is for any higher education establishment.
- Alumni: I doesn't matter where my degree is from. Just as long as it helps me to reach a goal that I've set for myself. Mainly helping me gain the knowledge and experience to get a job I love.
- Alumni: Having earned a graduate degree from CSUSB has enabled me to understand the importance of allowing myself to be uncomfortable in the learning process as I engaged in transformational activities.
- Alumni: I have shown the ability to complete complex tasks under deadlines during an extended and ongoing basis. I have a quantifiable 'minimum' of academic knowledge. I meet the minimum standard for white collar employment.
- Alumni: Very proud and impressive.
- Alumni: It is honorable
- Alumni: I can move forward in my career
- Alumni: Having a pretty known and respectable degree.
- Alumni: Not much.
- Alumni: It means everything to start somewhere, being that I have to further my education for my degree to actually be meaningful. I wish csusb had more kinesiology master degree programs/opportunities.
- Alumni: I loved going to school at CSUSB. I was a history major and I had incredible professors every step of the way. If it had not been for my history professors, especially Jeremy Murray, I wouldn't be the person I am today. My professors pushed me to think about the world and to see myself as a legitimate source of change in it.
- Alumni: Despite all odds, you still made it.
- Alumni: Obtained knowledge and skill at the California state university system standards.
- Alumni: It means a person may have a better chance to get to a career
- Alumni: Earning a degree in a campus that prioritizes student safety and a family oriented setting in which everyone feels like they belong influences the greater chances of student success in education and career paths.
- Alumni: Degree doesn't mean anything if you don't learn and implement any thing. Very good professional teachers beside a handful who just taught syllabus
- Alumni: It means that you put in the hard work and dedication to get that degree. It's extremely important because for those that commute, you were able to find a way and consistently make it to classes when it's extremely hard to keep that up. I salute any and everyone that put the time aside to focus on school when we all have other priorities and things that we take care of. Having an education and a degree to show for it truly makes it all worth it especially from CSUSB, which I like to consider a very patient and understanding school to go to and graduate from.
- Alumni: It doesn't matter where you achieve a degree from, it's the simple fact that you are educated on a specific topic/program and can apply the skills learned towards employment. These days you need a degree in order to qualify to apply for specific jobs.
- Alumni: It means having a degree from a 4-year university.
- Alumni: Success
- Alumni: Knowing that you are connected to the largest group in California by being a part of CSU
- Alumni: It means that all the hard work that was put into schooling has been completed.
- Alumni: For me, having a degree from CSUSB means that I am an educated individual, it took me a long time to get here, but I did it. Having that degree sets me apart from everyone else, through the obstacles, tears, disappointments, set-backs, I pushed through, and I have proven to myself that anything is possible. My degree has opened doors for me and I have the respect from my family.
- Alumni: Having a well-rounded education in business
- Faculty: It means that the graduate is ready for the next phase of her/his professional life.

- Faculty: A BS-BA means that a student knows the basics of that particular science field. An MS means they can, with on the job training, be soon functional in a practicing professional capacity.
- Faculty: A degree from CSUSB is a document/experience that the student has the ability to begin working in a desired field and continue increasing his/her knowledge in that field.
- Faculty: A degree from CSUSB means different things to different people. To some, it represents the hope for a better future. For me, my terminal degree represents a lifelong goal achieved. It will not necessarily change my future job prospects or career trajectory.
- Faculty: A degree from CSUSB means having the key to open doors to the future.
- Faculty: A degree from CSUSB means that the doors of many opportunities will open for the students.
- Faculty: A degree from CSUSB means that the students has chosen a cost-effective entrance into the field of teaching, has acquired high-quality knowledge and skills, and has memories of spending time with congenial friends, peers, and faculty on a beautiful campus. He or she has interacted with caring professionals who have students' best interests at heart.
- Faculty: A degree from CSUSB means that you have completed a rigorous program of study with access to a range of co-curricular experiences that has prepared you to achieve your future goals.
- Faculty: A degree from CSUSB means you have access to more opportunities on campus, the county, and other campuses all over California.
- Faculty: A degree is very important, although I feel that the knowledge gained and the practical practice through courses is of utmost importance.
- Faculty: A quality education from an accredited institution means that not only does the school want to succeed but they want you to be expert in your field of study
- Faculty: A student has become proficient in both content knowledge and practical application /skills in the area of study.
- Faculty: Achieve an important lifetime accomplishment
- Faculty: Achievement, perseverance, drive
- Faculty: All university degrees, no matter where they're from, bring a much higher probability of financial and personal success. CSUSB happens to be a gateway for students who might otherwise not have access to higher education.
- Faculty: An opportunity to learn, develop, grow, and achieve alongside with the peers:)
- Faculty: As a two-degree recipient from CSUSB, I feel a certain pride knowing I graduated from this University. The experience and support I received when I received my BA was so wonderful, I was encouraged to return and get my MSW. CSUSB is one of the best Universities in the US and the Department I work for is considered one of the top programs in California if not the US. It's a privilege and honor to be a graduate of CSUSB.
- Faculty: As with any post-secondary degree, a degree from CSUSB demonstrates that the student has fulfilled the requirements of his/her program of study and is ready for next steps whether pursuing an advanced career or entering the workforce.
- Faculty: be an accomplished and responsible tax payer and earn a salary that would allow the graduates to live comfortably and have job satisfaction.
- Faculty: Being employable! Being ready to enter the workforce.
- Faculty: Being insightful, knowledgeable and the want to give back to our community.
- Faculty: Commitment to hard work and a good base for success.
- Faculty: Completion of a personal milestone.
- Faculty: Cost-effective education
- Faculty: Currently I think it means you graduated from a large state-sponsored regional University not particularly disguised for any reason. In other words, once you leave the area, you are not going to gain any additional credibility by dropping the name of CSUSB. We are the "Acme" of universities, not bad but not great and not memorable.
- Faculty: Degree from CSUSB means a huge accomplishment for usually unprivileged, first generation student; is an excellent choice for higher education, and is not different from any other public university degree, such as University of California.
- Faculty: Educated and motivated learner
- Faculty: Evidence of the ability to complete a goal and knowledge to be a professional.
- Faculty: For me. I'm not trying to sound negative, but in hindsight it means nothing. I've been homeless, hell, I'm homeless now it has not helped me. I was living out of my car when the people called asking for the payment.
- I love education. I loved every minute of class and learning. But I gotta be honest, going to school, allowing myself to get in debt, did a serious disservice to me obtaining a roof over my head. let's face it, that's more important. I should of put that money down on a house. now I have a lifetime of regret all because I got a four year degree. "
- Faculty: For most of our students, this degree means upward mobility for them and their immediate and extended families. It means excellence, accomplishment, persistence.
- Faculty: For students to feel proud of where they have come from, and to feel the ambition to go anywhere where they feel they can make a positive difference in their discipline, their career sector, their community, and society as a whole.
- Faculty: Generally poor writing skills. Lack of knowledge of punctuation, grammar, and clear communication through writing.
- Faculty: Has value when applying to real life experiences.
- Faculty: Having a degree from CSUSB means a student completed objectives from a set of courses and core classes that was required for that degree. It also means that person has broadened their work possibilities. In addition to the knowledge in the persons major they will be better a better speaker, writer, and critical thinker. Their family will be more likely to pursue a degree in the future.
- Faculty: Having a degree from CSUSB means having studied at an institution that invests itself in the betterment of the local community.
- Faculty: Having a degree from CSUSB means that an individual is hard-working, understanding of the positive ethic required of a public university student and willing to utilize the degree to help others.
- Faculty: Having a well-rounded educational experience that prepares our students for a future with options.
- Faculty: Highly valued university and students well prepared for employment, careers and high quality of daily life
- Faculty: Hopefully: Critical reasoning
- It should be to know what you believe and be able to present evidence of why you believe it"
- Faculty: I am proud of my CSUSB degree. It means I have achieved academic success even though I came from a disadvantaged background. It has inspired many family members to go on in their education.
- Faculty: I believe that a Bachelor's Degree should demonstrate certain, basic competencies in research, writing, reading, critical thinking, quantitative reasoning, global awareness. I am not always convinced that our graduates have the opportunity to develop all of these competencies. Does that mean that they shouldn't graduate? No -- they've met the requirements for graduation. Does it mean that we sometimes fail them? Yes.

- Faculty: I believe the acquisition of a degree from CSUSB not only signifies or recognizes the end of a formal educational hurdle it also signifies the patience, persistence, and perseverance necessary to finish an objective that was likely not easy. It is a milestone that exemplifies grit and determination.
- Faculty: I fear that it is meaning less and less. Faculty are being pressured to decrease DFWI rates and for what end? To facilitate students' timely graduations. When students are caught cheating, and the faculty member awards the appropriate grade, they push back and who is supported? the students for their push back. I have experienced this directly with a student who was caught red handed cheating--and I was treated roughly by her counselor who told me she was a ""good student."" Good students do not cheat. As noted in an earlier response, students are encouraged to do just about everything on campus EXCEPT go to class and study. What's the new tradition? Touch the paw for good luck in finals week. Maybe, just maybe, they should form study groups and study? I am fortunate to work with graduate students who are high performers, but I can only wonder how long this will last if the downward trends I'm seeing in the undergrad ranks continue here and at other universities.
- I could go on and on, but suffice it to say that it would probably be better to ask employers what they think of our graduates. "
- Faculty: It means they will have opportunities for advancement and a better living than they can even dream of having.
- Faculty: I think a degree from CSUSB means academic achievement and skills, but also that a recipient is part of a larger community and family.
- Faculty: I think it represents to the public that you have been well-prepared to tackle real life problems. I also think that students from CSUSB might have an additional sense of satisfaction because of the fact that most are from diverse cultural backgrounds, which is represented by the public demographics in the region.
- Faculty: I think it should be seen as a significant achievement to attain a 4-year degree, or an advanced degree from CSUSB. This represents a substantial investment of time and energy, and the accomplishment of an important goal. Students should be proud of themselves!
- Faculty: I think it should mean that the student has been a successful student (as was previously defined in the first question). I think that for many students who have a degree from CSUSB, this is true, for some, it is not, and I hope that we all really work hard to make sure this is what a degree from CSUSB means for all future graduates.
- Faculty: I think the education you get is important, not really the degree. The degree should validate that one has completed a series of challenging task (learning, time management, personal life skill, specific area of knowledge above the boarder high school education and completed (back to persistence) the journey.
- Faculty: In many of the academic areas, our name carries value. Given the # of graduates in the local area our degree opens up areas of co-membership that provide more access, both social and economic. In my area being from this program from CSUSB carries value added and prestige.
- Faculty: Increased social capital and opportunities for career choice as well as options.
- Faculty: In general, I think it would mean supporting students in shaping themselves on the personal as well academic levels in a nurturing but also challenging environment that promotes creativity and problem solving. It means that students are ready to continue on their future endeavors with more confidence and expertise to enjoy a happy and fulfilling life for themselves as well as for others. I hope this is what we provide for students. After all, if they are happy and seek to make others happy in a more just and fulfilling world, what else could we ask for? "
- Faculty: It doesn't get you thrown out of a pool of applicants for lack of a B.A. degree.
- Faculty: It is a passport to have access to additional opportunities. Students will have enhanced skills for critical thinking and problem solving
- Faculty: It means being an alumnus of a top public university
- Faculty: It means doing what students from UC schools are able to do. Proving that a degree from CSUSB should not be undermined (the education provided/received should be viewed just as comparable or even better). A degree from CSUSB should be able to get them an opportunity to prove themselves in higher education settings as well as in the job market.
- Faculty: It means having a key to open doors to careers, community engagement, and to life experiences that may not have been available otherwise.
- Faculty: It means having attended a reputable institution that cares about and is invested in student learning.
- Faculty: It means one has developed a broad set of knowledge from various fields, and has shown direction and initiative.
- Faculty: It means that a student is well equipped for the outside world and that he/she will be able to put on hands the skills and knowledge gained.
- Faculty: It means that an individual with a degree from CSUSB is considered competent in his/her chosen field of study.
- Faculty: It means that one has had a quality education.
- Faculty: It means that the individual has a quality degree from a quality institution.
- Faculty: It means that the students has completed a program that is rigorous and relevant.
- Faculty: It means that you have persisted in a course of study all the way to completion. This alone is an accomplishment that many fail to achieve. It means that your world view is broader than those without a college education and that you have gained skills that could make you a lifelong learner.
- Faculty: It means that you invested in yourself. You put in the time and effort to be better and stronger than you were yesterday. It means you are hopeful about your future and you desire to give back to your community.
- Faculty: It means to have a wide range of knowledge across disciplines; knowledge that will set one up for success in their personal, professional and public lives (liberal education should be a priority over job training).
- Faculty: It means to have attained an affordable degree at an institution that values diversity
- Faculty: It means to have been given opportunities to learn, grow, and excel through adversity in diverse and open learning environments.
- Faculty: It means to hold a degree from one of the most well reputed higher education institutions, not only in U.S. but also abroad. This degree incorporate values to the holder, regarding the understanding and engagement with diversity, ethics and social responsibility; beyond than the high intellectual stature in the professional field.
- Faculty: It means you have a degree from one of the best state university systems in the nation. It means you have been taught to think and act on issues important in the community.
- Faculty: It means you have completed education at a diverse institution and are ready to serve local, state, and global communities.
- Faculty: It represents a great education with experience
- Faculty: It should mean that they have demonstrated the ability to analyze all sorts of information, think critically, and communicate and conduct themselves in a professional manner. Right now I don't think a CSUSB degree reflects that.
- Faculty: It shows a hard-working smart student who did their best to accomplish the requirements and receive a high-quality degree.
- Faculty: It shows that a person has the motivation and ability to complete a task that most others do not complete.
- Faculty: It simply means the student has fulfilled the requirements of the university.
- Faculty: It varies tremendously based on the individual major. I hope that a degree from CSUSB means that you are competent in the specific subject area and are well prepared for a successful career.



- Faculty: Lately, not much. I have seen too many people engage in grade inflation to push students through for good numbers at the expense of real learning. We send those students to the wolves of the real world without real thinking skills and accurate information yet with massive student debt. I suppose the degree means that students have been processed sufficiently.
- Faculty: life transformation
- "Faculty: My degrees are from San Jose State.
- Students here are proud to represent their university."
- Faculty: not much anymore... standards are dropping, faculty are disciplined for giving low grades, graduate quality is down. professional colleagues are telling me that they are not hiring our graduates anymore. Students openly threaten faculty about reporting faculty for being an impediment to graduation.
- Faculty: not much, I've learned
- Faculty: Not sure but cost-effective would be included. Not cheap but getting a career while not being burdened with exorbitant debt.
- Faculty: opportunity and resources which will facilitate success
- Faculty: Perseverance: our students have to overcome so much to be here and complete the degree without the same external support many other college students have.
- Faculty: Qualified for jobs that require a degree. Beyond that, it varies a lot by department or program, especially in the local area. I don't know if it consistently means that a person is better able to be a more thoughtful/critical/analytical member of society. I hope so, but not sure that is true.
- Faculty: Qualified to be a professional staff.
- Faculty: Quality education with a reasonable price
- Faculty: reputation of having a good education
- Faculty: Sadly, we admit too many students to the university and then we as faculty are expected to keep DFWI rates to a minimum which is resulting in a cheapening of our degree. Students are able to graduate without being able to write a sentence and it's embarrassing to have them out in the world saying they got their degree from us. We need to realize that not every person is meant for higher ed and that's ok. There are other roles in society they can occupy proudly. I'm not being elitist, I'm first generation myself. I just think we need to make sure that the people we are admitting are able to excel in our classes, don't put the burden on faculty to lower our standards so that students who shouldn't be there in the first place can graduate. Another factor that is cheapening our degree relates to large class sizes which prohibit implementation of HIPs. This again results in students graduating without being able to write a sentence because they never had to write a term paper (or ideally multiple term papers) in their major. If we admitted fewer students, we could tackle this problem as well.
- Faculty: Students are provided with an exceptional education where their faculty and staff place their success as a priority.
- Faculty: Success.
- Faculty: That I could do it and become a professional who could give back to my community!
- Faculty: That the student encompasses the knowledge in adherence to that degree.
- Faculty: That they can persist and complete a long term goal. That they have a broad liberal arts education and at the BA or BS level enough specific education in their major to be an entry level person in that field or meet the prerequisites for further education.
- Faculty: That they have a degree from a state school. It's not special.
- Faculty: That with a lot of handholding and second chances almost anyone can earn a degree.
- Faculty: That you are highly qualified teacher and prepared for the classroom
- Faculty: That you have obtained expertise and skills that can be generalized to a career.
- Faculty: The academic community has yet to engage the new student constituent where they in their social development and instead heaps unwieldy amounts of debt for credentialing without true academic engagement. Meet them where they are and help them move forward not get by.
- Faculty: To be able to do "more" in their lives and the lives of their families.
- Faculty: To have a degree from CSUSB means the student believed in the institution, and the institution believed in that student. The value of the degree is in held within the confines of trust.
- Faculty: To have a degree means a student has undergone a rigorous formal academic training program, and through the program, he or she should have gained skills, knowledge, and experience that better enables them to contribute to the community and the world.
- Faculty: To have gained knowledge to go back into your community to help make it better.
- Faculty: To open up possibilities for new careers, new pathways, and new opportunities.
- Faculty: To the student - a strong foundation for a career; well-deserved achievement
- Faculty: Very much like any of the CSU and public universities, we are here to ensure that the student has achieved certain important landmarks of education.
- Faculty: We are deversed in many different ways and we meet the needs of the diversions. We provide opportunities and have a great academic staff.
- Faculty: Well rounded knowledge. Cost effective. Small class size. Opportunities for faculty to mentor students
- Faculty: Well, I hope it means that students have the knowledge to be successful in their chosen careers.
- Faculty: You have proven competency in your field of study.
- Faculty: You passed the courses of study in the major and general education required at CSUSB with a GPA of 2.0 or higher.
- Faculty: you receive an excellent education from a community willing to make education a top priority. included in a high quality education from a well-prepared faculty, world class resources, and an ideal learning environment.
- Faculty: You're a Coyote! You worked hard and persevered, defied the odds, and made your family proud of you. You have learned to see the world in new ways, learned that there are pressing problems facing our nation and our world, and you are inspired to work for a better future. You have discovered a love for learning and the particular fields that inspire you most. You have the skills and dispositions to building a meaningful life and find meaningful work. You have a sense of compassion and feel accountable to your community. You want to stay in the Inland Empire and give back. "
- Staff: It means showing proficiency in the content you studied and successfully demonstrating that you have laid the groundwork, the foundation, and acquired the skills necessary to compete in that field.
- Staff: A college degree demonstrates a person's dedication and persistence in achieving a goal that will be valuable in securing meaningful employment
- Staff: A CSUSB degree shows the value of a public, local education. It means you are connected to a close community that values diversity and inclusiveness. Having a CSUSB degree means knowing you are a vital piece in increasing the educational attainment in the Inland Empire.

- Staff: A degree from a college state university.
- Staff: A degree from CSUSB is a key ... it's a key that opens doors for students. I've had personal experience with this. The CSUSB degree makes brighter, more competitive futures for any student that holds such a degree.
- Staff: A degree from CSUSB is a key to an improved way of life that comes from having the confidence to go for job opportunities that are no longer out of one's reach.
- Staff: A degree from CSUSB means increasing the opportunities for success by making the recipient a candidate for many jobs that they really would not have otherwise. The degree offers a pathway to a more fulfilled future and a better life overall.
- Staff: A degree from CSUSB means students are prepared for life after college and have the skillsets needed to succeed.
- Staff: A degree from CSUSB means that you have the perseverance, tenacity and drive to overcome challenges. Living in the Inland Empire for the past 16 years and joining the ranks of fellow CSUSB alumni, a degree from CSUSB equates to opportunity. So many of my peers and colleagues have overcome so many obstacles and challenges that statistics would otherwise count them out, but CSUSB opens doors to endless amount of possibilities.
- Staff: A degree from CSUSB means two things to me: It is part of a legacy of an institution that has served the Inland Empire loyally for 50 years; and it is the path to a higher standard of living and satisfactory employment.
- Staff: A degree from CSUSB means you have learned the theories and practices within your field of study, you are able to implement the theories and practices, and you are prepared to move forward, either academically or professionally.
- Staff: A degree from CSUSB means you're a notch above the rest. It means that you're probably a first-generation college student who is investing in themselves and that you've overcome obstacles and naysayers to be a successful individual. I am proud and very grateful for both of my degrees from CSUSB. I am a first-generation college student, my parents always promoted higher education, but neither of them attended college themselves. My undergraduate degree signifies my perseverance, for it was in my senior year that I lost my father and struggled to balance life and school. My graduate degree represents my personal investment in my future. Both degrees are from highly accredited programs that are widely recognized by others in their fields. While the city of San Bernardino has fallen on hard times and a bad reputation, CSUSB has worked tirelessly to stand out as a prestigious university. CSUSB is helping students, faculty, staff, and the community define the future. I am proud to be a Coyote!"
- Staff: A degree from CSUSB shows dedication toward one's professional growth.
- Staff: A degree from CSUSB shows drive and determination. Ability to think critically and achieve long term goals. Persistence and overcoming obstacles. CSUSB is awesome!
- Staff: A degree from CSUSB translate you completed a program of rigor, gaining both knowledge and skills that will encourage promotion in your career, and depending on the program, there may also be a level of prestige added since CSUSB has programs and faculty that are nationally recognized and esteemed.
- Staff: A degree is an accomplishment, no matter where it is from. CSUSB is not a stand-out school, yet the quality of the faculty is outstanding. So the degree is worth much more than the name of the school.
- Staff: A degree that will transform them to a better person, life, success and career.
- Staff: A degree would hopefully broaden the students' ideas and understanding of his/her program and enable students to excel in their career endeavors.
- Staff: A good future. To obtain a degree means that you can succeed in your chosen field.
- Staff: A person is able to manage their time, be organized and somewhat self-sufficient, knows how to think outside the box, and will have basic critical thinking skills.
- Staff: Accomplishment
- Staff: Accredited 4-year university in inland empire
- Staff: Although a degree helps a person to get a job, they are not prepared due to lack of real world experience.
- Staff: Although there may be a negative connotation when someone hears ""San Bernardino"", this is a great place to earn an education. The instructors know their students, staff are here to support, and students are engaged in numerous activities throughout the year. We have a diverse blend of students from different backgrounds, ages, geographic locations and lifestyles. Our campus has access to a lot of careers that thrive in this and surrounding areas; this means students can earn a degree here and continue to serve the community.
- At times, I fear that the integrity of a degree from CSUSB is tarnished. We should uphold standards for our students and not waiver from this, but assist them in finding the ways to reach success. Also, there is a lack of variety in our general education program for undergraduates. We need to instill a sense of professionalism to our students: in the way they dress, speak to one another and staff/faculty to prepare them for the workforce."
- Staff: An accomplishment for anyone.
- Staff: An individual was resilient enough to jump through the necessary hoops required to check all of the appropriate boxes.
- Staff: As an alum, having a degree from CSUSB means alot to me. Being a low income, first generation, Latinx students means persisting to succeed no matter the sacrifices made or obstacles it took. It means being resilient more than you thought you could be and pushing yourself to become a better intellect to contribute towards helping making your community better. It means reflecting on my own past undergraduate experience to help other CSUSB students succeed while providing unconditional support and encouragement.
- Staff: being able to step into the world and move into the career the degree was designed for
- Staff: completed commitment
- Staff: Degrees are overrated, they do not signify competency or readiness and do a poor job defining who the graduate is.
- Staff: Depends, if it is for a specific career, then it means an opportunity to pursue that career. If it is for just a college degree, it means that you were able to check all the boxes needed to get that diploma.
- Staff: Empowering individuals with career options
- Staff: For me, it was the opportunity and the platform to succeed on this country.
- Staff: For me, personally, it means that among my peers that I have accomplished something that not many had the opportunity to do. Although with most things, a degree can be viewed as just a piece of paper. It is what you do with that degree that has the impact. I, personally, took advantage of an internship, of competing for a university team (Coyote Debate) and attend (free) student functions. I believe this was included WITH my degree. I do not believe that there are many students who have the time to explore what this university has to offer due to their other obligations.
- Staff: For students in this community it means they've accomplished something very few before them have accomplished. It means joining an elite sorority/fraternity of other Yotes. It's a special thing to grow up in the IE and be able to inspire and add value to the community students will serve. It means they will change this community.
- Staff: Have critical thinking and problem solving skills to be successful in an every changing landscape.
- Staff: HAVING A DEGREE IN GENERAL MEANS A NEW STEP TOWARDS SUCCESS. HAVING A DEGREE CAN BE LIFE CHANGING. HAVING A DEGREE FROM CSUSB IS A GREAT ACHIEVEMENT IN LIFE.
- Staff: Having a CSUSB degree is a good ROI (return on investment); great value for the cost.

- Staff: Having a CSUSB degree means that you have successfully completed the program/degree requirements. A degree is supposed to mean that you are educated, ready, and prepared both socially and intellectually for your career. You have a strong set of skills that will open doors of opportunities. A degree represents skills, work ethic, and thoughtfulness Having a college degree automatically sets you at a higher social class level than others.
- Staff: Having a CSUSB degree means to be able to be successful in your career and be able to help others to accomplish the same or even better.
- Staff: Having a degree at CSUSB means you are a piece of greatness in a part of society that other regions in California do not necessarily believe in.
- Staff: Having a degree does not mean you are smarter than everyone else. Having a degree broadens your critical thinking skills and allows you to understand different perspectives from others. You are able to stop, think and answer in a logical way
- Staff: Having a degree from CSUSB means quality and integrity.
- Staff: Having a degree from CSUSB means that the student has worked hard and achieved the goal of obtaining a degree from a wonderful institution of higher learning.
- Hopefully with the degree that they have obtained the students has made the right connections and receive employment in a field that they will enjoy and thrive. "
- Staff: Having a degree from CSUSB means the completion of a quality program with an emphasis on community and relational building.
- Staff: Having a degree from CSUSB means you invested in the San Bernardino community while increasing your knowledge.
- Staff: Having graduated from a 4-year university like CSUSB means that you have what it takes to set your mind to something and achieve it. Whether you get into your chosen field or not, you never gave up on yourself and that matters most.
- Staff: Hopefully it gives students the ability to continue to elevate themselves and their families personally and professionally.
- Staff: Hopefully to have the skills needed to work in the job force.
- Staff: I am not sure if it means any different than having a degree from any other CSU or 4 year university. It seems lately in today's social environment that the acquisition of a undergrad degree is less than notable in some situations. I feel that the people that struggled to get through college are finding it difficult to find adequate jobs to meet their economics needs no matter where they get their degree from.
- Staff: I am proud to be not only a CSUSB employee, but also a graduate. The university is a well-respected institution in the region and state, and employers recognize this. Being a CSUSB grad means you have completed courses in a diverse culture, which contributes to success in the workplace.
- Staff: I believe its a sense of pride knowing the college is well known for the alumni that has graduated from here but also the network of fellow students, faculty, and experience with earning the degree in full.
- Staff: I can be as successful as I want to be.
- Staff: I don't, but I think a degree gets your foot in the door for many opportunities and a step up from those who do not have a degree. I believe this to be true from any institution not just CSUSB.
- Staff: I feel that when a degree is earned from CSUSB it is a sign of a well rounded, high quality, education.
- Staff: In many ways, it means the same thing that it means to have a degree from any other reputable 4 year college or university. It should signify to the graduate and others that the degree earner is competent, capable of growth and learning, and should be equipped with a base level of knowledge about how society works.
- Staff: It demonstrates commitment and achievement.
- Staff: It indicates ability, commitment, perseverance, responsibility and confidence.
- Staff: It is a great accomplishment.
- Staff: It is a great achievement to have acquired a degree from CSUSB! I think that CSUSB holds a high standard and is look up to greatly in the community, but I also believe it is seen this way outside of the community!
- Staff: It is a testament to hard work and perseverance.
- Staff: It is a tool that would help in better future.
- Staff: It is an investment in the student themselves since it provides an advantage in the workforce, but also an investment to the area since the students will have the opportunity to apply their skills and improve the city, surrounding cities.
- Staff: It is the affirmation of a student's dedication, hard-work, and pursuit of expanding their knowledge to become a more productive member of society and from one of the region and state's leading institutions for improving social mobility.
- Staff: It means a mark of achievement. A measurement of success in developing a spirit of learning and growing.
- Staff: It means access to even more resources in the community and leverage to grow as a professional.
- Staff: It means one will have an option of career paths.
- Staff: It means students persisted. It is life changing for entire families for our first generation student population. It opens up possible employment opportunities, especially in fields that require higher education. Potentially it means debt accumulation.
- Staff: It means that a student has gained the the education necessary to join a group of distinguished alumni.
- Staff: It means that one has completed the necessary requirements for a university degree.
- Staff: It means that you have received a solid education from an institution with outstanding faculty and that your degree is from an accredited program. You are ready to compete with anyone and anywhere. It means you are ready to "define your future."
- Staff: It means that you likely worked multiple jobs, cobbled together food, funding, classes, and friends to get through it and that you EARNED that degree with hard work and persistence.
- Staff: It means that you now have the ability to lift yourself and your family out of poverty.
- Staff: It means that you should have the necessary skills to succeed in a career outside of our campus.
- Staff: It means that you were able to successfully engage and complete the requirements set out by a well established institution.
- Staff: It means the student was successful, and felt our school was the right place for them to excel.
- Staff: It means to get a degree not for the name or prestige, but for the value of learning and opportunities for growth.
- Staff: It means to have a well-rounded liberal arts education, not just be career-ready.
- Staff: It means you have excelled in your particular area of study and have completed the designed program to earn a degree, to which you will apply to future employment.
- Staff: It means you succeeded in your studies and now new doors will open.

- Staff: It means you've put in the hard work to earn the degree and, hopefully, developed the life skills to be successful in the great world beyond these hallowed halls.
- Staff: It's the first step in life after athletics...
- Staff: Literally, it represents an extra \$1 million dollars in earned income potential over a student's lifetime. But it also means those graduates are now in the "top 25%", those with a college degree. Times and technology may change, but a degree from CSUSB shows that you have the knowledge and self-discipline necessary to compete in today's modern workforce.
- Staff: Means you received a degree from an affordable institution.
- Staff: More opportunities.
- Staff: Opportunity, coming out strong from a difficult upbringing, giving back to your community - keep knowledge in the IE or even else where to show our graduates are global, not just "stuck" in the IE.
- Staff: Opportunity.
- Staff: Perseverance, dedication, commitment.
- Staff: Perseverance - working full-time with a family was challenging - completing my education at CSUSB meant more than just the degree. New relationships, innovation within my department, collaborating across departments on campus.
- Staff: Personally, I've been through many struggles while attempting to getting a degree at CSUSB so its a tremendous accomplishment for me.
- Staff: Proof that one can commit and finish that commitment
- Staff: Quality in academics and social responsibility.
- Staff: Receiving a degree from CSUSB means that more doors are open and there is a possibility of a brighter future for everyone who comes to this campus.
- Staff: Satisfaction of completing the courses- knowing school is over
- Staff: Social mobility, Productive and responsible citizens of the global economy
- Staff: Success, perseverance and determination
- Staff: Successful completion of a field of study.
- Staff: Successful completion of the educational program.
- Staff: That the individual has met the standards of student success to have earned the degree.
- Staff: That they have the knowledge to set out and compete and obtain a job in that field.
- Staff: That they have the skills to find a job and also to think differently about the world than before they attended.
- Staff: That you have the competencies needed in a particular discipline for an entry level position.
- Staff: the ability and confidence to know one can have an impact on the community at large and globally (should one desire to have such an impact)
- Staff: To achieve a degree means you have started and accomplished a goal in the field of interest. To achieve a degree from CSUSB means you have the privilege to say you are part of the 3.4 Million CSU Alumni Family.
- Staff: To have a degree from CSUSB means receiving high quality education and giving back to the local community.
- Staff: to have been exposed to diversity and learned interdisciplinarity,
- Staff: to have gained a degree based on hard work and merit.
- Staff: To obtain a degree with quality education alongside opportunities that fostered engagement and civic responsibility that allowed the student to broaden his/her/their knowledge/skills before entering the job force.
- Staff: To receive a degree from CSUSB means that you have achieved this goal by being taught, trained and supported by the friendly and loving Coyote Pack of faculty, staff and other peers that completely understand the struggle of college life and want nothing more but to see students reach their career, academic and personal goals while at CSUSB and beyond graduation.
- Staff: validation of an academic achievement and the ability to utilize that in the career market
- Staff: You have worked hard and been persistent. You will be better prepared to enter the workforce and have the foundational skills you need to be successful.
- Students: Honestly? It was my best option. I can't afford to go to another school, but I'm not ready to live on my own either. It has enough of my minority for me to feel comfortable and not out of place. It's in my price range and offers so many services that really help me to get my degree (ex. Shuttle services). It means success to me.
- Students: It would mean you achieve something important, because we are all working towards something
- Students: I think no one will stop with degree, it's a ticket to next stage of your career
- Students: It means fulfilling another step closer to your goal
- Students: I'm a Psychology major, so to me having a degree from CSUSB means that I got a psychology degree from a school that has a great psych program.
- Students: Where the degree comes from doesn't matter as long as I get it.
- Students: Obtaining a degree at CSUSB is having the chance to help other people through the use of helpful knowledge at this school.
- Students: It means obtaining the required knowledge for your career choice.
- Students: That I passed
- Students: It means to achieve my goal and accomplish more than everyone in my family. It is a dream come true with the opportunity to find a job close to home.
- Students: it means that you are now certified as a college graduate
- Students: It means that you have demonstrated enough skills.
- Students: Any bachelor is impressive on a resume, the more harder the degree is, the more possible opportunities
- Students: Better opportunities in the workforce.
- Students: It means that you are different from everyone else and you have achieved what others dream to have
- Students: It gives a sense of accomplishment and dedication put forth to obtaining that degree.
- Students: Integrity, hard work, and persistence.
- Students: To have a degree from CSUSB is having an opportunity to work at different agencies that people without a degree wouldn't have been able to get.
- Students: i know my stuff

- Students: It means I followed my dream and reached my goal.
- Students: It means that I am able to apply what I have learned to be able to spread to others and get a job to lead to my career
- Students: that i have succeeded in one of my goals
- Students: Achievement, self-confidence, for me the feeling of being whole. I can account for my time in a way I am proud of in means of accomplishments. I am inspired to encourage other students to not give up because that is the supportive environment CSUSB provided to me.
- I can share my college experiences and perseverance, not giving up. Utilizing all available resources that CSUSB has to offer overall proud of myself and the University. "
- Students: To get a job that what I want professionally.
- Students: It means a foot in the door of the career path chosen
- Students: To me - no more than having a degree from any other cal-state, and to that extent a certificate stating that a student has plowed through their classes and has a broad understanding of the discipline.
- Students: An accomplishment
- Students: a degree from CSUSB means an achievement
- Students: To have a degree from CSUSB mean that you put all your effort and dedication to finish one stage of your life.
- Students: For me it means I'm going to have the basic knowledge and skills to perform in the job I want
- Students: Having a degree from CSUSB means you have successfully accomplished the first step in learning what your major is. it doesn't necessarily mean the learning is done but it means the tools and material you need for further success in life are given when having a degree.
- Students: It means that I can have a better learning and getting a good job
- Students: is a qualification awarded to students upon successful completion of a course of study in higher education
- Students: That you're competent in your field of study.
- Students: it is a true accomplishment and I can go anywhere I want in life now.
- Students: Obtaining a degree from CSUSB means that I put my academic life as a number one priority to ensure success in my future endeavors. Many people are not given the option or opportunity to attend college. Therefore, I also consider this my academic experience at CSUSB a blessing.
- Students: It means to have more opportunities to be more productive and to provide.
- Students: To have found a job that corresponds to the degree.
- Students: It means I won't be saddled with crippling student loan debt
- Students: To have a career not just a job.
- Students: It means that I have a paper that is pretty powerful not that many people have a bachelors and not that many people go to college. It's also a meaning of privilege because not everybody in the world gets to be educated and many people are not give me the opportunity to have some of their goals come alive .
- Students: It means that I am very privileged to have attended and obtained a degree from of the most diverse institutions out there that cater to students like myself.
- Students: It means that I will be able to find new opportunities when it comes to choosing a career/job.
- Students: It's definitely life changing in the aspect that you can be successful in a chosen career, but also it's a high standard placed on those who may look up to you to want to achieve the same or better.
- Students: It means that I have successfully gained the knowledge that I came to gain and now have a piece of paper that proves it.
- Students: Getting a well-earned education. Being able to achieve and succeed throughout your own personal, academic, social standards and situations.
- Students: It means that you've worked hard and earned a degree.
- Students: Success. Achievement.
- Students: It would mean that the sacrifices my family and I made were worth it.
- Students: having a better chance at a great job.
- Students: It means that you've fought through the trials and tribulation to get to the finish line. It means you are a champion who did not allow family drama/complications, a bad grade or off quarter, the naysayers or life get in the way of your goal to complete your educational journey. To me, it means its all mine, proof that I was serious about changing my circumstances and experiencing a higher education and where the journey and connections can take me.
- Students: Nothing because I am just a number to this school
- Students: It helps me to find a good job because I have more knowledge and skills.
- Students: It is beyond the opposite of not having one. No matter how close you get, when you finish it is amazing. But you can be five units away or ABD, and none of that counts.
- Somehow the degree certifies you as worthy. It is hard to explain, but you know..."
- Students: It provides proof of a solid work ethic, and a testament to one's ability to learn in a diverse, welcome setting.
- Students: Networking and connections
- Students: This means I have endured 4 years of college, meaning if i can do that i can do anything
- Students: Not much. It is very competitive out in the world, so many places are looking at experience in the field you are in.
- Students: That hopefully I can go out and find a great job with the career experience I've pertained with my time here at CSUSB. To better my family's life chances.
- Students: Having a degree from CSUSB shows that I, as a student, have studied in a particular field for four or more years in order to follow a career and do something for the world. A degree shows that I have not only knowledge, but it shows I am determined, brave, and a well rounded individual. It cannot be based on just graduating because a degree means nothing if you don't know the field.
- Students: For me personally it will be something big to have a degree from CSUSB. The fact that I am the first generation to attend a 4 year university. It mean the world to me by earing a degree I will be able to have a brighter future being able to be independent and not relying on someone for help. Being able to support myself finical but the most important of all is to help out my family since they have helped me to get in this position that I am right know. And showing my family that it is possible to go to College and to get a degree.
- Students: Having a degree from CSUSB will be meaningful to myself as it will allow more employment opportunities that will hopefully enable me to move up in the workforce and in my career.

- Students: To have earned a degree from CSUB will mean a lot to someone raised in San Bernardino where the odds are stacked against us growing up. Proof that the will to go to school and expand your knowledge, rather than letting the negative comments and views shape you, shows me I want to make a difference and join my peers in making the world a better place.
- Students: I am proud to have earned three degrees from CSUSB and can honestly recommend this institution to others.
- Students: It means that the student has completed the requirements for graduation.
- Students: I have accomplished my education goal.
- Students: Opportunity for better employment
- Students: The beginning stage of my life
- Students: It means that you have a degree from a university that disregarding the area it's in, it is one of the top public universities in different departments.
- Students: To have a degree from CSUSB means that you succeeded in your educational goals and are ready for your future career and / or graduate school.
- Students: I am able to make progress toward my next goal.
- Students: I will be the first person in my immediate family to have completed a Bachelors Degree, and hopefully get off this cycle of poverty we've been on for as long as I can remember.
- Students: It means to be a person who achieved his dream of career
- Students: I'll be prepared for what graduate school has in store for me.
- Students: It means that I accomplished the goal I set for myself and I am able to provided for a family in the future.
- Students: I would finish what my father was unable to during his lifetime: a degree from San Bernardino State College (yes, he attended that many years ago). After a full career in another field, I hope to use the degree and the knowledge and skills taught to move into another career.
- Students: It means that a minority was given a chance to show academic excellence and get a job that actually will pay a living wage.
- Students: Success
- Students: That someone was able to meet the requirements to obtain a education regardless of barriers.
- Students: That I finally got the degree I have been striving for and have succeeded at overcoming a major hurdle in my life. Also, I can now also aim for better employment in an occupation that I actually have a passion for.
- Students: That you have worked hard for what you have and that you are a part of a huge staple in the Inland Empire.