



EASY – ENTREPRENEURIAL AND SKILFUL YOUTH

REPORT

on

YOUNG PEOPLE'S NEEDS



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The survey on young people's needs was done by 50 students of *Prof. Ivan Apostolov School* – 2 of them are former students and 48 are still studying at our school. The age range of the respondents is 16 – 24. *Prof. Ivan Apostolov School* is one of the first private schools established in Bulgaria and is located in the capital city – Sofia. With a population of about nearly 2 million, Sofia is also the largest city in Bulgaria. All of the survey respondents live in Sofia and their first tongue is Bulgarian. 24 of them were girls and 26 – boys.

48 of the students who participated in the survey have completed or are about to complete a high school and two of them are studying at a university at the moment. Most of the respondents have set clear career objections for themselves and are quite aware of their skills and strong points, but do not have much information about the state of market at the moment and have little or completely lack knowledge about the employers' needs.

Before looking for a job, almost all students who complete *Prof. Ivan Apostolov School* (98 %) continue their education in different universities in EU. Yet, the majority of the respondents answered that *getting ready for their future* is the area they need most support. They also are not very confident about how to acquire work related skills and need to learn how to make decisions and plans.

Most of the survey respondents have sought help mainly to prepare for their future – choice of further educational institution and eventual work placement, development of adequate skills, decision-making, planning. Hardly any respondents have had some proper work experience despite the fact that quite a few of them have had temporary summer jobs. Nevertheless, the students' answers to the last questions are quite hesitant.

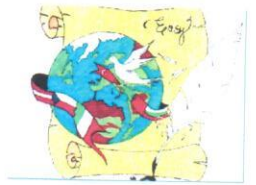


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Here are the answers of the survey respondents in figures and percentages:

<i>(1) QUESTIONS/ ANSWERS</i>	<i>RESPONDENTS</i>	
	<i>(2) FIGURES</i>	<i>(3) PERCENTAGES</i>
1. <u>You live in:</u>		
a city	50	100 %
a small community	0	0
in the country	0	0
2. <u>Your age is:</u>		
under 15	0	0
15 – 17	40	80%
18 – 20	8	16%
21 – 24	2	4%
25 - 30	0	0
3. <u>Your first language is:</u>		
English	0	0
French	0	0
European language	50	100%
another language	0	0
4. <u>You are:</u>		
Male	26	52%



1	2	3
Female	24	48%
5. <u>You have completed:</u>		
some high school	40	80%
high school diploma	8	16%
some college	0	0
completed college	0	0
some university	2	4%
completed university	0	0
certificate or diploma from another institution	0	0
on the job training	0	0
other	0	0

6. What are the biggest barriers you face in achieving your career goals?

0 = definitely not 1 = probably not 2 = don't know 3 = probably 4 = definitely

QUESTIONS/ ANSWERS	0		1		2		3		4	
	Fig.	%	Fig.	%	Fig.	%	Fig.	%	Fig.	%
Can't decide what I want to do	14	28%	14	28%	10	20%	4	8%	8	16%
Don't have the necessary education	0	0	3	6%	0	0	13	26%	34	68%
Don't know what skills the employers want	0	0	2	4%	3	6%	19	38%	26	52%
Don't know what my skills are	9	18%	6	12%	10	20%	23	46%	2	4%
Don't know where to look for work	4	4%	6	12%	3	6%	18	36%	19	38%
Can't get hired	4	4%	10	20%	10	20%	18	36%	8	16%



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QUESTIONS/ ANSWERS	0		1		2		3		4	
	Fig.	%	Fig.	%	Fig.	%	Fig.	%	Fig.	%
Don't have resume and interview skills	14	28%	18	36%	2	4%	11	22%	5	10%
Can't seem to keep a job	1	2%	7	14%	28	56%	10	20%	4	11%
other	2	4%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

7. In what areas do you feel you need the most support?

0 = definitely not 1 = probably not 2 = don't know 3 = probably 4 = definitely

QUESTIONS/ ANSWERS	0		1		2		3		4	
	Fig.	%	Fig.	%	Fig.	%	Fig.	%	Fig.	%
Getting ready for my future (e.g. basic preparation for work, being motivated, work ethic)	1	2%	2	4%	3	6%	12	24%	32	64%
Knowing myself (e.g. my interests, values, aptitudes, characteristics)	4	8%	12	24%	7	14%	21	42%	6	12%
Learning about opportunities (e.g. knowing about different occupations, industries, employers)	4	8%	6	12%	3	6%	27	54%	10	20%
Developing work-related skills (e.g. general work skills)	3	6%	5	10%	3	6%	28	56%	11	22%
Learning to make decisions, make plans, and act on them	3	6%	5	10%	3	6%	28	56%	11	22%
Searching for work (e.g. resumes, interviews)	2	4%	6	12%	10	20%	24	48%	8	16%
Balancing life and work (e.g. managing work, health, family,	12	24%	14	28%	21	42%	2	4%	1	2%





friends, leisure)										
Knowing how to keep a job and stay up-to-date	12	24%	13	26%	21	42%	3	6%	1	2%
other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

8. In what areas have you actually sought help?

0 = not at all 1 = not very much 2 = some 3 = quite a bit 4 = a lot

QUESTIONS/ ANSWERS	0		1		2		3		4	
	Fig.	%	Fig.	%	Fig.	%	Fig.	%	Fig.	%
Getting ready for my future (e.g. basic preparation for work, being motivated, work ethic)	2	4%	6	12%	8	16%	22	44%	12	24%
Knowing myself (e.g. my interests, values, aptitudes, characteristics)	8	16%	19	38%	6	12%	10	20%	7	14%
Learning about opportunities (e.g. knowing about different occupations, industries, employers)	4	8%	6	12%	3	6%	27	54%	10	20%
Developing work-related skills (e.g. general work skills)	3	6%	5	10%	3	6%	28	56%	11	22%
Learning to make decisions, make plans, and act on them	3	6%	5	10%	3	6%	28	56%	11	22%
Searching for work (e.g. resumes, interviews)	2	4%	6	12%	10	20%	24	48%	8	16%
Balancing life and work (e.g. managing work, health, family, friends, leisure)	12	24%	14	28%	21	42%	2	4%	1	2%
Knowing how to keep a job and stay up-to-date	12	24%	13	26%	21	42%	3	6%	1	2%
other	0	0	0	0	14	28%	9	18%	0	0





In general, more than half of the students are aware of the career opportunities and have set clear goals for themselves but they need support in clarifying their ideas and in developing work-related skills. The students also need help in order to learn how to make decisions and plans as well as to get motivated and prepared for their future.



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