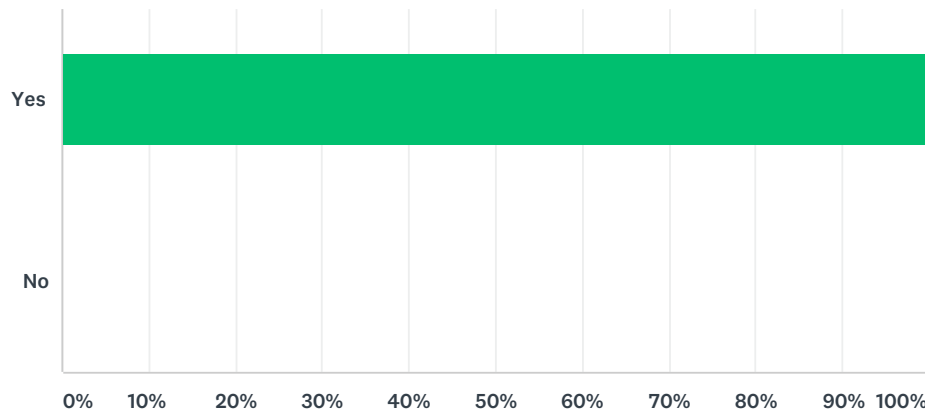


Q1 Does your College/School/Department have an active SAF Student Chapter?

Answered: 25 Skipped: 0

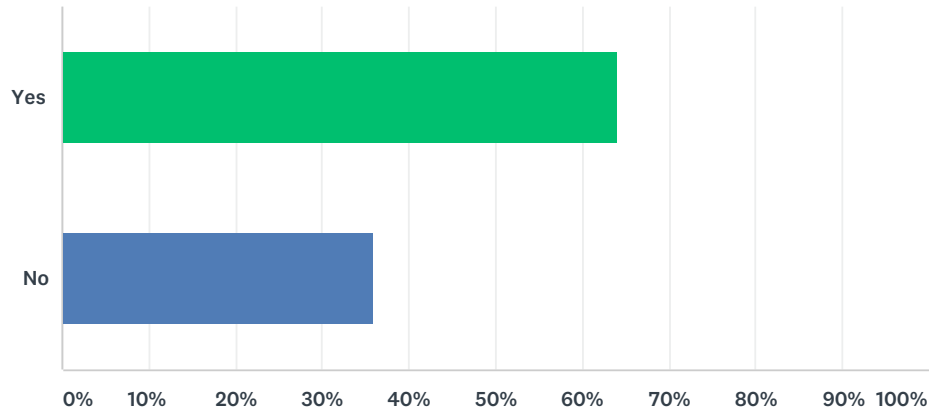


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	100.00%	25
No	0.00%	0
TOTAL		25

#	COMMENTS:	DATE
1	We have a student chapter of SAF, about 8 national members or so out of about 35 in the student group as a whole. One does not need to be a national member to be part of the group. The national dues are just not viewed as value added to many students, who are quite cost conscious these days.	9/27/2019 4:02 AM
2	Small, but somewhat active.	9/25/2019 12:57 AM
3	In truth, we are currently trying hard to keep the student chapter active - it's been difficult to articulate/convince the relevance of SAF to the student body.	9/17/2019 2:55 AM

Q2 Do you think it would be appropriate for the SAF Certified Forester exam to be administered to your graduating students?SAF arranges the administration, exam site requirements and exam security. Students that pass become Candidate Certified Foresters until they gain minimum of 5 years of experience. Students that initially fail can register to retake the exam.

Answered: 25 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	64.00% 16
No	36.00% 9
TOTAL	25

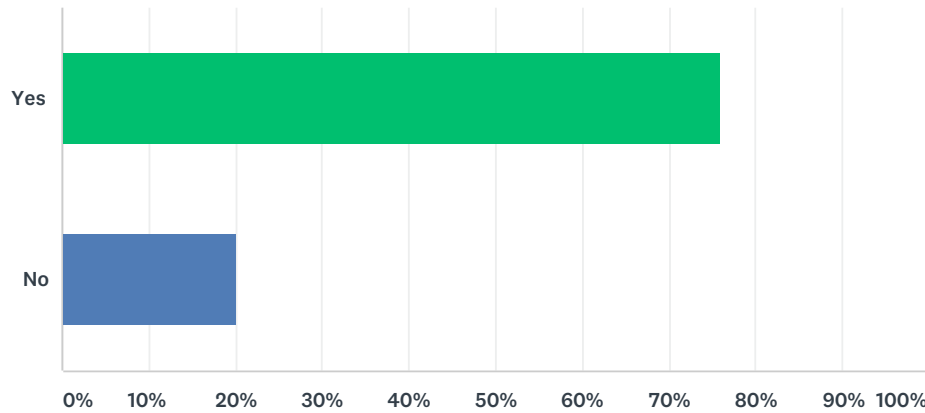
#	YOUR COMMENTS:	DATE
1	The five-year experience requirement exists because there are skill/knowledge expectations and associated questions that cannot be covered in a 4-year degree program. Additionally, there does not appear to be any benefit to a graduating student to take the exam, they must still wait 5 years to become a CF. I am not sure the label of Candidate CF will have much market value. Many graduates are better served by state board of registrations and being registered foresters in the states in which they work. That resonates more with their clients. The logistics of selecting the date/time of such an exam offering would be next to impossible for a graduating class of any decent size. Students are quite busy with work on top of classes. To try this outside of a class setting would be next to impossible and giving up class time in the world of 120 credits to a degree is a tough sell to faculty.	9/27/2019 4:02 AM
2	Questions 2 and 3 are basically asking the same thing. This is not a yes/no question, it is highly dependent on many factors. Therefore, I have chosen "NO" given concerns I will outline at the end of the survey.	9/27/2019 1:37 AM
3	The answer depends upon whether you are asking as a requirement of all students or to those that request it. Yes to those that want it, no to those that don't.	9/27/2019 1:03 AM
4	It would need to be voluntary and the exam would need to be appropriate to a newly graduated or about to graduate BS forestry student. My sense is that current exam takers are not students, but practicing professionals with some years of experience.	9/25/2019 12:57 AM
5	Only on a voluntary basis.	9/24/2019 6:50 AM
6	However, this would be optional.	9/22/2019 10:58 PM

Exploring Interest in the Concept of graduating students taking the SAF Certified Forester Exam through their Forest Resource/Natural Resources Colleges/Schools/Departments

7	- many of our students are not interested in a forestry career (between 20-80% Of our students, depending on the year)	9/18/2019 12:42 PM
8	I think this would be fine, however, many of our students are coming to our program because it is accredited by SAF and our student employers are fine with that 'certification.'	9/17/2019 9:27 AM
9	SAF is just a fork and knife association that tries to justify forest service bad land management policies	9/16/2019 2:03 PM
10	Yes - presuming this is optional. I see it being problematic as a requirement.	9/16/2019 10:27 AM
11	The statement in the intro that "SAF members that are University Faculty support..." is not a generally true statement. It biases the survey. And my answer to 2 is no, despite being an SAF member. Y'all should be ashamed of yourselves.	9/16/2019 10:02 AM
12	There are things in the exam that a graduating forestry student wouldn't be ready to answer.	9/16/2019 9:15 AM
13	I think that students should be made aware of the CF exam and how to prepare for it, but I don't like the implication that the material covered in the CF exam (and the CE credits required) need to drive the curriculum of forestry programs. That would both kill a lot of forestry programs and deter students, who are already short on electives. I would suggest instead that forestry schools get more involved in offering the CE for the CF credential.	9/16/2019 9:04 AM
14	The "five years of experience" is part of the CF. What justification is there for 5 years? I wonder if fewer years would also work (e.g. 3 years) to transition from CCF to CF.	9/16/2019 7:39 AM

Q3 Would your College/School/Department support the concept/idea of your students taking the SAF Certified Forester Exam? Please explain in the Comment Box your "Yes" or "No" answer.

Answered: 25 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	76.00%	19
No	20.00%	5
TOTAL		25

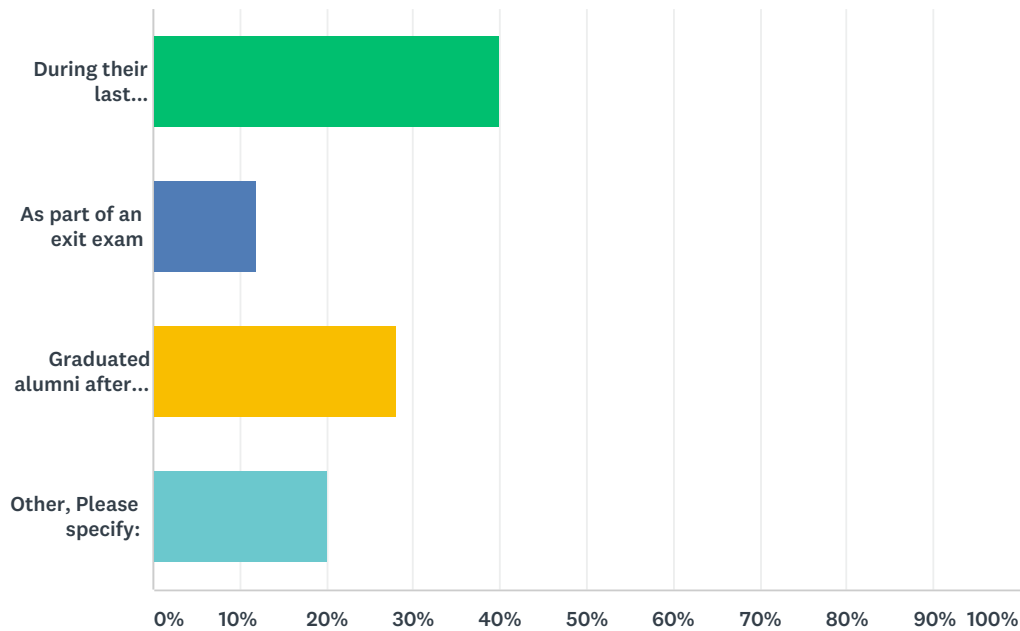
#	COMMENTS:	DATE
1	I am comfortable with students opting to take the CF at or just before graduation. That is their decision. Additionally, the title of CF may not be a requirement or even a benefit for some degree options/career paths within forestry. I am not comfortable with requiring students to take the CF exam to fulfill an academic requirement. As stated previously, the 5-year experience requirement is still an obstacle to become a CF. We certainly support a student getting an additional credential. As a formal part of our program, we already have a solid assessment system in place.	9/27/2019 4:02 AM
2	Maybe. See comment above and comments below. It depends.	9/27/2019 1:37 AM
3	If it were voluntary.	9/27/2019 1:03 AM
4	I am not in a position to answer this question given that I am retired and thus no longer the head of our academic unit. Not sure who all gets this survey from our institution. You might have explained this in the introduction to the survey.	9/25/2019 6:24 AM
5	As noted above, as long as it is voluntary and tailored to their level, having the exam as an opportunity would be acceptable.	9/25/2019 12:57 AM
6	We would encourage our students to take the exam, provide a room, and exam monitor if needed.	9/24/2019 6:50 AM
7	I think some of the above-average students would be willing to try the exam right out of their BS degrees.	9/20/2019 10:14 AM
8	We would be supportive of this effort and encourage them to consider taking the test.	9/19/2019 5:05 AM
9	- while a good and sound concept, the student cost, preparation (faculty run review classes; student time spent studying for the exam in addition to full course loads), and lack of student interest does not lead to requested support	9/18/2019 12:42 PM
10	Besides the marketing aspect of developing certified foresters, the exam would provide a good assessment tool for our program.	9/17/2019 9:27 AM

Exploring Interest in the Concept of graduating students taking the SAF Certified Forester Exam through their Forest Resource/Natural Resources Colleges/Schools/Departments

11	Certification would offer a point of differentiation for our academic program, as well as provide employers an indicator of program quality and rigor.	9/17/2019 7:42 AM
12	We lack a good tool for assessment of degree outcomes, this would create a nice tool for assessing change in effectiveness over time.	9/17/2019 12:12 AM
13	false sense of credentialing as it has no meaning in states with licensing requirements.	9/16/2019 2:03 PM
14	This would have value in assessment of the "quality" of our educational program and provide year to year indicator of success. However - one has to guard against teaching to the test. So more detail will be needed.	9/16/2019 10:27 AM
15	Not all forestry majors aspire to careers for which the CF credential is necessary or appropriate.	9/16/2019 10:02 AM
16	Only if the results don't become part of the accreditation process. Otherwise my answer would be a "NO".	9/16/2019 9:15 AM
17	Same comments as above.	9/16/2019 9:04 AM
18	We are intrigued by the idea. We already give our graduating forestry students an exit exam based on SAF accreditation standards. The test could a useful tool for program assessment required by SAF and our regional higher education accrediting organization.	9/16/2019 7:39 AM
19	There is a high degree of interest by the students, so sure we'd support it. However, they are more interested in the RF credential.	9/16/2019 7:15 AM

Q4 When is the best time for your students to take the SAF Certified Forester Exam?

Answered: 25 Skipped: 0

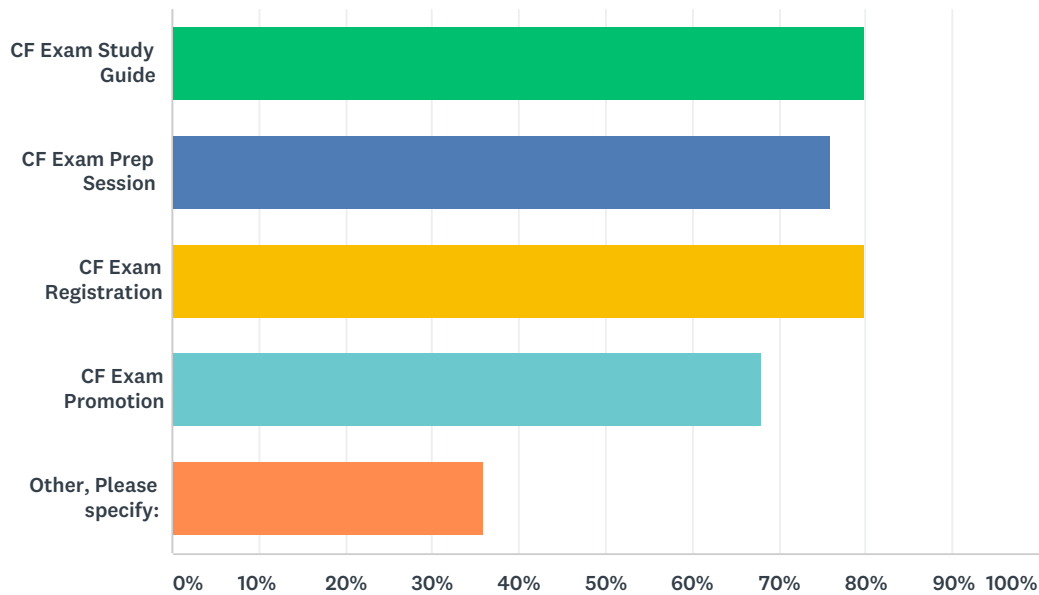


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
During their last quarter/semester term before graduation	40.00%	10
As part of an exit exam	12.00%	3
Graduated alumni after some years of experience	28.00%	7
Other, Please specify:	20.00%	5
TOTAL		25

#	OTHER, PLEASE SPECIFY:	DATE
1	It depends on how such an exam would be used.	9/27/2019 1:37 AM
2	I am not in a position to answer this question given that I am now retired.	9/25/2019 6:24 AM
3	only when they have nothing else in the life to do.	9/16/2019 2:03 PM
4	The best time would be during our senior capstone forestry course. Usually, this would be during the last or second to last semester before graduation.	9/16/2019 7:39 AM
5	During our capstone course.	9/16/2019 7:15 AM

Q5 What support from SAF would your College/School/Department need to successfully give the CF Exam? Check all that apply.

Answered: 25 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
CF Exam Study Guide	80.00% 20
CF Exam Prep Session	76.00% 19
CF Exam Registration	80.00% 20
CF Exam Promotion	68.00% 17
Other, Please specify:	36.00% 9
Total Respondents: 25	

#	OTHER, PLEASE SPECIFY:	DATE
1	All of the above, as well as the personal to offer and administer the exam and do all the logistics. It should not be the job of faculty.	9/27/2019 4:02 AM
2	Not in a position to answer this question.	9/25/2019 6:24 AM
3	We are busy enough with our current tasks that SAF would need to bear this burden.	9/25/2019 12:57 AM
4	Not applicable -- we are not interested in having the exam at SUNY ESF	9/18/2019 12:42 PM
5	An explanation of the benefits that would accrue from taking and passing the CF Exam, and of becoming a CF.	9/17/2019 2:55 AM
6	not of meaning.	9/16/2019 2:03 PM
7	Better understanding of the exam contents/scope will be necessary in order to move forward.	9/16/2019 10:27 AM
8	To drop this self-aggrandizing nonsense. This was not an original or appropriate goal of the CF credential. Now, it's a desperate ploy to prop enrollment in a failing professional certification scheme. It's exactly the sort of thing that continues to drive students away from, rather than toward, SAF.	9/16/2019 10:02 AM

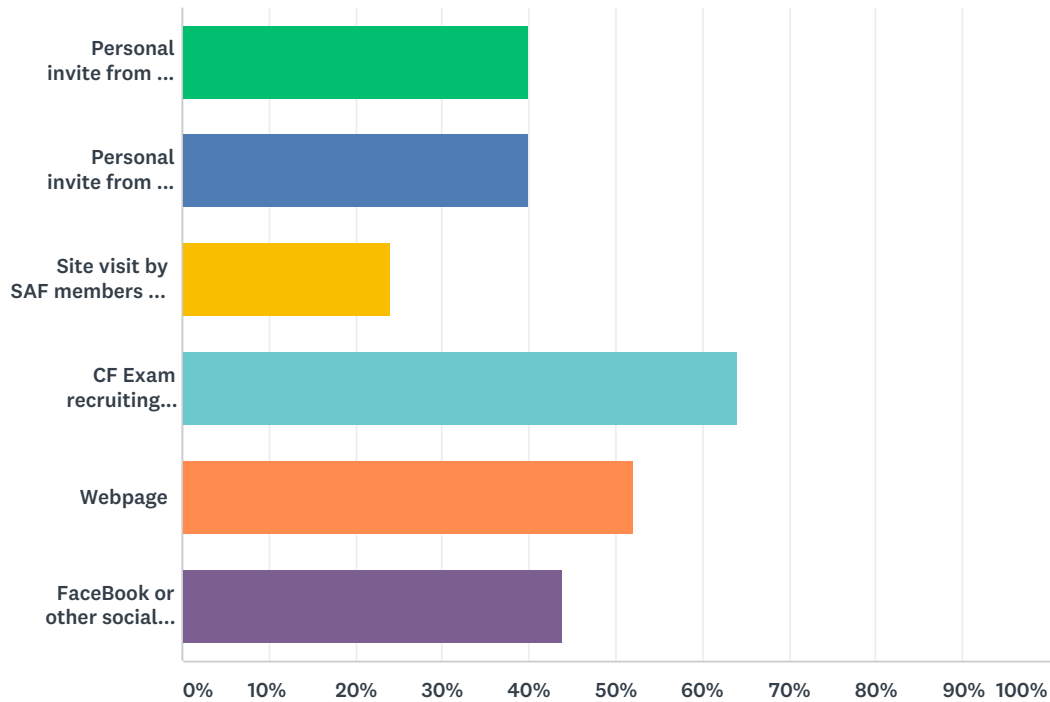
Exploring Interest in the Concept of graduating students taking the SAF Certified Forester Exam through their Forest Resource/Natural Resources Colleges/Schools/Departments

9 The big issue is why they should take it if they only have to take a state exam? In addition, the recertification requires more CFEs that many state certification programs. There is no justification for the 60 hour requirement.

9/16/2019 9:15 AM

Q6 If the exam is not required, what assistance or information would your College/School/Department need to encourage your students to take the SAF CF Exam?

Answered: 25 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Personal invite from the SAF President/CEO	40.00% 10
Personal invite from the SAF State Chair	40.00% 10
Site visit by SAF members or staff	24.00% 6
CF Exam recruiting flyer	64.00% 16
Webpage	52.00% 13
FaceBook or other social media	44.00% 11
Total Respondents: 25	

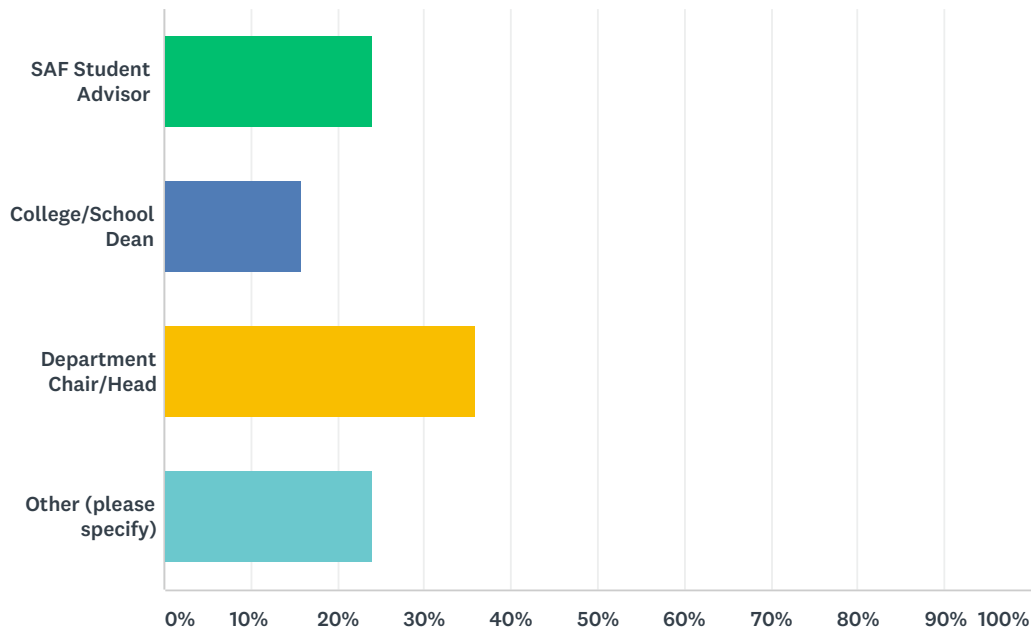
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	None of these resonate. A solid argument how the credential is truly value added to a graduating student. State board of registrations have long ago trumped the value added of being a SAF CF, and the CFE credit requirements for maintaining a state registration as opposed to SAF CF are lower and much more reasonable.	9/27/2019 4:02 AM
2	Difficult to answer, given it is unclear what role this exam is playing at our program level, with accreditation status, etc.	9/27/2019 1:37 AM
3	The best encouragement would come from an invitation from potential employers	9/27/2019 1:03 AM
4	Not in a position to answer this question.	9/25/2019 6:24 AM
5	All of these promotional items would be helpful.	9/24/2019 6:50 AM

Exploring Interest in the Concept of graduating students taking the SAF Certified Forester Exam through their Forest Resource/Natural Resources Colleges/Schools/Departments

6	Since we are not supportive, there is no needed assistance or information needed from SAF	9/18/2019 12:42 PM
7	Taking the exam at time of graduation is good preparation for taking the exam to qualify for the foresters license.	9/18/2019 11:05 AM
8	I think it would be useful to have employers highlight the need - that would be more impactful than the individuals listed above.	9/17/2019 9:27 AM
9	I think a site visit would be crucial.	9/17/2019 2:55 AM
10	none - i would counsel that the title is illegal in this state as forester is a noun, which is limited to those with a license to practice by the state not some organization that continually downgrades its profession to appear more diverse.	9/16/2019 2:03 PM
11	The key for this is the faculty. They will promote/recommend with the students that they have in class.	9/16/2019 10:27 AM
12	We don't need to encourage students to do it. It's not appropriate at the graduating-student stage.	9/16/2019 10:02 AM
13	Graduates from the forestry program need to be able to afford the time and enrollment for CE. Schools would likely be interested in helping offer these "stackable credentials".	9/16/2019 9:04 AM

Q7 Who at your College/School/Department would be the best "Champion" for implementing the SAF CF Exam for your students?

Answered: 25 Skipped: 0

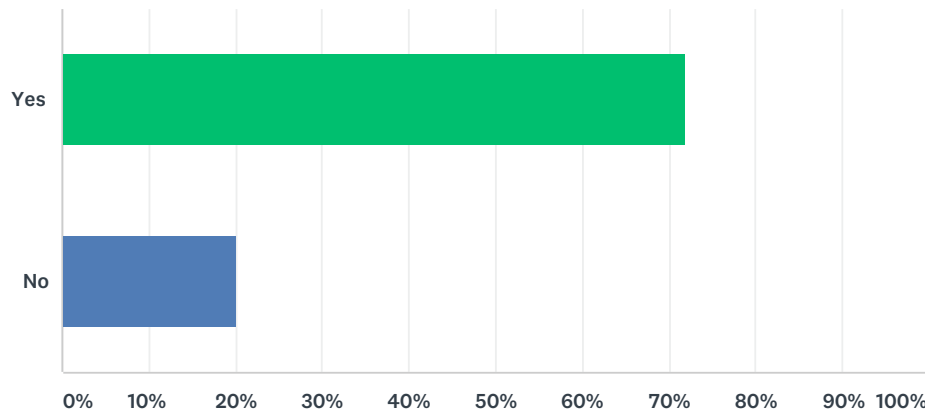


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
SAF Student Advisor	24.00% 6
College/School Dean	16.00% 4
Department Chair/Head	36.00% 9
Other (please specify)	24.00% 6
TOTAL	25

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	SAF Student Advisor, Department chair, Alumni who could talk about the value of SAF CF from the "after you have graduated perspective".	9/27/2019 4:02 AM
2	Again, difficult to answer. The most likely advocates would be the department head, and the faculty advisor to the SAF club.	9/27/2019 1:37 AM
3	Some combination of Director, Undergraduate Coordinator, and Advising staff.	9/22/2019 10:09 PM
4	No champion here in Syracuse	9/18/2019 12:42 PM
5	I doubt the faculty would champion anything for the students.	9/16/2019 2:03 PM
6	Absolutely nobody. We don't buy it. It's a bad idea being put forward with a 20th century view of the forestry profession and the role of SAF within it.	9/16/2019 10:02 AM

Q8 Could your College/School/Department use the students' results of the CF exam as a way of measuring/documenting academic success?

Answered: 25 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	72.00%	18
No	20.00%	5
TOTAL		25

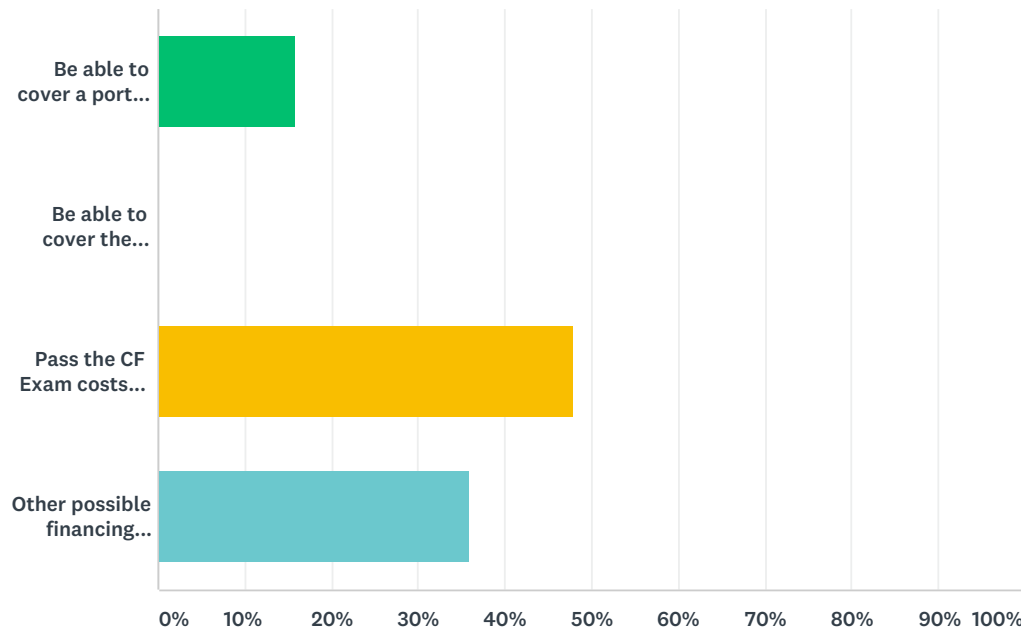
#	COMMENTS:	DATE
1	Potentially, but seems like a lot of added work for faculty since we are already have an assessment process in place that works for us and our stakeholders. The fear of teaching toward the CF exam also scares me. Straight results (i.e. pass/fail) could become problematic from a departmental/program review perspective. Additionally, there is a fear student would focus on doing just enough to "pass or get by" – that would totally cloud any assessment efforts	9/27/2019 4:02 AM
2	In theory, yes, but see comments below. This exam likely does not reflect well the nature of our program, so it is unlikely a good indicator of overall student success.	9/27/2019 1:37 AM
3	As a voluntary exam, we would not have a complete picture of student success. We also want to avoid teaching to the test. We have an accredited program with a well-qualified faculty who are perfectly capable of assessing academic success of our students. It is our job.	9/25/2019 12:57 AM
4	I believe the exam would be helpful, but only in addition to our existing capstones and outcome assessments, not to replace them.	9/24/2019 6:50 AM
5	Need to investigate this more. Challenging if the test is optional, since only a subset of students would be taking exam. Also, the concern of using this as a way to "rank" universities.	9/22/2019 10:58 PM
6	We could, but would need to know more about test questions, what they are designed to test, and similar.	9/22/2019 10:09 PM
7	We already track success on this since it is the registration exam (with an added state exam) to become a Georgia Registered Forester. We do have concerns about pass rates being used to "rank" programs and this leading to teaching to the test. Also, if this practice becomes widespread, it will make it imperative that those who review and revised the exam do so in a highly ethical manner.	9/19/2019 5:05 AM
8	there is no way to determine if the learning objectives be aligned with the goals of the test.	9/16/2019 2:03 PM
9	See comment to earlier question. Assessment of curriculum is important and having an instrument to do so could have real value.	9/16/2019 10:27 AM

Exploring Interest in the Concept of graduating students taking the SAF Certified Forester Exam through their Forest Resource/Natural Resources Colleges/Schools/Departments

10	We are experts in assessing student success, including their broad preparation for forestry and other natural resource careers within and beyond our region. The CF exam is not designed to do that.	9/16/2019 10:02 AM
11	Maybe. This should be an option with all of your questions. However, some of the questions in the exam would not adequately measure student academic success because they are based more on experience.	9/16/2019 9:15 AM
12	Almost all colleges have an accewssment requirement by accreditation. So this would be a plus.	9/16/2019 7:15 AM

Q9 In terms of covering the cost (est. \$260/student) of administering the CF exam, our College/School/Department would:

Answered: 25 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Be able to cover a portion of the costs of the CF exam	16.00% 4
Be able to cover the entire cost of the CF Exam	0.00% 0
Pass the CF Exam costs along to the students	48.00% 12
Other possible financing options:	36.00% 9
TOTAL	25

#	OTHER POSSIBLE FINANCING OPTIONS:	DATE
1	Our program would not be able or willing to cover even 1 penny of that cost. It would be passed on to students. They have a difficult to impossible time coming up with even \$50 to attend a state SAF conference.	9/27/2019 4:02 AM
2	Not in a position to answer this question.	9/25/2019 6:24 AM
3	We might help the students with some subsidy. What is SAF willing to do about supporting the costs?	9/25/2019 12:57 AM
4	Not sure. Probably very limited funds available from Dept/College. Mostly likely need to be paid by student.	9/22/2019 10:58 PM
5	Especially early in this effort, it would be critical to make the process as cheap as possible for students (ideally, free). Once proven to be a useful certification and "institutional memory" has been established, the price could increase some for students. It's possible that the School could find support for some portion of the cost (likely from a donor), but not for the entire cost.	9/22/2019 10:09 PM

Exploring Interest in the Concept of graduating students taking the SAF Certified Forester Exam through their Forest Resource/Natural Resources Colleges/Schools/Departments

6	The cost has to be borne by the student. Our state laws prevent us from using state funds to provide any gratuity of value to someone. The state division might consider fundraising to offer scholarships to those who need assistance in covering the cost of the exam. SAF might also consider reducing the fees if this concept increases the number of people taking the test and the greater scale results in lower costs per exam.	9/19/2019 5:05 AM
7	We would have to investigate the use of various fund sources to be used to cover the cost of the CF exam. It is likely that the department or college would offset a portion of the total cost of exam administration.	9/17/2019 7:42 AM
8	I would not justify the cost to department of student to take the exam.	9/16/2019 2:03 PM
9	Likely, the cost will be passed on to the students. However, an opportunity to provide scholarships, funded by sponsors/partners, to students that cover part of the cost could be investigated. I still believe the cost as presented in question 9 needs to be reduced significantly by SAF	9/16/2019 7:39 AM

Q10 What additional information would your College/School/Department need to implement the SAF CF Exam for your students?

Answered: 16 Skipped: 9

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Why, what is the value added? What purpose is this really serving?	9/27/2019 4:02 AM
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It would be really helpful to actually see or better understand the exam itself to better assess whether it is a good fit for our program, or whether it would make sense to include it. • Some questions about the exam: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o When was the last time it was updated? o Does it represent, broadly, forestry programs across the country, or does it favor regional emphases? For instance, does it include questions about forest restoration and multiple use as well as timber products, economics, and operations? Does it include valuation of ecosystem services (i.e., water) in addition to timber products? o Does the exam capture all the things foresters do across the country, or is it production-oriented? o How closely does the CF Exam track/cover accreditation standards? • There is a huge difference between offering this exam as an opportunity for students, with associated support to prepare, vs. requiring it as part of the program, or as part of accreditation. • My faculty have a very strong opinion that accreditation of a forestry program needs to remain completely separate from the Certified Forester program. • Students go to college and pursue a BS in Forestry for many different reasons, not just to become a certified forester. A college education should not necessarily teach to a standardized exam. • Not all forestry graduates seek employment that requires a CF credential. • It is not clear what, exactly, a standardized exam really represents about a student's actual skillset coming out of an accredited forestry program, especially given the variability in forestry programs and practices across the country. • In addition, it has been proven that standardized tests do not reflect accurately a person's competency or potential, and that these types of instruments detract significantly from our efforts to enhance the diversity of our profession. • Is there any data that test scores correlate to potential job performance? 	9/27/2019 1:37 AM
3	<p>We support providing the opportunity for students to take the CF exam for the students that are interested. We would help to promote and facilitate students taking the exam, including potentially providing institutional funds to do so. We also understand the interest in the CF requirement is from programs where the state has mandatory licensing or certification. However we are not one of those states. We have two general issues that affect our holistic support of this initiative. 1) We have definite strengths or focus areas in our program that may not be reflected in the CF exam. 2) We do have a number of students that will require other certifications or credentialing in lieu of a Forestry CF, ex. arboriculture, ACF, or students that are contemplating a career shift or going on to graduate school. We would not support having these students, or the department, paying \$260 for the exam. In summary and in direct response to question 10 – we would be supportive of voluntary administration of the CF exam and a reduction in student fees for taking the exam.</p>	9/27/2019 1:03 AM
4	<p>I would like to see a market analysis to determine if students are interested in the process. While I know a lot of CFs, none of them need the certification to have their job. What fraction of professional foresters are CFs? What fraction of SAF membership has a CF credential? What compelling arguments are there for the exam? I don't see my institution using it as an assessment/outcomes tool for accreditation, so what is the benefit to the student? Do they understand those benefits and are they willing to bear the cost of the exam as well as the time commitment to do the exam? These are questions relevant to a market analysis.</p>	9/25/2019 12:57 AM
5	<p>We discussed this concept at a departmental faculty meeting. In general, faculty were supportive of administering the exam to those students who were interested and willing to pay the fee.</p>	9/24/2019 6:50 AM
6	<p>Who has access to pass/fail data? When does CE require start? Do students need to retention continuous membership during the potential 5 yr wait period?</p>	9/22/2019 10:58 PM
7	<p>As mentioned, need to have a better understanding of the exam questions/format/intent. Need to address the financial cost.</p>	9/22/2019 10:09 PM
8	<p>Assurance on the several issues mentioned above.</p>	9/19/2019 5:05 AM
9	<p>Will we be able to see the graded exam for each student?</p>	9/18/2019 11:05 AM

Exploring Interest in the Concept of graduating students taking the SAF Certified Forester Exam through their Forest Resource/Natural Resources Colleges/Schools/Departments

10	More information from employers on the benefits of certification above and beyond graduating from an accredited program.	9/17/2019 9:27 AM
11	Support and endorsement from private and public employers. A large proportion of our graduates head to state and federal agencies, and it's very hard to say what if any advantages CF credentials would bring.	9/17/2019 2:55 AM
12	SAF become a real professional organization like engineering, architecture, or law	9/16/2019 2:03 PM
13	See earlier comment - need to see the exam scope - how it is structured - before buying into it.	9/16/2019 10:27 AM
14	A compelling rationale, which is currently completely lacking. The CF credential is not important for practicing professionals in our region. SAF has been backward in its implementation of professional certification, and we're trying to build a forward-looking program.	9/16/2019 10:02 AM
15	More justification for what students get out of the exam compared to just taking the state exam.	9/16/2019 9:15 AM
16	Cost to the students and programs is a big issue that will have to be addressed. I imagine all programs are experience pressure to reduce costs to students. Relevance of the CF exam to the program (forestry or natural resources) also may also be an issue.	9/16/2019 7:39 AM