

Importance of Skill/Qualification

The survey asked the employers what would they consider, on a scale of 1 to 10, to be the most important skill when hiring an employee for a specified occupation: educational qualification, occupational certifications, technical skills, bilingual skill, or prior experience? Of course, individual occupations have varying requirements. Examining occupations requirements across the board, however, suggests that education is most important, followed by technical skills, and prior experience. (Table 17/Figure 13)

Table 17. Importance of skill/qualification across all occupations*

Skill/Qualification	Mean Response
Education	6.8
Technical Skill	6.7
Prior Experience	6.5
Occupational Certification	5.6
Bilingual Skill	4.2

*1= Not at all important, 10= Extremely important

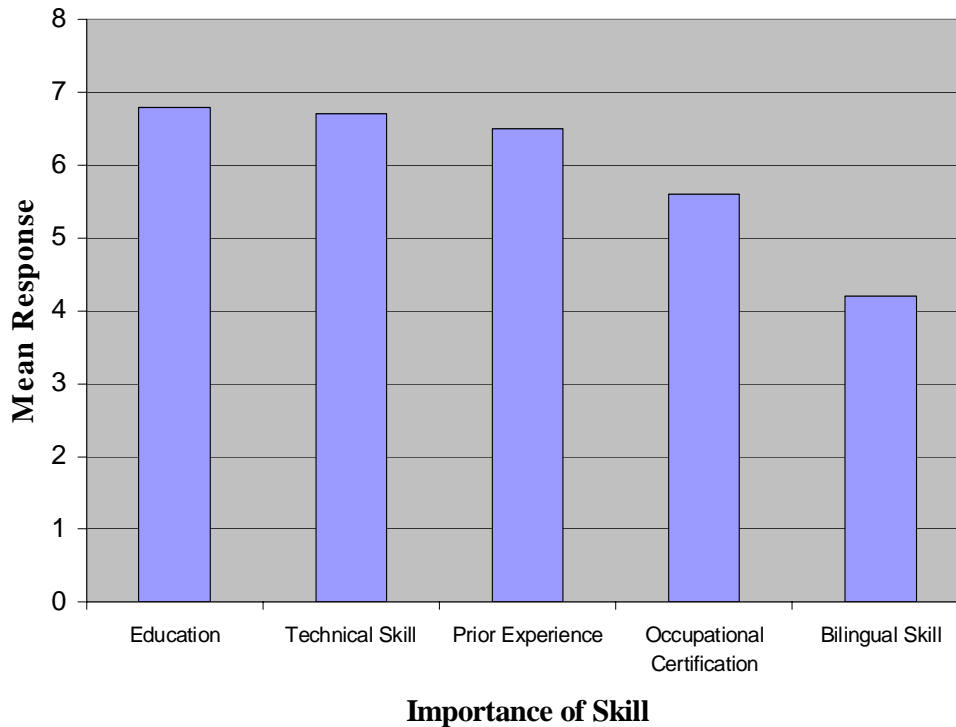


Figure 13. Importance of skill/qualification across all occupations