



2018 Professional Learning Survey: Early Learning Educators



edWeb.net/ELPD2018

Introduction

Continuous, effective professional learning can help teachers and administrators improve teaching and learning, but traditional forms of professional development have been expensive and ineffective.

edWeb.net helps educators connect and collaborate using our social network and edWebinars to provide free professional learning. Early learning educators are among our most enthusiastic participants and our edWebinars on early education topics get an average of 1,800 registrants per program.

edWeb's 2018 PD Survey to Early Childhood Educators is our first survey to better understand early learning educators' attitudes about professional learning. The survey was sent to 60,000 early learning educators who are edWeb members or have signed up for or attended one of our early learning edWebinars

Purpose of the Survey

- Survey current attitudes of early learning teachers and administrators on professional learning.
- Understand what kind of professional learning early childhood educators find most helpful.
- Assess how edWeb meets the professional learning needs of teachers and administrators.
- Find out how edWeb can improve to better support early learning educators' needs.

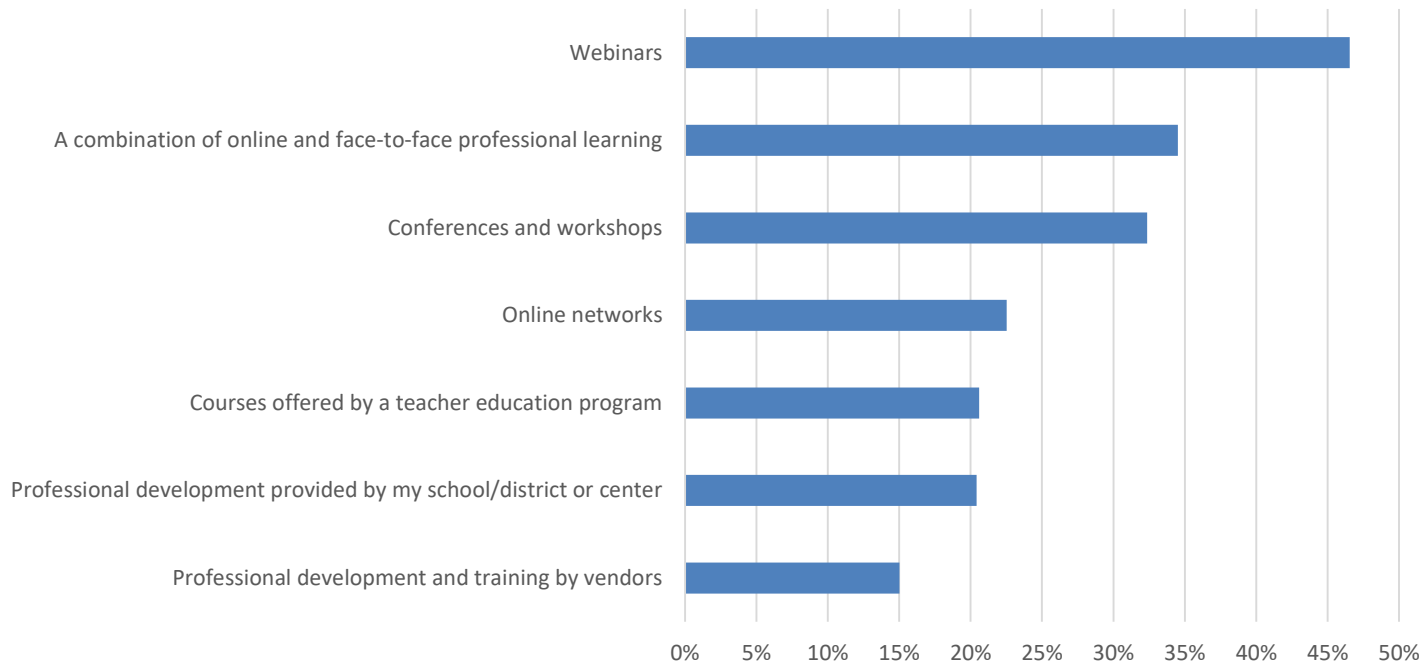
Survey Methodology

- In July 2018 edWeb conducted a survey on early learning educators' attitudes about professional learning in general and about edWeb in particular. The survey was sent via email to 60,000 early learning educators who are edWeb members or have signed up for or attended one of our early learning edWebinars and received 1,500 responses.
- These results can be compared to the results for edWeb's Professional Learning Survey sent to K-12 teachers and administrators in March 2018. Download this report at: edweb.net/PD2018

What type of professional development activities are most helpful?

- Early learning educators responded that webinars were the most helpful type of professional learning.
- A combination of online and face-to-face PD came in second.
- Conferences and workshops were a close third.
- Early learning educators gave the lowest rating for PD provided by vendors.
- These results are all very comparable to edWeb's K-12 PD Survey.

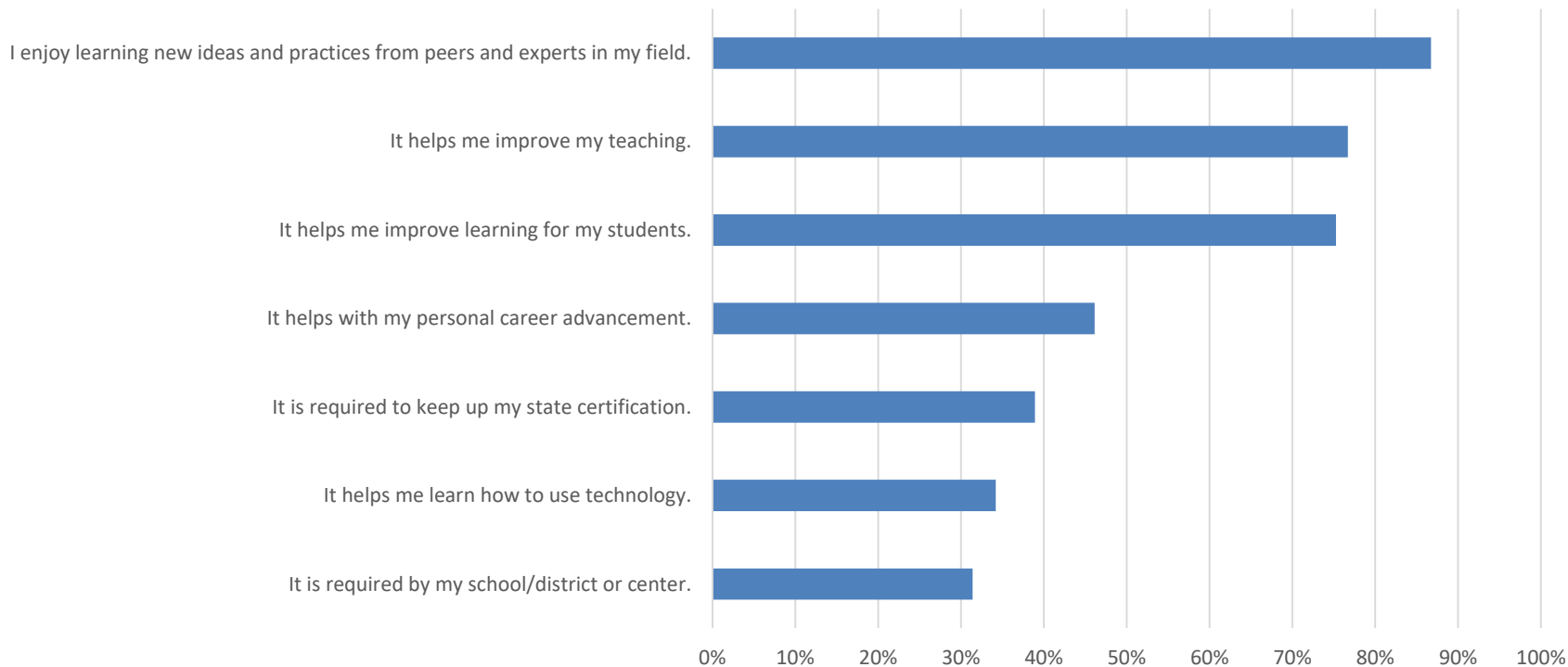
What type of professional development activities help you improve your practice as an early childhood educator?



Why do you participate in professional learning programs?

- Early learning educators have 3 top reasons why they participate in professional development:
 - I enjoy learning new ideas and practices from peers and experts in my field.
 - It helps me improve my teaching.
 - It helps me improve learning for my students.
- These results are also comparable to edWeb's K-12 PD Survey.

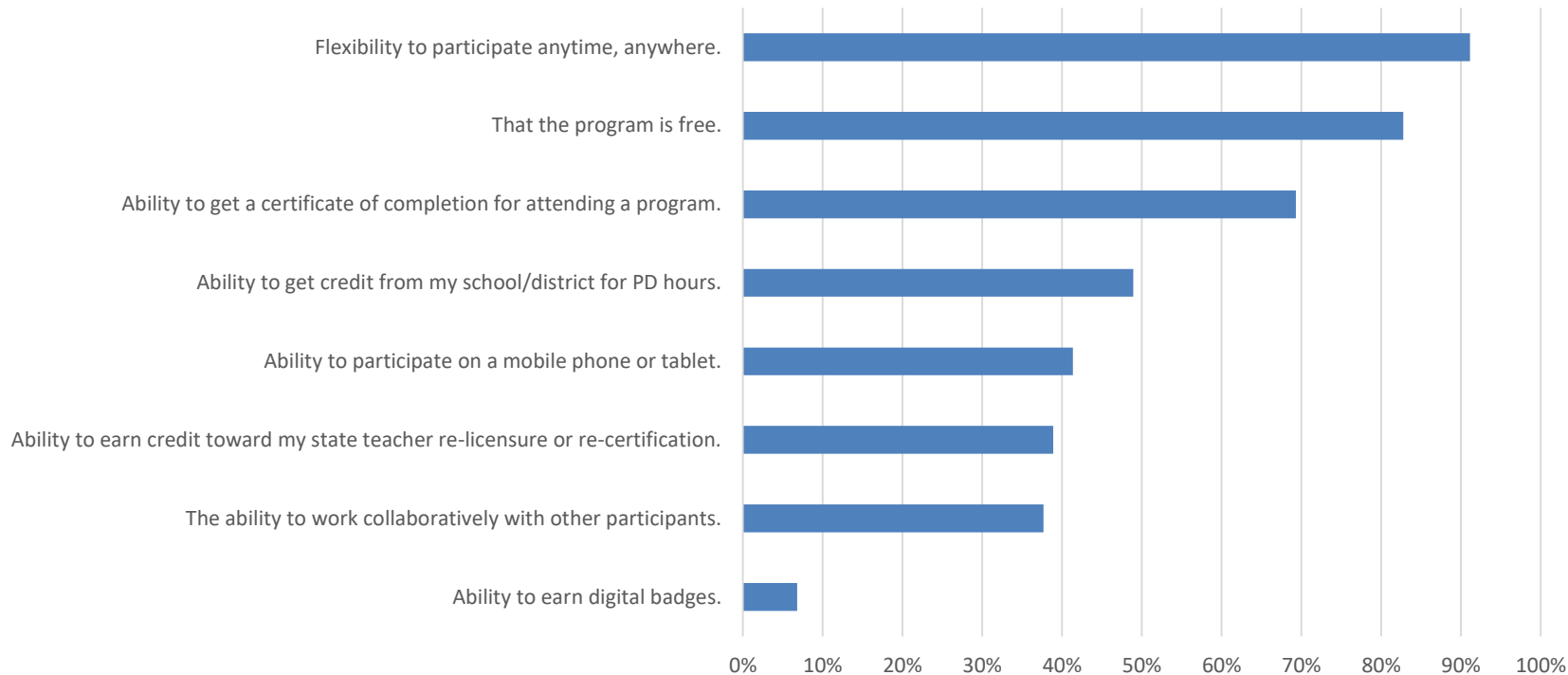
Why do you participate in early childhood professional learning programs?



What's important in a teacher professional development program?

- Early learning educators have 3 top features that are important to them in a professional development program:
 - Flexibility to participate anytime, anywhere.
 - That the program is free.
 - Ability to get a certificate of completion for attending a program.
- These results mirror the results for edWeb's K-12 PD Survey.

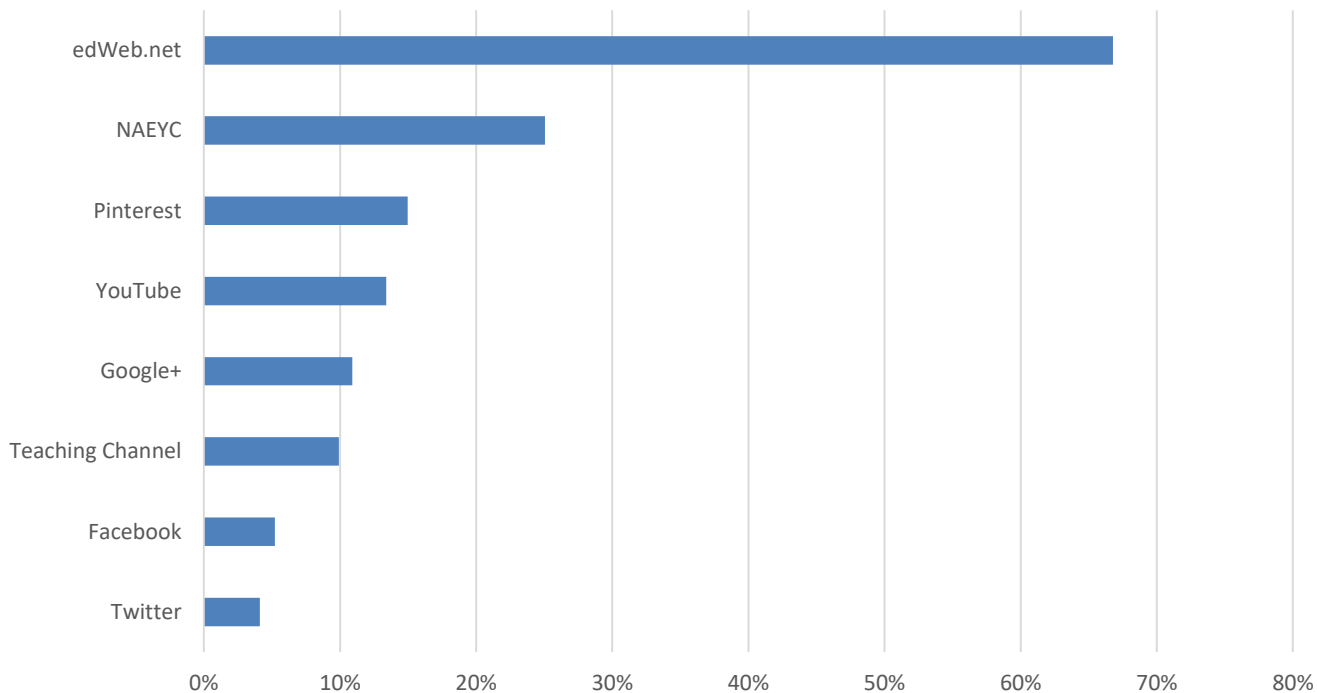
What's important in a teacher professional development program?



Rating online communities as professional learning resources

- The edWeb community rates edWeb far above any of the online networks and resources we asked about with 67% of respondents rating edWeb “excellent.”
- These are results for our edWeb community, but still show how strongly educators rate edWeb vs. other resources they might use.
- Early childhood educators rate edWeb even higher than K-12 educators with 59% rating edWeb “excellent.”

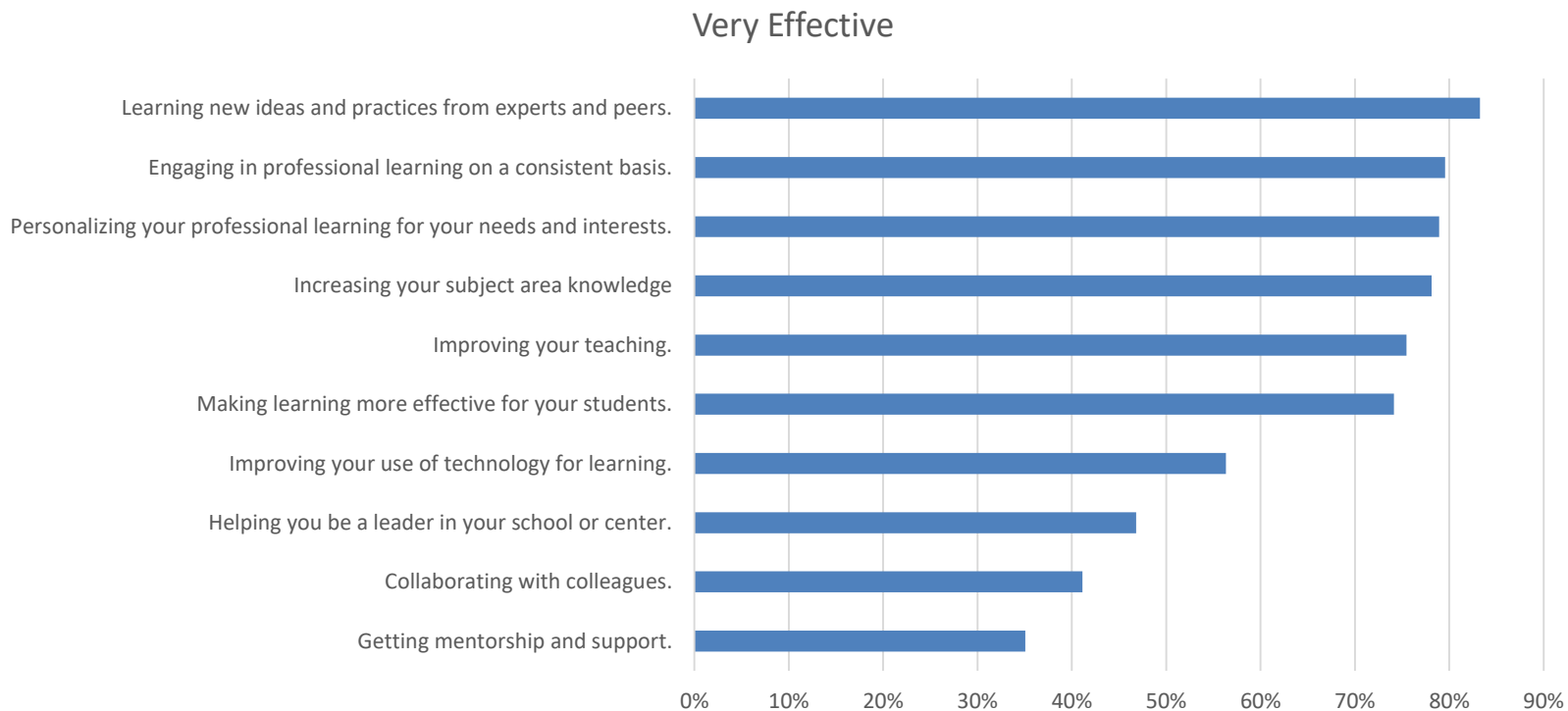
Online communities rated excellent as an early learning professional learning network and resource



How effective is edWeb in providing an impact in key areas?

- Demonstrating impact is a critical component of a professional learning program.
- By self-reported measures of effectiveness, edWeb is rated highly effective in areas that have been identified as important for improving teaching and learning.
- Over 70% of respondents rated edWeb highly effective in 6 critically important areas: learning from peers, engaging in consistent learning, personalizing professional learning, increasing subject area knowledge, improving teaching, and making learning more engaging for students.

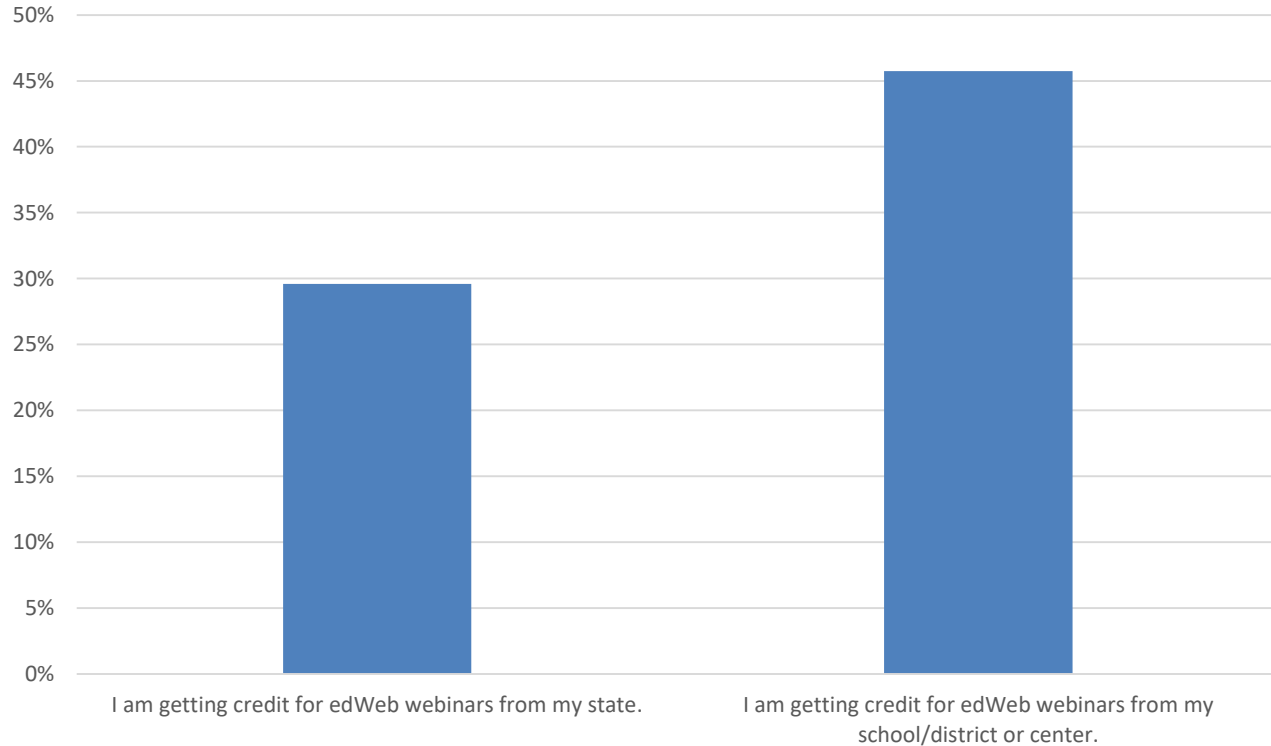
How effective is edWeb in helping you in the following areas?



Are you receiving credit for viewing edWeb webinars?

- Receiving credit for engaging in professional learning is important recognition for early childhood educators. It increases participation, and that increases the benefits and impact.
- edWeb provides CE certificates to educators who attend/view our edWebinar programs. Our certificates are widely accepted by schools and districts, and increasingly at the state level as well.
- We are glad to see that many of our participants are getting credit, but we will use this benchmark to track our progress in helping more educators get credit for our programs.

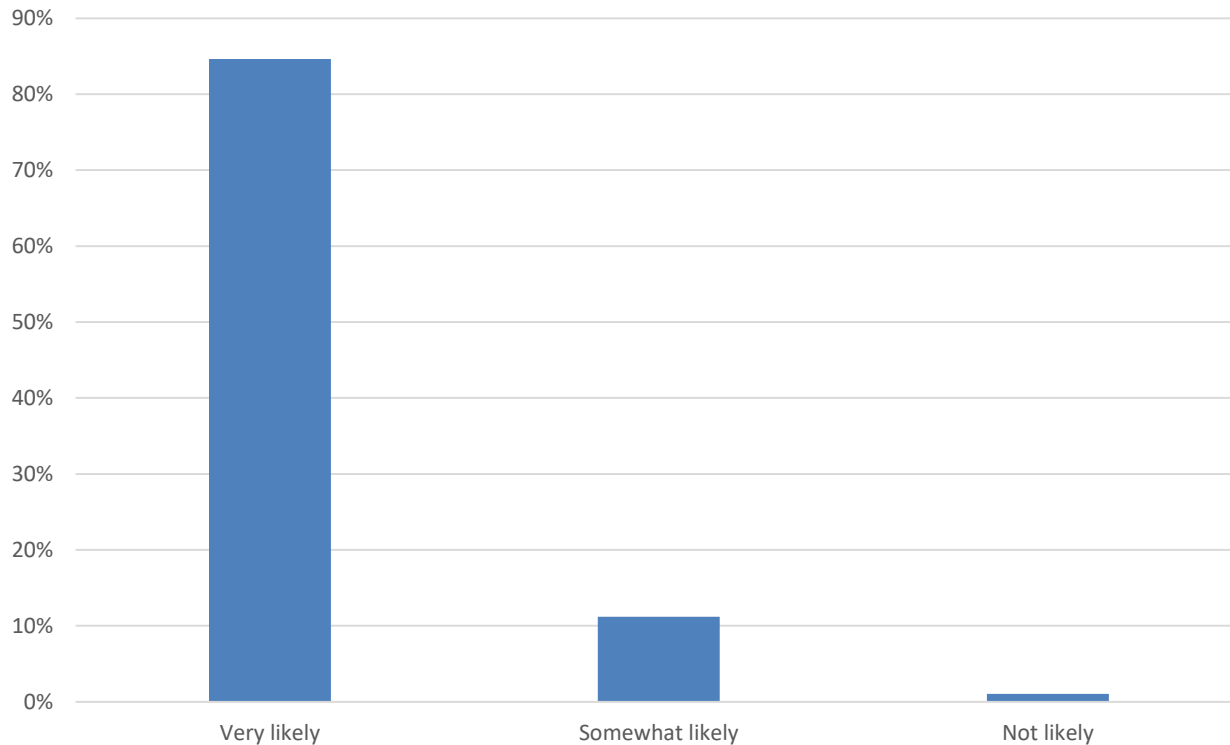
Are you receiving credit for attending/viewing edWeb webinars?



Reaching more early childhood educators with professional learning

- Referrals are an important way to expand the reach of our professional learning programs for early childhood educators.
- We are delighted that 85% of edWebbers are highly likely to recommend edWeb to a colleague.
- This is also thanks to our sponsors who are the hosts of our professional learning programs. It is their financial support that allows edWeb to be free for educators, and their professional learning content that gets edWeb the high marks that it receives.

How likely are you to recommend edWeb to a colleague?



Just a few of the many comments we received

“I told all my friends and co-workers about how useful and important these webinars are, and I gave them the website edWeb.net. **We love edWeb.net** and thank everyone who makes this kind of presentation.”

“edWeb has been a **great resource** for continuing education. The **variety** in topics is wonderful, and the archived webinars allow me to watch when it is **convenient.**”

“edWeb is very **helpful and informative.** It's answered question concerning several students in my classroom. It has **taught me different techniques.**”

“I love being a member of **many groups** through edWeb that are specific to **various areas of responsibility** in my position at the system level. It is a great benefit to have the follow up email that **delivers the presentation to me** in case I'm unable to attend a webinar that I've registered to attend due to my unpredictable schedule.”



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