The response to the exit survey for senior associates of the Healthcare Institute was not impressive. Fewer than 20% of the associates (seven students) returned the survey.

Of the students who returned the survey, six were positive about their experiences with the Institute. Two of the respondents planned to pursue doctoral degrees in physical therapy. One of these students claimed to receive no support from the Institute. The other PT student also perceived the Institute as less supportive of students going into the allied health professions, but this student’s responses were more tempered. In fact, the student offered these suggestions: “Ideas for future activities could include setting up a meeting for all of those interested in smaller or specialized areas of healthcare…[to] meet and discuss issues and ideas with those that have similar interests.

Three surveys were completed by students planning to become physicians, all of whom had been admitted to medical school. These students reported that the Institute served them well, particularly in providing them with support during the application process. Below are several suggestions from these students.

* Optional classes for first and second year students
* Frequent meetings for first and second year students interested in healthcare
* Meeting with professors who frequently advise premedical students to update them on requirements and the application process
* More effective communication with members

Two surveys were completed by students planning to become dentists, one of whom had already been admitted to dental school. These students echoed the sentiments of the premedical students, emphasizing this theme: “the advice and moral support from the institute really helped me through the process. The help I received with the personal statement was particularly useful.” In terms of suggestions, one respondent advised, “It might even be beneficial to mandate a certain number of events each associate student must attend in order to remain an active member…The time you put into the institute and the amount of help you ask for determines what you get out of it.”

Given that the Healthcare Institute (now Institute for Premedical Professions and Health Sciences) has been reorganized and expanded to support the goals of the Albion Advantage, the results of the 2010 exit survey will be evaluated by the IPPHS Director, Associate Director, Coordinator, and Advisory Committee.