

BOSTON COLLEGE
POST-GRADUATION PLANS SURVEY
CLASS OF 2012



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of the Boston College Post-Graduation Plans Survey is to track recent graduates' future plans via topics such as their primary activity six months post-graduation, top career fields, the timing of offers and starting salary information, graduate school enrollment by program, degree, and institution, and the organizations where recent graduates choose to volunteer, among other areas. The information collected from graduating seniors provides valuable data for faculty, administrators, and employers to better serve students in their career-planning activities.

Survey administration

Administered March 2012 through October 2012 to all members of the undergraduate Class of 2012

Online administration

1,535 respondents (69% response rate)

Survey highlights

Approximately 95% of those responding to the Class of 2012 Post-Graduation Plans Survey indicate that they plan to work full-time, attend graduate school full-time, volunteer, or engage in a fellowship or post-graduation internship.

The median salary reported by members of the

RESPONSE RATES BY SCHOOL

The online administration of the survey generated responses from more than two thirds of the Class of 2012; the Lynch School of Education (LSOE) had the highest response rate (75%) followed by the Connell School of Nursing (CSON) with a 72% response rate.

School	Number surveyed	Number of respondents	Response rate
College of Arts & Sciences (A&S)	1483	1022	68.9%
Carroll School of Management (CSOM)	453	301	66.4%
Connell School of Nursing (CSON)	101	73	72.3%
Lynch School of Education (LSOE)	185	139	75.1%
∅	2,222	1,535	69.1%

PRIMARY ACTIVITY SIX MONTHS FOLLOWING GRADUATION

Approximately 95% of those responding to the Class of 2012 Post-Graduation Plans Survey indicate that they plan to work full-time, attend graduate school, volunteer, or engage in a fellowship or post-graduation internship; the distribution of post-graduation status, however, varies substantially among schools. A total of 61.0% of respondents report that they plan to work full-time. CSON graduates are the most likely to be working for pay (87.7%), followed closely by CSOM graduates (87.0%). More than one-quarter of A&S and nearly half of LSOE graduates are attending graduate school and approximately 7% of both A&S and LSOE graduates report that they are volunteering.



Activity	A&S	CSOM	CSON	LSOE	All Schools
Working full-time for pay	54.5%	87.0%	87.7%	38.8%	61.0%
Attending graduate, law, or medical school	26.1%	7.0%	6.8%	46.0%	23.3%
Working as a volunteer	6.8%	1.0%	1.4%	7.2%	5.5%
Participating in a post-graduate internship	4.5%	2.3%	-	1.4%	3.6%
Participating in a fellowship, research grant, etc.	1.5%	-	-	2.2%	1.2%
Other	6.6%	2.7%	4.1%	4.3%	5.5%
∅	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%



TOP EMPLOYERS

With regard to the companies and organizations hiring the greatest number of recent BC graduates, there is representation across a variety of employers, although those in the fields of accounting, financial services, and nursing, along with Teach for America, dominate the list of top employers.





Employment field	Prior to Senior Year	First Semester Senior Year	Second Semester Senior Year	After Senior Year
Accounting/Auditing (Private) (N=14)	35.7%	35.7%	7.1%	21.4%
Accounting/Auditing (Public) (N=56)	73.2%	23.2%	3.6%	-
Commercial Banking (N=13)	-	69.2%	15.4%	15.4%
Communications (N=17)	-	5.9%	64.7%	29.4%
Computer Science (N=21)	19.0%	38.1%	23.8%	19.0%
Consulting (N=55)	16.4%	49.1%	25.5%	9.1%
Finance (Other) (N=50)	28.0%	34.0%	36.0%	2.0%
Healthcare (Other) (N=16)	12.5%	6.3%	50.0%	31.3%
Human Resources (N=9)	22.2%	11.1%	33.3%	33.3%
Investment Banking (N=46)	50.0%	34.8%	6.5%	8.7%
Management (Trainee or General) (N=10)	-	40.0%	50.0%	10.0%
Marketing (N=67)	7.5%	19.4%	37.3%	35.9%
Paralegal (N=16)	-	6.3%	43.8%	50.0%
Public Administration (N=13)	53.8%	23.1%	7.7%	15.4%
Registered Nurse (N=20)	10.0%	5.0%	50.0%	35.0%
Research (N=22)	-	13.6%	72.7%	13.6%
Social Services (N=9)	11.1%	-	88.9%	-
Teaching (N=50)	2.0%	26.0%	66.0%	6.0%
Other (N=7)	14.3%	-	28.6%	57.1%

PRIMARY RESOURCES USED TO OBTAIN CURRENT POSITION

Thirty-eight percent of the respondents who are working full-time indicated that they found their position through on-campus interviewing or other Career Center programs. This represents a decline from the Class of 2011 (47.8%) but is comparable to earlier years: from 2008 to 2010 between 35-40% found their positions in that manner. The percent who noted networking or internships as their primary resource increased to about 35%, up from 28% for the Class of 2011 but comparable to the previous three classes. Note that the BC Career Center provides many networking and internship opportunities.



Resources	A&S	CSOM	CSON	LSOE	All Schools
EagleLink on-campus interviews	15.8%	49.2%	-	-	27.5%
Other EagleLink listings	8.5%	3.0%	-	5.0%	5.9%
Listings linked through Career Center website	1.1%	0.5%	-	-	0.8%
Other job listings (e.g., Internet, print)	15.1%	5.6%	14.3%	15.0%	11.4%
Career fair at BC	3.3%	3.6%	9.5%	-	3.5%

Employment field/job type		N	Median	Minimum	Maximum
6	Accounting (Private)	9	54,000	35,000	70,000
	Accounting (Public)	30	55,000	35,000	63,000
	Auditing (Private)*	4			
	Auditing (Public)	26	55,000	48,000	65,000
	Commercial Banking (Consumer)*	2			
	Commercial Banking (Lending)	10	55,000	32,000	60,000
	Consulting	52	63,000	30,000	72,000
	Financial/Treasury Analysis	21	55,000	20,000	70,000
	Insurance (Claims)*	4			
	Insurance (Underwriting)*	5			
	Investment Banking (Corp Finance)	17	70,000	55,000	85,000
	Investment Banking (Mergers & Acquisitions)	14	70,000	60,000	125,000
	Investment Banking (Real Estate)*	2			
	Investment Banking (Sales & Trading)	9	70,000	27,000	80,000
	Management Trainee (Entry-Level)	7	54,000	30,000	66,000
	Management, General (Mid to Upper Level)*	2			
	Portfolio Management/Brokerage	15	65,000	40,000	140,000
8	Executive, Legislative & General*	1			
	National Security*	1			
	Military	8	35,500	2,400**	60,000
		2			
9	Computer Programming	12	62,000	50,000	100,000
	Technical/Computer Support*	1			
	Other Computer-Related	5	57,500	25,000	100,000



GRADUATE SCHOOL ENROLLMENT BY PROGRAM/DEGREE TYPE



VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS

Comparable to the results for the Class of 2011, 5.5% of the Class of 2012 members indicated that they are

INTERNSHIPS

Fifty-five members of the Class of 2012 reported that they have secured post-graduation internships. The internships range in duration from six weeks to two years.



Time Frame	Number reporting	Percent of respondents
Less than 3 months	5	14.3%
3 months	10	28.6%
4 months	3	8.6%
6 months	2	5.7%
1 academic year	7	20.0%
1 calendar year	7	20.0%
2 years	1	2.9%
55	55	100%



Organization	Number reporting
Actors Theatre	1
Bahia Vista Elementary School	1
Boston College Athletics	1
Brigham and Women's Hospital	1
Brookline Public Schools	1
Children's Hospital Boston	1
ESPN	1
Global Nomads Group	1
Lucile Packard Children's Hospital	1
MiH Jeans	1
Museum of Contemporary Art	1
National Institute of Health	1
Sol-Solution	1
The Walt Disney Company	1
University of Missouri	1
USA Hockey	1
World Affairs Council of Americas	1
55	55

FELLOWSHIPS

Of the survey respondents from the Class of 2012, 18 reported that they have been accepted into a fellowship program. The following table lists the fellowship programs to which graduates have been accepted. Please note eight graduates reported that they had received a fellowship but did not list the name of the fellowship program. The Fulbright Fellowship was the most frequently cited fellowship program.



Program	Number reporting
Fulbright Fellowship	8
Oak Ridge Institute of Science and Education (FDA)	1
IDEX Fellowship	1
Ⓟ	Ⓟ

CONCLUSION

The percent of Boston College graduates who planned to work full time has been gradually increasing over the past three years, from 55.9% in 2010 to 61.0% in 2012. The percent planning to enroll in graduate school peaked at 28.1% in 2010 and has held steady around 23% for the past two years. It will be interesting to monitor the results for future classes to assess whether these trends continue.