

Executive Summary

The purpose of the Boston College Post-Graduation Plans Survey is to track recent graduates' current and future professional and educational plans. The survey addresses topics such as the graduate's primary activity six months post-graduation, the type of work and industry in which the graduate may be employed, the timing of job offers and starting salary information, graduate school enrollments by program, degree, and institution, and the organizations through which recent graduates engage in fellowships and service work.

Serving as partners in this data collection effort, the Career Center and Institutional Research & Planning have utilized a variety of resources to supplement information gathered via the traditional survey administration process, resulting in a valuable set of data that provides faculty, administrators, and employers with information that helps better serve students in their career-planning activities. The survey administration process and data reporting methods both conform to the guidelines put forth by the National Association of Colleges and Employers, the leading resource for information on post-graduation plans, hiring forecasts, job market trends and employment-related best practices and benchmarks.

Survey administration and data collection

- The survey was administered online from April 2021 through December 2021 to all 2,421 members of the undergraduate Class of 2021. With 1,207 graduates responding to the survey, the overall response rate was nearly 50%.
- Information about another 682 individuals (an additional 28%) was retrieved from the National Student Clearinghouse, internal Boston College sources, and public data.
- Data from the National Student Clearinghouse, Boston College graduate programs, and public sources were also sought for survey participants whose responses were incomplete; that additional information was merged with their survey responses.
- In total, input was collected for 1,889 graduates, resulting in a 78% knowledge rate for the Class of 2021.

Highlights

- Of the students with input collected, more than 9 out of 10 members of the Class of 2021 (96%) indicated that they are **employed, attending graduate school, engaging in service/volunteering, or participating in a fellowship.**
 - Employed full time (on average 30 hours or more per week) 70%
 - Enrolled in a program of continuing education 20%
 - Participating in a volunteer or service program 2%
 - Participating in a post-graduation internship 2%
 - Employed part time (on average less than 30 hours per week) 1%
 - Participating in a fellowship, scholarship, grant, etc. 1%
 - Serving in the U.S. military 1%
 - Seeking employment or enrollment in continuing education 4%
 - Not seeking employment, education, etc. at this time <1%
- Of those employed full-time, the **median salary** reported by members of the Class of 2021 is \$62,000 with the middle 50% of students reporting salaries between \$47,322 and \$74,000.
- A **broad range of industries** is represented for those respondents who are employed (including those whose primary activity is the military or an internship), and includes areas such as financial services, healthcare, consulting and management, technology, communication and media, retail, law and public policy, education, accounting, entertainment, and social services. The top industries represented across BC are:
 - Financial Services & Real Estate (25%)
 - Healthcare, Life & Physical Sciences, Environment (19%)
 - Business Services, Consulting, Management (12%)
 - Technology, Engineering, Startups, Entrepreneurship (11%)
 - Communications, Media, Publishing, Marketing (6%)
 - Government Law, Public Policy (6%)
- Among graduates who shared information about when they received offers of employment, the majority **received job offers by the end of their second semester senior year (84%).**
- While a majority of 2021 **graduates remain in the Northeast (78%),** graduates do move to all regions of the United States (38 states, and the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and Guam), as well as 17 countries outside of the U.S.: Canada, China, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Netherlands, Singapore, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Thailand, Uganda, and United Kingdom.
- Among graduates who are employed and who shared information about the resources used in the job search, about **69% used a Boston College Career Center resource to secure their employment** (i.e., on-campus or virtual interviews arranged through the

Career Center, other Handshake/EagleLink job postings, Career Center website, Career fair at BC, Career Center event or program, or networking through BC).

- Among graduates who are employed and who shared information about the resources used in the job search, the **top job search resources utilized** include:
 - Networking beyond BC (50%)
 - Networking through BC (45%)
 - Other Handshake/EagleLink job postings (43%)
 - Other job listings, including online sites and print (40%)
 - Previous internship (31%)
 - Career fair at BC (29%)
 - Interviews arranged through the Career Center (22%)
 - Career Center website (22%)

- While enrolled at BC, members in the Class of 2021 reported that they participated in a number of “**high impact activities.**” Survey respondents reported participating in the following activities:

▪ Community service/volunteer work (outside of class)	72%
▪ Student organization leadership role(s)	69%
▪ On-campus job(s) (e.g., work study positions)	64%
▪ Paid Internship(s)	63%
▪ Study abroad/Global experience(s)	50%
▪ Unpaid Internship(s)	46%
▪ Research project(s) worked on with BC faculty	33%
▪ Service learning (as part of a course)	28%

- About 20% of Class of 2021 graduates indicated that they are **pursuing a graduate degree** as their primary activity after graduation. Of those, approximately two-thirds (65%) are pursuing Master’s degrees, 16% are pursuing law degrees, 11% are pursuing Doctorates (which includes: D.M.D., D.N.P, Psy.D., Pharm.D., D.P.M. and Ph.D.), and 4% pursuing M.D. degrees.

- Out of students pursuing a graduate degree, the top areas of study are: Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) (20%), Law (17%), Business (15%), and Education (13%).

- For graduates engaged in volunteering or service, more than one-third (41%) are serving with the Jesuit Volunteer Corps. Class of 2021 graduates are also volunteering with a host of other service organizations, both domestic and international.