

**BOSTON COLLEGE
POST-GRADUATION PLANS SURVEY
CLASS OF 2012**



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BOSTON COLLEGE POST-GRADUATION PLANS SURVEY CLASS OF 2012

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 Class of 2012 is \$52,500 with the middle 50% of students reporting salaries between \$40,000 and \$60,000.
- Of those respondents who have accepted a full-time job offer, half are employed in one of the following fields: Marketing, Public Auditing/Accounting, Consulting, Finance, or Teaching.
- Almost one-fifth (19.5%) of survey respondents indicate that they are/will be pursuing a graduate degree full-time; less than 1% are enrolled in part-time graduate study.
- Among recent graduates pursuing advanced degrees, close to one-quarter (24.5%) are pursuing law degrees and another fifth (19.9%) are pursuing education degrees.

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%
Total	2,222	1,535	69.1%

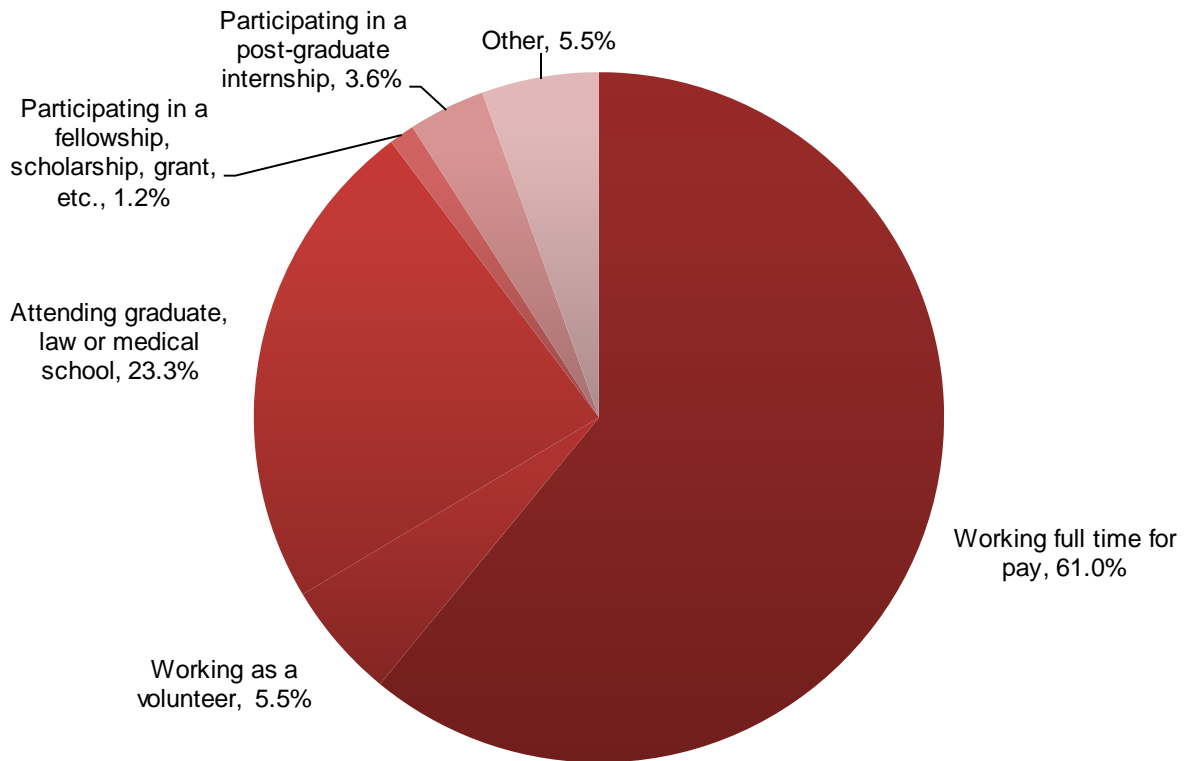
PRIMARY ACTIVITY SIX MONTHS FOLLOWING GRADUATION

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.

Class of 2012, Primary activity

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%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Primary activity of Class of 2012 graduates six months post graduation



Trends, Primary activity

The percent of graduates reporting they plan to work full-time has increased from the previous two years, but is still less than 2008 levels. The percent planning to attend graduate school remained level since 2011.

Activity	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Working full-time for pay	64.5%	58.7%	55.9%	59.8%	61.0%
Attending graduate, law, or medical school	22.1%	24.5%	28.1%	23.1%	23.3%
Working as a volunteer	5.2%	5.3%	6.6%	4.8%	5.5%
Participating in a post-graduate internship	1.5%	2.3%	2.6%	2.8%	3.6%
Participating in a fellowship, research grant, etc.	1.3%	3.1%	1.9%	2.3%	1.2%
Other	5.4%	6.1%	4.8%	7.3%	5.5%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

TOP TEN CAREER FIELDS

Topping the list of career fields reported by 2012 graduates are consulting and teaching (10.8% and 9.8% of respondents who reported their field of employment, respectively).

Class of 2012, Top ten employment fields

Employment field	Total number reporting (N=511)	Percent of total # reporting
Consulting	55	10.8%
Teaching	50	9.8%
Accounting (Public)	30	5.9%
Auditing (Public)	26	5.1%
Marketing – Sales	24	4.7%
Financial/Treasury Analysis	22	4.3%
Registered Nurse	20	3.9%
Research (Technical/Scientific)	20	3.9%
Portfolio Management/Brokerage	19	3.7%
Investment Banking (Corporate Finance)	17	3.3%

Class of 2012, Top employment fields by school

A&S			
Employment Field	N	%	
Teaching	42	15%	
Consulting	29	11%	
Research (Technical/Scientific)	19	7%	
Paralegal	16	6%	
Marketing - Sales	13	5%	

CSOM			
Employment Field	N	%	
Accounting (Public)	27	14%	
Auditing (Public)	26	13%	
Consulting	24	12%	
Financial/Treasury Analysis	17	9%	
Corporate Finance	14	7%	

LSOE			
Employment Field	N	%	
Teaching	6	30%	
Advertising	2	10%	
Customer Service	2	10%	
Sales	2	10%	
Consulting	2	10%	
Human Resources	2	10%	

CSOM			
Employment Field	N	%	
Registered Nurse	20	95%	
Teaching	1	5%	

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.

Class of 2012, Top employers (all companies/organizations employing at least five graduates are listed)

Employer	Total # employed	Employer	Total # employed
PricewaterhouseCoopers	34	JPMorgan Chase	8
Teach for America	31	Epic Systems	6
Ernst and Young	16	General Electric	6
Deloitte Consulting	13	Liberty Mutual	6
KPMG	13	EMC Corporation	5
Barclays Capital	10	Epsilon	5
Citigroup	8	Wayfair	5

TIMING OF EMPLOYMENT OFFERS

Of those graduates who indicated they intend to work full time, 62% had received an offer of employment. Among students who have received an offer of employment, the majority of full-time employed respondents had secured their positions prior to graduation; however, there was variation in the timing of offers across the colleges. (Note: "Employment field" labels are supplied by the National Association of Colleges & Employers.)

Class of 2012, Timing of employment offers by school

Time Period	A&S	CSOM	CSON	LSOE	All Schools
Prior to senior year	12.3%	37.9%	9.1%	-	21.1%
First semester senior year	22.1%	34.6%	4.5%	16.0%	25.8%
Second semester senior year	48.6%	17.8%	54.5%	48.0%	37.4%
Summer following senior year	14.8%	8.4%	31.8%	28.0%	13.7%
Fall following senior year	2.2%	1.4%	-	8.0%	2.1%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Class of 2012, Timing of employment offers by field of employment

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.

Class of 2012, Primary resources used to obtain current position

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%
Career fair outside of BC	0.4%	0.5%	-	-	0.4%
Career Center program	0.4%	-	-	5.0%	0.4%
Networking	22.8%	17.8%	33.3%	30.0%	21.6%
Internship	13.2%	14.2%	19.0%	15.0%	13.9%
Family business	0.7%	0.5%	-	-	0.6%
Employment agency	0.4%	1.0%	-	-	0.6%
Other	18.4%	4.1%	23.8%	30.0%	13.5%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Class of 2012, Primary resources used to obtain current position by field of employment

Employment field	N	EagleLink on-campus interviews	Networking	Internship	Other Career Center/Eagle Link Program	Other job listings (e.g., print, Internet)	Other
Accounting/Auditing (Private)	14	42.9%	14.3%	35.7%	-	7.1%	-
Accounting/Auditing (Public)	56	64.3%	8.9%	19.6%	5.4%	-	1.8%
Commercial Banking	13	61.5%	7.7%	7.7%	7.7%	-	15.4%
Communications	16	-	18.8%	31.3%	12.5%	25.0%	12.5%
Computer Science	21	28.6%	4.8%	19.0%	9.5%	28.6%	9.5%
Consulting	55	50.9%	16.4%	1.8%	12.7%	10.9%	7.3%
Finance (Other)	50	42.0%	16.0%	16.0%	12.0%	6.0%	8.0%
Healthcare (Other)	16	6.3%	31.3%	-	31.3%	18.8%	12.5%
Human Resources	9	-	22.2%	22.2%	-	22.2%	33.3%
Investment Banking	46	43.5%	23.9%	17.4%	4.3%	2.2%	8.7%
Management (Trainee or General)	10	30.0%	40.0%	0.0%	10.0%	10.0%	10.0%
Marketing	67	11.9%	35.8%	13.4%	11.9%	10.4%	16.4%
Paralegal	16	12.5%	12.5%	6.3%	50.0%	6.3%	12.5%
Public Administration	13	7.7%	7.7%	7.7%	7.7%	15.4%	53.8%
Registered Nurse	20	-	35.0%	20.0%	10.0%	15.0%	20.0%
Research	22	-	27.3%	36.4%	4.5%	18.2%	13.6%
Social Services	9	-	33.3%	11.1%	11.1%	11.1%	33.3%
Teaching	50	-	26.0%	2.0%	8.0%	24.0%	40.0%
Other	7	-	42.9%	14.3%	-	14.3%	28.6%
Total	510	27.5%	21.6%	13.9%	10.6%	11.4%	15.1%

MEDIAN STARTING SALARIES BY SCHOOL

Salary information was provided by 85.7% of students who had accepted a job offer. Reported salaries ranged from \$40,000 at the 25th percentile to \$60,000 at the 75th percentile, with a median salary for all responding students of \$52,500. These values have remained fairly steady since last year.

Class of 2012, Starting salaries by school

Salary Range	A&S	CSOM	CSON	LSOE	All Schools
Number reporting	236	188	19	18	461
Median salary	\$40,750	\$56,000	\$56,000	\$36,250	\$52,500
25th percentile of range	\$35,000	\$54,000	\$50,000	\$30,000	\$40,000
75th percentile of range	\$55,000	\$65,000	\$68,000	\$43,964	\$60,000

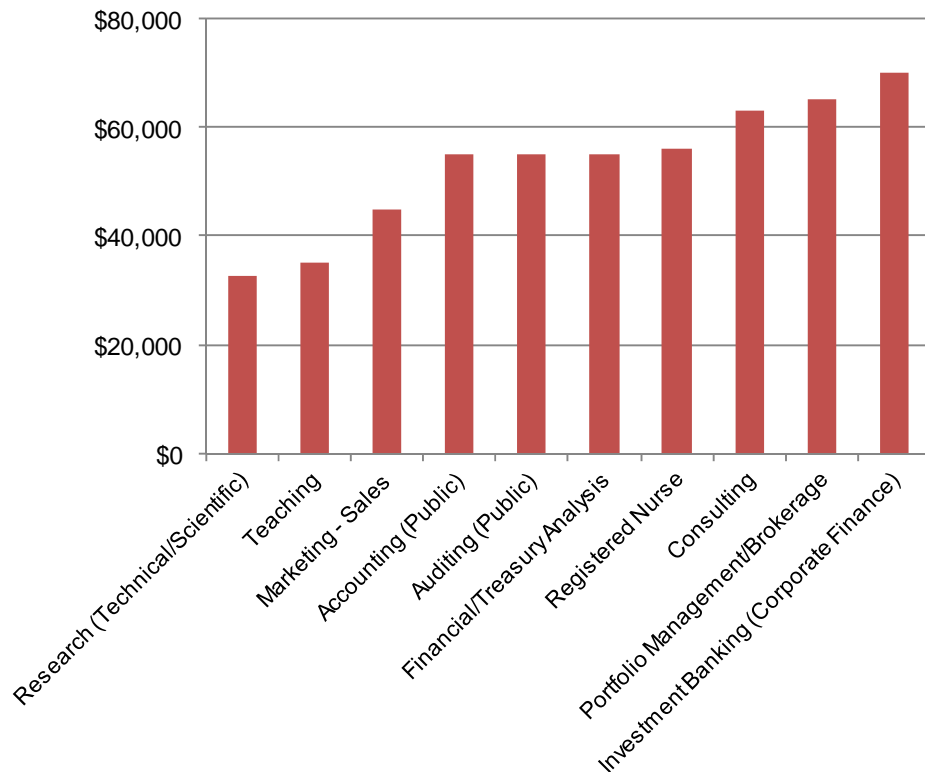
MEDIAN STARTING SALARIES BY FIELD

Among the top career fields by number of survey respondents employed, the highest median starting salaries are in the fields of investment banking. Research (Technical/Scientific) had the lowest median starting salary of the group at \$32,500.

Class of 2012, Median salaries by top ten fields of employment

Employment field	Number reporting	Median salary	Salary range
Investment Banking (Corporate Finance)	17	\$70,000	\$55,000 - \$85,000
Portfolio Management/Brokerage	15	\$65,000	\$40,000 - \$140,000
Consulting	52	\$63,000	\$30,000 - \$72,000
Registered Nurse	18	\$56,000	\$50,000 - \$77,285
Accounting (Public)	30	\$55,000	\$35,000 - \$63,000
Auditing (Public)	26	\$55,000	\$48,000 - \$65,000
Financial/Treasury Analysis	21	\$55,000	\$20,000 - \$70,000
Marketing - Sales	21	\$45,000	\$30,000 - \$65,000
Teaching	48	\$35,000	\$7,500 - \$50,000
Research (Technical/Scientific)	16	\$32,500	\$27,000 - \$62,000

Median salaries by top ten fields of employment



Class of 2012, Reported starting salaries by field of employment

Employment field/job type	N	Median	Minimum	Maximum
Finance	229	\$57,000	\$20,000	\$140,000
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
Public Administration	11	\$36,000	\$2,400**	\$60,000
Executive, Legislative & General*	2			
National Security*	1			
Military	8	35,500	2,400**	60,000
Computer Science	19	\$57,000	\$35,000	\$100,000
Computer Programming	12	62,000	50,000	100,000
Technical/Computer Support*	1			
Other Computer Related	6	55,000	45,000	63,000
Social Services	7	\$23,000	\$7,500**	\$40,000
Administrative (Social Services)*	2			
Development/Fundraising (Social Services)*	2			
Social Work*	3			
Healthcare	32	\$53,570	\$10,000**	\$77,285
Administrative (Healthcare)*	4			
Medical Technology*	3			
Registered Nurse	18	56,000	50,000	77,285
Other Health Related	7	26,000	10,000**	38,500

* Salary data are only presented for fields with more than five cases.

**Salaries under \$15,000/year included Peace Corp, US Air Force, Theatre Intern, City Year Corps Member.

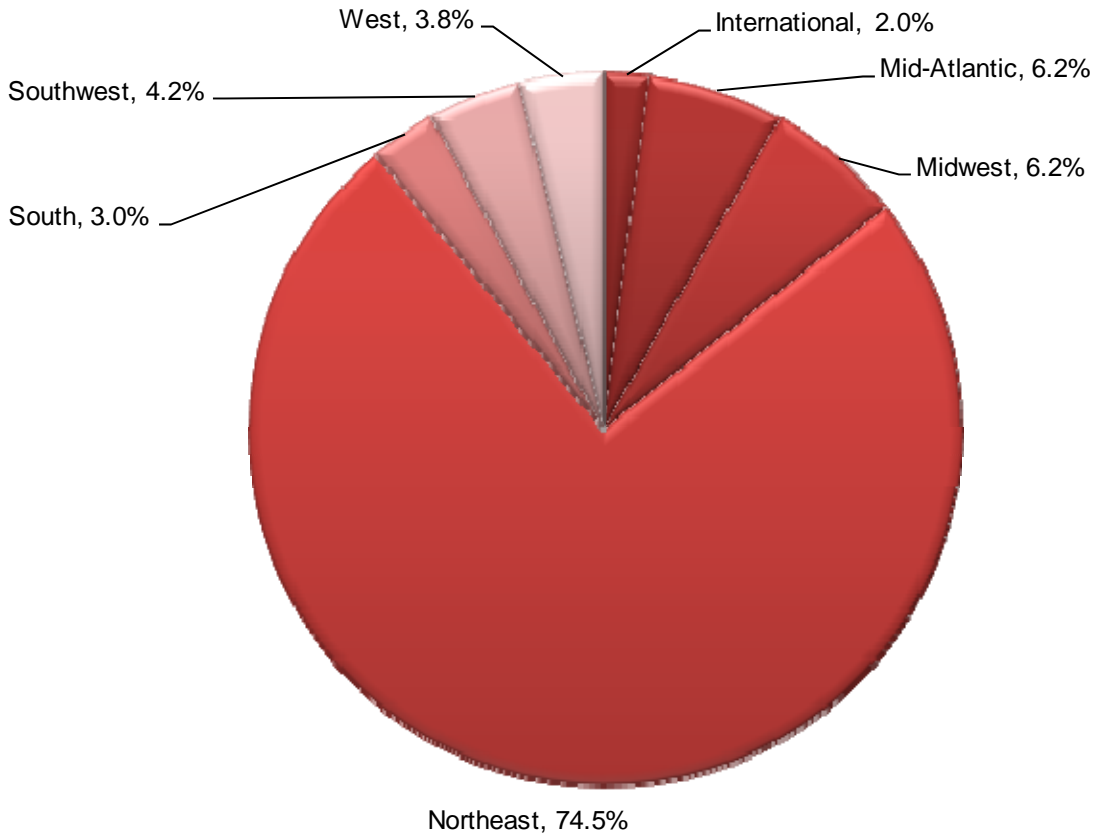
Employment field/job type	N	Median	Minimum	Maximum
Marketing	58	\$45,000	\$25,000	\$65,000
Advertising	9	38,000	30,000	46,000
Brand/Product Management	8	50,000	35,000	65,000
Buyer/Merchandising	10	47,500	25,000	55,000
Customer Service*	2			
Marketing Research	8	45,000	31,000	45,000
Sales	21	45,000	30,000	65,000
Communications	14	\$35,000	\$29,000	\$45,000
Design/Graphic Arts*	3			
Public Relations	8	35,000	30,000	40,000
Writing/Editing*	3			
Other	91	\$35,000	\$1,440**	\$65,000
Actuarial*	2			
Human Resources/Industrial Relations	7	42,000	32,000	55,000
Paralegal	13	40,000	30,000	65,000
Performing Arts*	3			
Research (Nontechnical)*	2			
Research (Technical/Scientific)	16	32,500	27,000	62,000
Teaching	48	35,000	7,500**	50,000

*Salary data are only presented for fields with more than five cases.

**Salaries under \$15,000/year included Peace Corp, US Air Force, Theatre Intern, City Year Corps Member.

GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION OF EMPLOYED GRADUATES

While the majority of survey respondents reported employment in the Northeast, all areas of the United States were represented. An increase in international destinations was noted, with graduates employed in Belgium, Hong Kong, Israel, Japan, Korea, Nepal, and Taiwan. This geographic distribution is somewhat more diverse than in previous years.



Trends in Geographic Location

Region	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
International	1.2%	2.4%	2.3%	0.3%	2.0%
Mid-Atlantic	5.3%	7.3%	9.1%	5.7%	6.2%
Midwest	3.9%	6.1%	5.8%	5.1%	6.2%
Northeast	79.9%	77.4%	74.3%	80.0%	74.5%
South	2.2%	2.8%	2.6%	4.1%	3.0%
Southwest	2.0%	1.2%	2.1%	2.4%	4.2%
West	5.1%	2.6%	3.7%	2.4%	3.8%

GRADUATE SCHOOL ENROLLMENT BY PROGRAM/DEGREE TYPE

Almost one-fifth (19.5%) of the survey's respondents indicated that they are currently pursuing graduate degrees full-time. In addition, 5.6% of survey respondents plan to enroll in graduate school part-time (this includes students who plan to work full-time). Of the respondents reporting a degree program, one quarter are pursuing law degrees (24.5%) and one fifth are pursuing education degrees (19.9%).

Class of 2012, Distribution of graduate program enrollments

Graduate Degrees	Number reporting	Percent of respondents
Master's Degrees		
Education (M.A., M.A.T., M.Ed.)	61	19.9%
Humanities or Social Sciences (M.A., Other)	30	9.8%
Business (M.S., M.B.A.)	22	7.2%
Health, Policy, or Planning (M.P.H., M.P.P., M.P.A)	15	4.9%
Fine and Performing Arts (M.A., M.M., M.F.A.)	9	2.9%
Natural/Applied Science or Math (M.A., M.S.)	8	2.6%
Social Work (M.S.W.)	8	2.6%
Communications (M.A., M.S.)	7	2.3%
Nursing (M.S.)	7	2.3%
Other Master's (M.A., P.A.)	3	1.0%
Counseling (M.A.)	2	0.7%
Ph.D.		
Sciences or Math	12	3.9%
Applied Doctorates (D.P.T., Pharm.D., Psy.D., etc.)	7	2.3%
Humanities or Social Sciences	6	2.0%
J.D.	75	24.5%
M.D.	21	6.9%
D.D.S./D.M.D.	8	2.6%
D.V.M.	5	1.6%
Total	306	100.0%

*Students in joint degree programs are listed by the highest degree they are planning to obtain.

GRADUATE SCHOOLS OF ATTENDANCE

The array of institutions attended by Class of 2012 graduates varies by the degree and field of study pursued. Listed below is a sample of the graduate schools currently being attended by members of the Class of 2012, by primary field of study (number of students enrolled is included in parentheses). (Note: these data are self-reported by survey respondents – they are not supplied by the institution. Enrollment numbers include full- and part-time students.)

Sample of graduate schools of attendance by the Class of 2012

Law

Boston College Law School (8)
Suffolk University Law School (5)
Georgetown University (4)
St. John's University (4)
Columbia University (3)
Fordham University (3)

Education

Boston College (50)
Harvard University (2)
Vanderbilt University (2)
Boston University (1)
New York University (1)

Social Sciences

Boston College (3)
Boston University (1)
Duke University (1)
Trinity College (1)

Humanities

Boston College (7)
Columbia University (2)
University of Chicago (1)
Yale University (1)

Medicine

Tufts University School of Medicine (2)
Boston University (2)
Emory University (1)
University of Chicago (1)
University of Massachusetts (1)

Natural and Applied Sciences

Boston College (1)
Georgetown University (1)
New York University (1)
Scripps Research Institute (1)
University of Wisconsin (1)

Social Work

Boston College (3)
Fordham University (1)
Loyola University Chicago (1)

Business

Boston College (10)
Boston University (1)
Columbia University (1)
Massachusetts Institute of Technology (1)

VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS

Comparable to the results for the Class of 2011, 5.5% of the Class of 2012 members indicated that they are volunteering following their Boston College graduation. While volunteer sites were both domestic and international, the highest proportion of students are volunteering with the Jesuit Volunteer Corps.

Class of 2012, Organizations for which graduates are volunteering full-time

Organization	Number reporting	Percent of respondents
Jesuit Volunteer Corps	20	37.7%
City Year	7	13.2%
Americorps	3	5.7%
Alumni Service Corps	1	1.9%
Bon Secours	1	1.9%
Change a Heart Franciscan Volunteers	1	1.9%
Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation	1	1.9%
College Possible	1	1.9%
Community Water Solutions	1	1.9%
Convent of Mercy Academy	1	1.9%
FrancisCorps	1	1.9%
Gamboula Hospital - CAR	1	1.9%
Jesuit College Preparatory School	1	1.9%
Jovenes, Inc.	1	1.9%
New England Coastal Wildlife Alliance	1	1.9%
NM Appleseed	1	1.9%
Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos	1	1.9%
Sea Education Association	1	1.9%
Society of St. John the Evangelist	1	1.9%
St. Joseph's Prep Alumni Service Corps	1	1.9%
United States Peace Corps	1	1.9%
University of Miami School of Medicine	1	1.9%
Venture South	1	1.9%
Working Boys' Center	1	1.9%
WorldTeach	1	1.9%
Xavier High School	1	1.9%
Total	53	100%

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.

Class of 2012, Internship duration

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%
Total	35	100%

Class of 2012, Organizations where graduates are interning for at least six months

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
Total	17

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.

Class of 2012, Fellowship participation

Program	Number reporting
Fulbright Fellowship	8
Oak Ridge Institute of Science and Education (FDA)	1
IDEX Fellowship	1
Total	10

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.