
Boston College Career Survey Class of 2006

Overview

In conjunction with the Office of Institutional Research, Planning and Assessment, the Boston College Career Center surveyed the Class of 2006 for information about their career and graduate school plans. In April 2006, prior to graduation, all graduating seniors (n=2,086) received a series of three emails inviting them to participate in the online survey. In November 2006, six months post-graduation, students who either did not respond to the spring survey, or who responded with tentative plans, were again contact via a series of three emails inviting them to participate in the follow-up survey. This two-tiered survey method generated responses from 1,013 students, representing an overall response rate of **49%**. Of those 1,013 students, 850 provided complete data that could be used in this analysis, which includes information regarding employment and graduate school enrollments. Below are highlights of the report:

- Approximately **96%** of the Class of 2006 is working full-time, attending graduate school full-time, volunteering full-time, or engaged in a fellowship or post-graduate internship.
- More than **22%** of the survey respondents indicated that they are currently pursuing graduate degrees full-time. Another **4%** are enrolled part-time.
- The median salary reported by member of the Class of 2006 was **\$44,000**, with the majority of students reporting between \$33,625 and \$53,000.
- Nearly **two-thirds** of the Class of 2006 is employed in one of the top six fields, which includes Accounting/Tax Preparations, Investment Banking, Consulting, Financial Services, Education, and Healthcare.
- Among recent graduates pursuing advanced degrees, **22%** are enrolled in law school, **21%** are pursuing a degree in education, and **13%** are in doctoral programs (primarily science).

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Response Rates

The overall response rate for the class was **49%**; CSON had the highest response rate (55%) followed by CSOM with a 51% response rate.

Class of 2006 Career Survey Response Rates

School	No. surveyed	No. responded	Response rate
College of Arts & Sciences	1,355	648	48%
Carroll School of Management	469	237	51%
Lynch School of Education	184	85	46%
Connell School of Nursing	78	43	55%
Total	2,086	1,013	49%

Some of the respondents from the spring survey provided incomplete responses, and did not update their information in the fall survey. Because their information remained incomplete, they were dropped from further analysis. After removing the incomplete records, a final dataset included 850 respondents (41% of the class). All subsequent analysis is based on this pool of 850 graduates.

Primary Activity Six Months after Graduation

Approximately **96%** of the Class of 2006 is working full-time, attending graduate school full-time, volunteering full-time, or engaged in a fellowship or post-graduate internship. Graduates from CSOM and CSON are most likely to be employed full-time (91% and 88%, respectively). LSOE graduates are more likely to be currently enrolled in full-time graduate programs than graduates from other schools. Nearly two-thirds of the LSOE graduates responding to the surveys, and more than a quarter of the A&S graduates, are currently in graduate school. Details about the graduate programs are presented in a later section of this report.

Class of 2006: Primary Activity Six Months after Graduation

	All schools	A&S	CSOM	LSOE	CSON
Working full-time	64%	53%	91%	51%	88%
Graduate school full-time	22%	27%	5%	39%	6%
Volunteering full-time	6%	8%	1%	7%	3%
Fellowship/research grant	1%	2%	-	-	-
Other	7%	10%	2%	3%	3%
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Top Career Industries/Fields

As in previous years, the fields of employment most frequently cited by graduating seniors relate to finance and accounting (presumably due to both the over-representation of CSOM students in the spring survey and the particular hiring practices in the industry). Of the 466 graduates who reported their field of employment, the most frequently-noted are Accounting/Tax Preparations, Investment Banking, Consulting, Financial Services, Education, and Healthcare. The top 15 industries/fields are listed below:

Class of 2006: Top 15 Employment Fields

Field of employment	No. reporting	% of those reporting
Accounting, Tax Preparations	49	11%
Consulting Services	40	9%
Investment Banking	37	8%
Financial Services	35	8%
Educational Services	35	8%
Hospitals	33	7%
Legal Services	30	6%
Healthcare Services	27	6%
Commercial Banking	21	5%
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	18	4%
Government (Federal, including military)	13	3%
Insurance Carriers & Related Activities	12	3%
Advertising & Related Services	10	2%
Publishing	10	2%
Broadcasting & Telecommunications	8	2%

Top Employers

Related to the top fields of employment are the companies and organizations hiring the greatest number of recent graduates. Again, employers in the fields of accounting, financial services, and nursing dominate the list of top employers, but there is a fair representation of other types of employers, notably, the U.S. Armed Forces and Teach for America. All companies or organizations employing four or more members of the Class of 2006 are listed below:

Companies and Organizations Employing the Largest number of 2006 Graduates

Employer	Total # of 2006 graduates employed
PricewaterhouseCoopers	23
JPMorgan Chase	10
Massachusetts General Hospital	10
Citigroup	9
United States Armed Forces	9
Deloitte Consulting	8
Ernst & Young LLP	8
KPMG, LLP	8
Deloitte & Touche	7
Goldman Sachs & Co.	7
Teach for America	7
Brigham and Women's Hospital	6
Fidelity Investments	6
EMC Corporation	5
Bank of America	4
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center	4
Boston Beer Company	4
Children's Hospital Boston	4
Liberty Mutual Insurance Company	4
Morgan Stanley	4
NewStar Financial	4
UBS Investment Bank	4

Timing of Employment Offers

Among the students working full-time, there is great variation in the timing of their offers of employment. Approximately **87%** of CSOM graduates and **86%** of CSON graduates had secured their positions before leaving Boston College. In contrast, the majority (**55%**) of A&S graduates who are currently working full-time were offered their positions in the summer or fall following graduation. As might be predicted, similar patterns are found in the timing of job offers by industry or field of employment, with finance-related jobs and nursing positions generally accepted prior to graduation. The tables below illustrate the timing of job offers by school, and by field.

When did the Class of 2006 Accept Employment Offers?

	Prior to senior year	First semester senior year	Second semester senior year	Summer following senior year	Fall following senior year
College of Arts & Sciences	5%	16%	33%	25%	20%
Carroll School of Management	11%	53%	23%	9%	5%
Lynch School of Education	11%	7%	68%	4%	11%
Connell School of Nursing	4%	0%	42%	38%	17%
Total	7%	29%	32%	18%	14%

Student Receiving Job Offers Prior to Graduation, by Field of Employment

Job field	#	% accepting	Job field	#	% accepting
Military Services	8	100%	Computer Science	17	65%
Accounting/Auditing (Public)	44	98%	Teaching	29	62%
Investment Banking	48	96%	Other Healthcare	16	56%
Commercial Banking	19	89%	Marketing	56	54%
Consulting	25	88%	Paralegal	31	39%
Registered Nurse	28	86%	Communications	29	38%
Other Finance	31	81%	Human Resources	12	33%
Accounting/Auditing (Private)	13	77%	Social Services	10	20%
Research	25	68%			

Resources Used in Job Search

There was great variation in the resources used by students in securing the current positions. Not surprisingly, students in CSOM were much more likely to have found their job through on-campus recruiting than students from other schools. Graduates of LSOE and A&S were more likely to depend on networking for their job search.

Primary Resources Used in Securing Job Offer, by School					
	A&S	CSOM	CSON	LSOE	All
EagleLink On Campus Interviews	15%	41%	0%	0%	24%
Internship	10%	19%	33%	20%	15%
Other Career Center Programs/Services	12%	9%	6%	5%	10%
Other Job Listings (including internet & print)	30%	7%	39%	30%	21%
Networking	29%	23%	6%	30%	25%
Other	5%	2%	14%	13%	5%
Total	100%	100%	98%	98%	100%

The primary resources used by graduates entering various fields reflect the patterns seen in the undergraduate schools. The table below summarizes the various resources used in securing jobs in different fields or industries.

Primary Resources Used in Securing Job Offer, by Field of Employment							
Field of Employment	N	EagleLink on campus Interviews	Networking	Internship	Other Career Center/ Eagle Link Program	Other Job Listings (including internet & print)	Other
Accounting/Auditing	53	55%	9%	25%	11%		
Communications	25	4%	48%	16%	4%	28%	
Consulting	25	40%	28%	4%	20%	4%	4%
Investment Banking	47	40%	26%	23%	6%	2%	2%
Marketing	29	24%	34%	14%	7%	10%	10%
Other Finance	47	47%	15%	13%	11%	15%	
Paralegal	29	14%	24%		21%	34%	7%
Registered Nurse	18		6%	33%	6%	39%	17%
Sales	23	22%	35%	9%	22%	9%	4%
Social Services	10		40%	20%		40%	
Teaching	20	5%	20%			65%	10%
All	326	30%	24%	15%	10%	17%	4%

Salaries

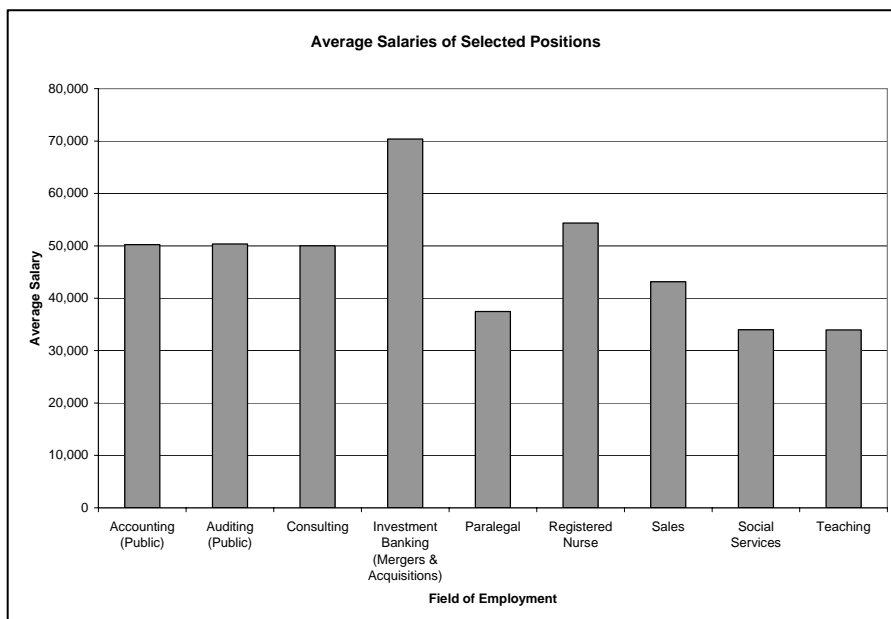
Salary information was provided by 470 students. The salaries ranged from a low of \$9,000 to a reported high of \$200,000, with a median of \$44,000. The median salary for each undergraduate school, as well as the middle range of salaries, is listed below:

Class of 2006: Starting Salaries by School

School	No. of students reporting	Median salary	25 th -75 th percentile of salary range
College of Arts & Sciences	241	\$35,000	\$30,000 - 45,000
Carroll School of Management	180	\$51,000	\$45,000 – 55,250
Lynch School of Education	21	\$32,000	\$27,000 – 40,000
Connell School of Nursing	28	\$54,500	\$50,000 – 56,500
All schools	470	\$44,000	\$33,625 - 53,000

Starting salaries by field of employment or job type show a wide range of compensation.

Generally, jobs in the field of investment banking were the most lucrative, while jobs in communications fields were the least. Average salaries, as well as the minimum and maximum salaries for each job/field reported by four or more respondents, are presented on the following page.



Class of 2006: Starting Salaries by Job Type/Field of Employment

Field of employment or job type	N	Reported Salary		
		Average	Minimum	Maximum
Finance/Management				
Accounting (Private)	4	\$40,500	\$33,000	\$47,000
Accounting (Public)	19	50,222	33,000	60,000
Auditing (Private)	6	48,833	40,000	55,000
Auditing (Public)	25	50,340	47,000	53,000
Commercial Banking	19	51,667	36,000	62,500
Consulting	24	50,024	33,500	60,000
Financial/Treasury Analysis	14	48,462	35,000	55,000
Human Resources/Industrial Relations	12	38,682	27,000	52,000
Investment Banking (Corporate Finance)	17	61,412	44,000	120,000
Investment Banking (Mergers & Acquisitions)	8	70,375	55,000	110,000
Investment Banking (Sales & Trading)	19	58,441	33,000	80,000
Management Trainee	6	40,417	25,000	52,000
Portfolio Management/Brokerage	13	59,231	32,000	200,000
Computer Science				
Computer Programming/Computer Support	6	46,700	31,000	55,000
Computer Systems Analysis	6	55,667	40,000	63,000
Other Computer Related	5	49,500	25,000	63,000
Communications				
Production (Communications)	8	30,714	24,000	50,000
Public Relations	8	32,143	21,000	48,000
Writing/Editing	7	31,950	30,000	34,500
Healthcare				
Registered Nurse	28	54,342	43,200	69,000
Other Health Related	16	31,819	19,000	55,000
Research				
Research (Technical/Scientific)	19	31,944	23,000	54,500
Research (Non-technical)	6	34,900	30,000	38,000
Marketing				
Advertising	8	34,500	27,000	50,000
Brand/Product Management	8	42,213	30,000	56,000
Customer Service	5	36,500	35,000	38,000
Marketing (other)	5	36,000	28,000	45,000
Marketing Research	5	37,400	23,000	47,000
Sales	24	43,136	26,000	100,000
Other				
Paralegal	30	37,466	20,000	72,000
Teaching	31	33,962	18,000	45,000
Military	8	39,875	30,000	48,000
Public Administration	5	32,800	29,500	38,000
Social Services	10	34,000	27,000	38,000

Graduate School

More than **22%** of the survey respondents indicated that they are currently pursuing graduate degrees full-time. Another **4%** are enrolled part-time. More than half (**55%**) of the LSOE respondents are currently enrolled, either full-time or part-time, in graduate school. Of the respondents reporting their degree program, **22%** are pursuing JD's, and **10%** are pursuing degrees in medicine or dentistry. Among recent graduates pursuing master's degrees, Education (MA, Med, and MAT) is the most frequently reported field of study (more than 20% of the graduates pursuing advanced degrees are in education programs), distantly followed by Social sciences (MA, MS), and Accounting or finance (MS). Among graduates in doctorate programs, the majority are pursuing degree in the "hard sciences" or math. The table below presents the class's graduate program enrollments by degree and field of study.

Distribution of Graduate Program Enrollments

Graduate degree (<i>field of study in italics</i>)	Number of respondents	Percent of respondents
Master's Degrees	115	55%
<i>Education (MA, MEd, MAT)</i>	43	21%
<i>Social sciences (MA, MS)</i>	13	6%
<i>Accounting or finance (MS)</i>	13	6%
<i>Social work (MSW)</i>	11	5%
<i>Humanities (MA)</i>	10	5%
<i>Allied health (MA, MS)</i>	9	4%
<i>Nursing (MS)</i>	6	3%
<i>Sciences or math (MS)</i>	5	2%
<i>Public health (MPH)</i>	5	2%
J.D.	46	22%
Ph.D.	27	13%
<i>Sciences or math</i>	18	9%
<i>Social sciences</i>	4	2%
<i>Humanities</i>	5	2%
M.D.	14	7%
D.M.D.	5	2%
D.V.M.	2	1%
Total	209	100%

Members of the Class of 2006 are currently pursuing advanced degree at more than eighty-five different universities. Due to the diversity of graduate programs, the frequency of any particular graduate school or program varies by field of study. Boston College tops the lists for many disciplines, notably Education, Accounting, and Law. The table below lists the institutions most frequently attended by recent graduates, by field of study.

Graduate Schools Attended by Members of the Class of 2006, by Discipline

Law Schools	No.	Medicine	No
Boston College Law School	6	Tufts University School of Medicine	6
George Washington U Law School	4	New York University	2
St. John's University School of Law	4	Drexel University	2
Georgetown University Law Center	3	John Hopkins School of Medicine	1
Fordham University School of Law	2	Meharry Medical College	1
Northeastern University	2	Ross University	1
Saint Louis University School of Law	2	UMass Medical School	1
Suffolk University Law School	2		
Villanova University Law School	2		
		Nursing/Allied Health	
Accounting/Business		Boston College	3
Boston College	11	New York University	3
University of Maryland	1	Boston University	3
George Washington University	1	Emory University	2
Education		Dentistry	
Boston College	26	Boston University	2
Harvard University	2	University of Pennsylvania	1
Pace University	2	Tufts University	1
		University of Buffalo	1
Humanities & Social Sciences		Veterinary Science	
Boston College	6	University of Pennsylvania	1
New York University	4	Tufts University	1
Columbia University	2		
University of California, San Diego	2		
		Sciences	
Social Work		Georgetown University	2
Boston College	6	University of Connecticut	2
New York University	2	University of Pennsylvania	2
Columbia University	1		
Syracuse University	1		

Where are They Now?

More than two-thirds of the Class of 2006 currently resides in Massachusetts or New York. A sizeable concentration of recent graduates (6% of the survey respondents) can be found in Washington, D.C. and the surrounding communities in Maryland and Virginia. An equal number of students are currently living on the West Coast, primarily California. Approximately four percent of the graduates responding to the survey are living overseas, about half of whom are participating in a post-graduate fellowship.

