



BOSTON COLLEGE CAREER SURVEY CLASS OF 2008

STUDY OVERVIEW

The purpose of the Boston College Career Survey is to track recent graduates' future plans via topics such as their primary activity six months post-graduation, top career fields pursued by recent graduates, the timing of offers and starting salary information, graduate school enrollment by program, degree, and institution, and the organizations recent grads choose to volunteer with, 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 from March 2008 through November 2008 to all Class of 2008 graduating seniors
- Online administration
- 1,174 respondents (54.1% response rate)

Survey highlights

- Approximately 93% of those responding to the Class of 2008 Career Survey are working full-time, attending graduate school full-time, volunteering full-time, or engaged in a fellowship or post-graduate internship.
- Close to a quarter of survey respondents indicated that they are/will be pursuing graduate degrees full-time; another 6% intend to enroll in part-time graduate study.
- The median salary reported by members of the Class of 2008 was \$50,000 with the majority of students reporting salaries between \$38,000 and \$60,000.
- Over half of those responding to the Class of 2008 Career Survey are employed in one of the following fields: Consulting, Teaching, Finance (Portfolio Management/Brokerage), Accounting (Public), Nursing, Auditing, Financial Analysis, Investment Banking, Marketing/Sales, and Accounting (Private).
- Among recent graduates pursuing advanced degrees, close to a quarter (22.9%) are pursuing law degrees (i.e., J.D.) and 13.6% are pursuing degrees in medicine, dentistry, or veterinary medicine.

RESPONSE RATES BY SCHOOL

The online administration of the survey generated responses from over half of the Class of 2008; the Lynch School of Education (LSOE) had the highest response rate (66%) followed by the Connell School of Nursing (CSON) with a 58% response rate.

School	Number surveyed	Number of respondents	Response rate
College of Arts & Sciences (A&S)	1404	727	51.8%
Carroll School of Management (CSOM)	492	273	55.5%
Lynch School of Education (LSOE)	189	124	65.6%
Connell School of Nursing (CSON)	86	50	58.1%
Total	2171	1174	54.1%

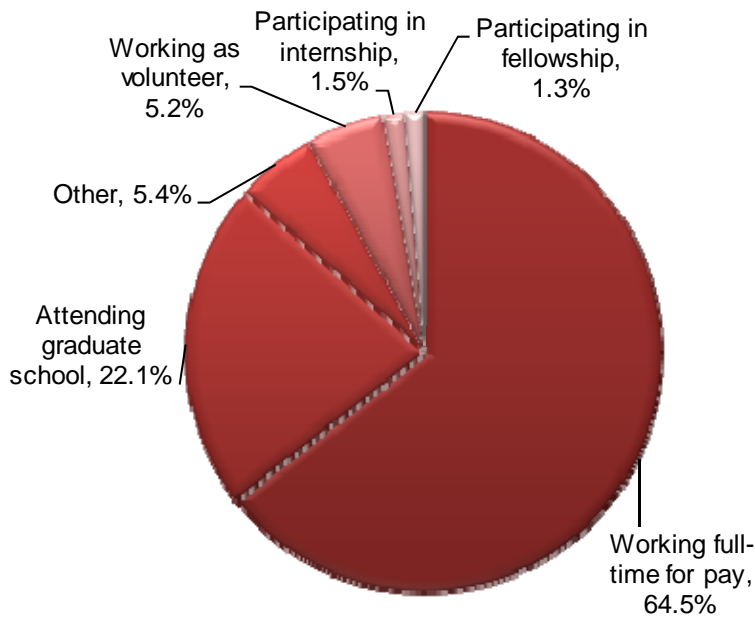
PRIMARY ACTIVITY SIX MONTHS POST GRADUATION

Approximately 93% of those responding to the Class of 2008 Career Survey are working full-time, attending graduate school full-time, volunteering full-time, or engaged in a fellowship or post-graduate internship; the distribution of post-graduation status, however, varies substantially among schools. With 90% of the respondents reporting that they are currently employed, CSON graduates are the most likely to be working for pay, followed by CSOM graduates (89.4%). Close to four out of 10 LSOE graduates are attending graduate school full-time and nearly 7% of both A&S and LSOE graduates report that they are working full-time as a volunteer.

Class of 2008, Primary activity

School	A&S	CSOM	LSOE	CSON	All Schools
Working full-time for pay	56.0%	89.4%	49.2%	90.0%	64.5%
Working full-time as a volunteer	6.6%	1.5%	7.3%	0.0%	5.2%
Attending graduate school full-time	26.8%	4.8%	38.7%	8.0%	22.1%
Participating in a fellowship, research grant, etc.	1.9%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	1.3%
Participating in a post-graduate internship	1.8%	1.5%	0.8%	0.0%	1.5%
Other	6.9%	2.6%	4.0%	2.0%	5.4%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Primary activity of Class of 2008 graduates six months post graduation



TOP CAREER FIELDS

Topping the list of career fields reported by 2008 graduates are *consulting* and *teaching* (9.1% and 6.5% of respondents who reported their field of employment, respectively).

Class of 2008, Top ten career fields

Employment field	Number reporting (N=505)	Percent of those reporting
Consulting	46	9.1%
Teaching	33	6.5%
Finance (Portfolio Management/Brokerage)	29	5.7%
Accounting (Public)	28	5.5%
Registered Nurse	28	5.5%
Auditing (Public)	24	4.8%
Analyst (Financial, Treasury)	22	4.4%
Investment Banking (Corporate Finance)	21	4.2%
Marketing/Sales	21	4.2%
Accounting (Private)	18	3.6%

TOP EMPLOYERS

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

Class of 2008, Top employers (all companies/organizations employing at least 4 graduates are listed)

Employer	Total # employed
PricewaterhouseCoopers	26
Deloitte Consulting LLP	15
UBS Financial Services	14
Ernst & Young	10
Teach For America	10
Goldman Sachs	9
Citigroup	8
General Electric Co. Commercial Finance	8
JPMorgan Chase & Co	8
State Street Corporation	8
EMC Corporation	6
KPMG	6
Liberty Mutual	6
Massachusetts General Hospital	6
Bank of America	5
CRA International	5
Deutsche Bank	5
Boston College	4
Brigham & Women's Hospital	4

TIMING OF EMPLOYMENT OFFERS

Among the students working full-time, variation in the timing of offers of employment is evident across the colleges, although for those reporting their employment information, the majority of graduates had secured their positions before leaving Boston College.

Class of 2008, Acceptance of employment offers by school

Time Period	A&S	CSOM	LSOE	CSON	All Schools
Prior to senior year	4.2%	13.0%	0.0%	7.1%	7.9%
First semester senior year	19.7%	57.2%	16.0%	7.1%	34.7%
Second semester senior year	59.8%	28.8%	72.0%	85.7%	48.7%
Summer following senior year	10.9%	0.5%	8.0%	0.0%	5.7%
Fall following senior year	5.4%	0.5%	4.0%	0.0%	3.0%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Class of 2008, Acceptance of employment offers prior to graduation by field of employment

Employment field	Prior to Senior Year	First Semester Senior Year	Second Semester Senior Year
Accounting/Auditing (Private) (N=20)	15.0%	25.0%	55.0%
Accounting/Auditing (Public) (N=52)	25.0%	63.5%	11.5%
Commercial Banking (N=10)	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%
Communications (N=23)	0.0%	4.2%	70.8%
Computer Science (N=22)	9.1%	18.2%	68.2%
Consulting (N=46)	4.3%	67.4%	23.9%
Finance (Other) (N=58)	1.7%	55.2%	43.1%
Healthcare (Other) (N=12)	0.0%	8.3%	66.7%
Human Resources (N=4)	0.0%	25.0%	75.0%
Investment Banking (N=46)	23.9%	60.9%	13.0%
Management (Trainee, General) (N=17)	5.9%	11.8%	64.7%
Marketing (N=60)	1.7%	33.3%	58.3%
Paralegal (N=18)	0.0%	5.6%	72.2%
Public Administration (N=8)	0.0%	0.0%	50.0%
Registered Nurse (N=28)	7.1%	7.1%	85.7%
Research (N=18)	0.0%	11.1%	88.9%
Social Services (N=20)	5.0%	0.0%	70.0%
Teaching (N=33)	0.0%	9.1%	66.7%
Other (N=9)	33.3%	0.0%	33.3%

PRIMARY RESOURCES USED TO OBTAIN CURRENT POSITION

Close to four out of 10 (34.8%) of the respondents who are working full-time indicated that they found their position through on-campus interviewing or other Career Center programs. Career Fairs held outside of BC were cited by less than one percent of the respondents whereas close to 40% of respondents cited networking or internships as the primary source used to obtain their position.

Class of 2008, Primary resources used to obtain current position

Resources	A&S	CSOM	LSOE	CSON	All Schools
EagleLink on-campus interviews	14.5%	45.1%	4.0%	0.0%	26.1%
Other EagleLink listings	6.2%	1.9%	0.0%	0.0%	3.7%
Listings linked through Career Center website	2.5%	0.9%	0.0%	0.0%	1.6%
Other job listings (e.g., Internet, print)	18.7%	3.7%	28.0%	28.6%	13.4%
Career fair at BC	0.8%	1.9%	0.0%	21.4%	2.4%
Career fair outside of BC	0.8%	0.0%	8.0%	0.0%	0.8%
Career Center program	1.2%	0.9%	0.0%	0.0%	1.0%
Networking	22.8%	17.7%	24.0%	17.9%	20.4%
Internship	14.5%	23.3%	12.0%	7.1%	17.7%
Family business	2.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.0%
Employment agency	2.5%	0.9%	4.0%	0.0%	1.8%
Other	13.3%	3.7%	20.0%	25.0%	10.2%

Class of 2008, 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)	20	50.0%	15.0%	0.0%	5.0%	15.0%	15.0%
Accounting/Auditing (Public)	52	34.6%	21.2%	36.5%	3.9%	1.9%	1.9%
Commercial Banking	10	80.0%	0.0%	20.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Communications	27	3.7%	40.7%	18.5%	3.7%	18.5%	14.8%
Computer Science	22	18.2%	27.3%	13.6%	13.6%	13.6%	13.6%
Consulting	46	45.7%	17.4%	19.6%	13.0%	2.2%	2.2%
Finance (Other)	58	46.6%	10.3%	15.5%	10.3%	8.6%	8.6%
Healthcare (Other)	12	0.0%	50.0%	0.0%	8.3%	16.7%	25.0%
Human Resources	4	0.0%	50.0%	25.0%	0.0%	0.0%	25.0%
Investment Banking	46	47.8%	10.9%	30.4%	4.4%	2.2%	4.3%
Management (Trainee, General)	17	5.9%	29.4%	17.7%	5.9%	23.5%	17.7%
Marketing	60	25.0%	18.3%	23.3%	10.0%	11.7%	11.7%
Paralegal	18	22.2%	27.8%	0.0%	16.7%	22.2%	11.1%
Public Administration	8	0.0%	12.5%	0.0%	0.0%	37.5%	50.0%
Registered Nurse	28	0.0%	17.9%	7.1%	21.4%	28.6%	25.0%
Research	18	5.6%	11.1%	11.1%	5.6%	38.9%	27.8%
Social Services	21	0.0%	14.3%	4.8%	4.8%	47.6%	28.6%
Teaching	33	3.0%	30.3%	6.1%	12.1%	24.2%	24.2%
Other	5	0.0%	44.4%	44.4%	0.0%	0.0%	11.1%
Total	505	26.1%	20.4%	17.7%	8.6%	14.2%	13.0%

MEDIAN STARTING SALARIES BY SCHOOL

Salary information was provided by 451 students. Reported salaries ranged from \$38,000 at the 25th percentile to \$60,000 for the 75th percentile, with a median salary for all responding students of \$50,000.

Class of 2008, Starting salaries by school

Salary Range	A&S	CSOM	LSOE	CSON	All Schools
Number reporting	202	205	20	24	451
Median salary	\$40,000	\$55,000	\$38,750	\$56,500	\$50,000
25th percentile of range	\$33,000	\$50,000	\$30,000	\$50,500	\$38,000
75th percentile of range	\$52,000	\$60,000	\$44,875	\$69,625	\$60,000

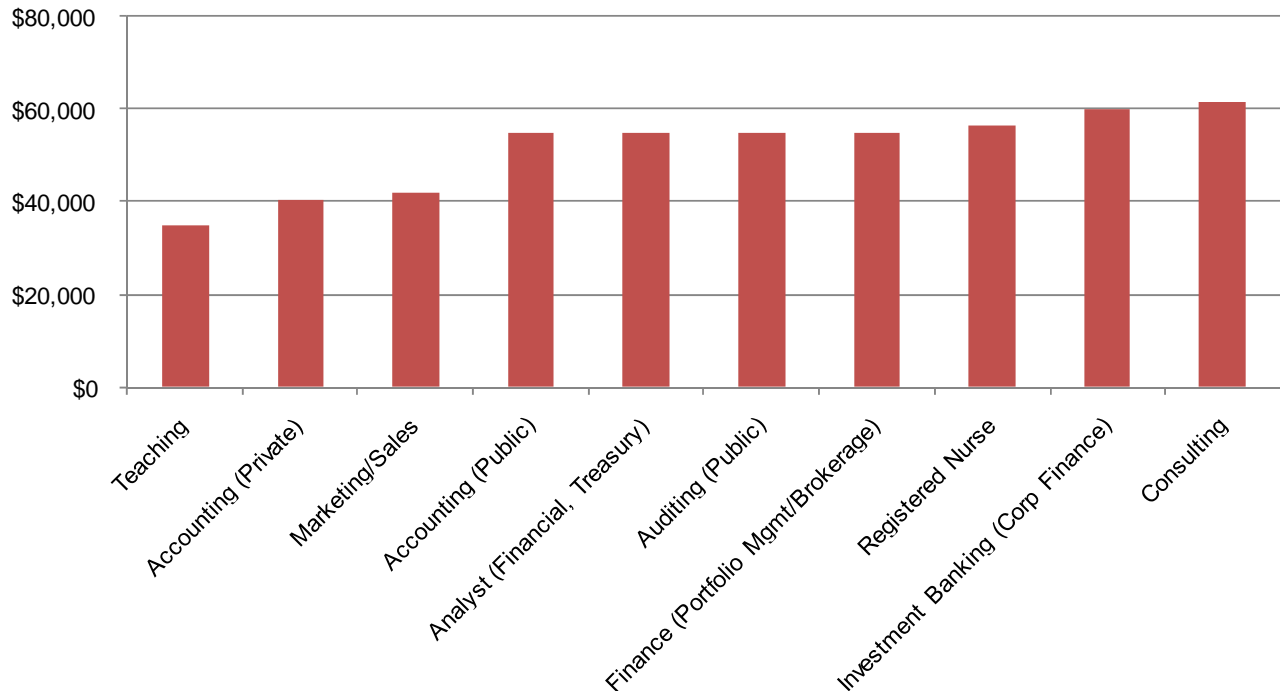
MEDIAN STARTING SALARIES BY FIELD

Among the top ten career fields noted by the survey respondents, the highest starting salaries are found in the fields of consulting and investment banking followed by nursing and accounting. Teaching, the second most frequently cited career field, shows the lowest median starting salary of the group at \$35,000.

Class of 2008, Median salaries by top ten fields

Employment field	Number reporting	Median salary	Salary range
Consulting	42	\$61,500	\$31,500 - \$85,000
Investment Banking (Corporate Finance)	20	\$60,000	\$45,000 - \$150,000
Registered Nurse	24	\$56,500	\$42,000 - \$80,000
Accounting (Public)	28	\$55,000	\$33,000 - \$68,000
Analyst (Financial, Treasury)	21	\$55,000	\$33,000 - \$65,000
Auditing (Public)	23	\$55,000	\$46,000 - \$65,000
Finance (Portfolio Management/Brokerage)	25	\$55,000	\$32,000 - \$100,000
Marketing/Sales	17	\$42,000	\$27,000 - \$65,000
Accounting (Private)	18	\$40,500	\$24,000 - \$59,000
Teaching	31	\$35,000	\$4,500 - \$48,500

Median Salaries by Select Fields



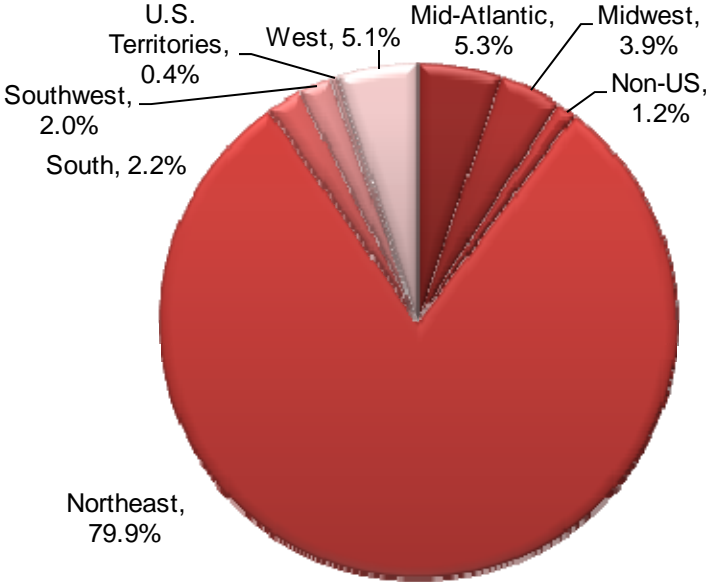
Class of 2008, Reported starting salaries by field of employment

Employment field/job type	N	Average	Minimum	Maximum
Finance				
Accounting (Private)	18	\$42,678	\$24,000	\$59,000
Accounting (Public)	28	54,071	33,000	68,000
Auditing (Private)*	1			
Auditing (Public)	23	54,522	46,000	65,000
Commercial Banking (Consumer)	10	60,000	53,000	70,000
Consulting	42	59,310	31,500	85,000
Financial/Treasury Analysis	21	53,905	33,000	65,000
Insurance (Claims)*	1			
Insurance (Underwriting)	5	48,600	40,000	60,000
Investment Banking (Corp Finance)	20	64,325	45,000	150,000
Investment Banking (Mergers & Acq)	8	61,500	42,000	75,000
Investment Banking (Real Estate)	2	100,000	70,000	130,000
Investment Banking (Sales & Trading)	13	62,308	55,000	70,000
Management Trainee (Entry-Level)	11	41864	30,000	51,000
Management, General (Mid to Upper Level)	3	40,333	30,000	57,000
Portfolio Management/Brokerage	25	55100	32,000	100,000
Public Administration				
Executive, Legislative & General*	1			
Finance, Taxation, Monetary Policy*	1			
Law Enforcement	2	\$33,000	\$33,000	\$33,000
Military*	1			
Urban/Regional Planning*	1			
Computer Science				
Computer Programming	7	\$63,142	\$58,000	\$68,000
Computer Systems Analysis	2	54,500	54,000	55,000
Network Administration	2	45,000	40,000	50,000
Technical/Computer Support	3	4,7333	40,000	60,000
Other Computer Related	7	48,500	26,500	65,000
Social Services				
Administrative	4	\$37,268	\$33,072	\$43,000
Counseling	3	30,667	25,000	40,000
Fundraising/Development	5	30,600	24,000	35,000
Social Work	3	35,533	24,600	42,000
Healthcare				
Administrative (Healthcare)	2	\$34,000	\$30,000	\$38,000
Registered Nurse	24	59,477	42,000	80,000
Other Health Related	7	30,006	4,800	45,000

Employment field/job type	N	Average	Minimum	Maximum
Marketing				
Advertising	8	\$36,563	\$3500	\$65000
Brand/Product Management	14	44,357	28,000	70,000
Buyer/Merchandising	8	46,500	43,000	53,000
Customer Service*	1			
Distribution	2	45,500	40,000	51,000
Marketing Research	2	32,100	29,200	35,000
Sales	17	42,235	27,000	65,000
Communications				
Design/Graphic Arts	2	\$36,000	\$32,000	\$40,000
Media Planning	4	36,500	30,000	42000
Production (Communications)	3	42,767	35000	48,000
Public Relations	7	30,857	12,000	38,000
Writing/Editing	3	23,100	10000	30,000
Other				
Actuarial	3	\$59,000	\$52000	\$65000
Agricultural/Natural Resources	2	25,500	25,000	26,000
Human Resources/Industrial Relations	3	48,667	37,000	55,000
Paralegal	16	\$39,281	\$30,000	\$45,000
Religious Occupation*	1			
Research (Nontechnical)*	1			
Research (Technical/Scientific)	15	37,533	20,000	60,000
Teaching	31	34,243	4,500	48,500

*Due to N=1, salary data are not presented.

GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION OF EMPLOYED GRADUATES



GRADUATE SCHOOL ENROLLMENT BY PROGRAM/DEGREE TYPE

Approximately 22% of the survey respondents indicated that they are currently pursuing graduate degrees full-time; another 4% are enrolled part-time. Of the respondents reporting their degree program, close to a quarter (22.9%) are pursuing law degrees (i.e., J.D.) and 13.6% are pursuing degrees in medicine, dentistry, or veterinary medicine.

Class of 2008, Distribution of graduate program enrollments

Graduate Degrees	Number of respondents	Percent of respondents
Master's Degrees		
Education (M.A., M.A.T., M.Ed.)	52	20.9%
Humanities (M.A., M.Div., Other)	16	6.4%
Medical Sciences (M.A., M.S., Other)	5	2.0%
Social Sciences (M.A., M.S., Other)	14	5.6%
Fine Arts (M.A., M.F.A., Other)	4	1.6%
Business/Accounting (M.A., M.B.A., M.S.)	24	9.6%
Public Health (M.PH., M.S.)	3	1.2%
Social Work (M.S.W.)	11	4.4%
Natural Sciences (M.S.)	14	5.6%
Other (M.A., M.S.)	2	0.8%
Ph.D.		
Humanities	4	1.6%
Natural Sciences or Math	8	3.2%
Social Sciences	1	0.4%
J.D.	57	22.9%
M.D./D.O.	27	10.8%
D.D.S./D.M.D.	3	1.2%
D.V.M.	2	0.8%
Pharm.D.	1	0.4%
D.P.T.	1	0.4%
Total	249	100.0%

GRADUATE SCHOOLS ATTENDED

The array of graduate schools attended by Class of 2008 graduates varies by the degree and field of study pursued. Listed below is a sample of the institutions currently attended by BC 2008 graduates, by primary field of study (number of students enrolled is included in parentheses.)

Graduate school attended by the Class of 2008

Law

Boston College Law School (10)
Loyola University Chicago School of Law (3)
Suffolk University Law School (3)
Georgetown University Law Center (2)
New York Law School (2)
Santa Clara University School of Law (2)

Medicine

Tufts University School of Medicine (3)
University of Connecticut School of Medicine (3)
Boston University School of Medicine (2)
New York Medical College (2)
Georgetown University Medical School (1)

Education

Boston College (23)
Columbia University (1)
University of Florida (1)

Social Sciences

Boston College (4)
Boston University (1)
Harvard University (1)

Humanities

Georgetown University (2)
Boston University (1)
Cornell University (1)

Fine Arts

The New School (1)
Loyola Marymount University (1)
California Institute of the Arts (1)

Natural Sciences

Tufts University (4)
University of Pennsylvania (3)
New York University (1)

Public Health

Boston University School of Public Health (1)
University of Kentucky (1)
Yale University (1)

Social Work

Boston College (8)
Columbia University (1)
University of Chicago (1)

Business/Accounting

Boston College (15)
UMass Amherst (2)
Fordham University (1)