Boston College First Destinations: Class of 2024

Executive Summary

The annual Boston College Post-Graduation Plans Survey tracks recent graduates' professional and educational plans immediately after graduation. The survey addresses topics such as the graduate's primary activity after 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 or service work.

Working as partners in this data collection effort, the Career Center and Institutional Research & Planning 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 them better serve Boston College 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 (NACE), the leading resource for information on post-graduation plans, hiring forecasts, job market trends, benchmarks, and employment-related best practices.

Survey administration and data collection

- Through surveys and other sources, input was collected for 1,876 of the 2,378 members of the Class of 2024[1], resulting in a knowledge rate of 78.8%.

- The Boston College Post-Graduation Plans survey was administered to August graduates in December 2023, and to December and May graduates from April 2024 through December 2024. A total of 1,012 graduates responded to the survey, for an overall survey response rate of 42.6%.

- Information about another 851 individuals (an additional 36.3%) was retrieved from other sources, including the Boston College Carroll School of Management First Destinations Survey, the National Student Clearinghouse, internal Boston College sources, and public data. A final round of public data was collected during the spring 2025 term.

- Data from the Boston College Carroll School of Management First Destinations Survey, the National Student Clearinghouse, Boston College graduate programs, and public sources were also sought for survey participants whose responses were incomplete; any additional information collected in that effort was merged with their survey responses.

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[1]The Class of 2024 includes students who graduated, or were expecting to graduate, in August 2023, December 2023, and May 2024.

Highlights

- Of the members of the Class of 2024 with input collected, more than 9 out of 10 (95.5%) are **employed** (including in a post-graduation internship and serving in the U.S. military)**, attending graduate school, engaging in service/volunteering, or participating in a fellowship**. About 4.5% indicated they are seeking employment or enrollment in continuing education, or not seeking at this time.

  - Employed full time (on average 30 hours or more per week) — 69.2%
  - Employed part time (on average less than 30 hours per week) — 2.8%
  - Enrolled in a program of continuing education — 18.8%
  - Participating in a post-graduation internship — 2.1%
  - Participating in a volunteer or service program — 1.1%
  - Participating in a fellowship, scholarship, grant, etc. — 1.0%
  - Serving in the U.S. military — 0.5%
  - Seeking employment or enrollment in continuing education — 4.4%
  - Not seeking employment, education, etc. at this time — 0.1%

- Of those employed full-time, the **median salary** reported by members of the Class of 2024 is $74,500, with the middle 50% of students reporting salaries between $58,000 and $87,250.

- A **broad range of industries** is represented by those respondents who are employed (including those whose primary activity is the military or an internship). Industry categories are listed in descending order of frequency. Please see *Appendix A* for more details on which industries are included in each category listed.

  - Financial Services & Accounting — 35%
  - Healthcare, Life & Physical Sciences, Environment — 17%
  - Consulting, Business Services, & Entrepreneurship — 13%
  - Government, Law, Public Policy — 7%
  - Technology & Engineering — 7%
  - Education — 6%
  - Communications, Media, Marketing — 5%
  - Consumer Products & Retail — 4%
  - Other — 4%
  - Arts, Entertainment, Sports, Recreation — 2%
  - Nonprofit & Social Impact — 1%

- 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 (78%).**

- While a majority of 2024 **graduates remain in the Northeast** (75%), graduates do move to all regions of the United States (41 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico), as well as

23 foreign countries.: Australia, Austria, Canada, China, Dominican Republic, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Lesotho, Namibia, Netherlands, Panama, Peru, Portugal, Singapore, South Korea, Spain, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, Zambia, and the special administrative region of Hong Kong. Note: includes graduates in all primary activities except military (includes employed, continuing education, volunteer, fellowship, and post-graduate internship).

- Among graduates who are employed and who shared information about the resources used in the job search, about **71% used a Boston College Career Center resource to secure their employment** (i.e., on-campus or virtual interviews arranged through the Career Center, Handshake 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   53%
    - Networking through BC   49%
    - Other job listings, including online sites and print   42%
    - Handshake job posting (non on-campus interviews)   41%
    - Previous internship   39%
    - Career fair at BC   27%
    - Career Center website   23%
    - Interviews arranged through the Career Center   15%
    - Career Center event or program   13%

- While enrolled at BC, members of the Class of 2024 reported that they participated in a number of "**high impact activities**." Survey respondents reported participating in the following activities:

    - Internship(s) – Paid and/or Unpaid[2]   85%
    - Student organization leadership role(s)   71%
    - Community service/volunteer work (outside of class)   71%
    - On-campus job(s) (e.g., work study positions)   69%
    - Study abroad/Global experience(s)   47%
    - Research project(s) worked on with BC faculty   41%
    - Service learning (as part of a course)   29%
    - Externship(s)   27%
    - Research project(s) worked on outside of BC   17%

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[2] A total of 85% of Class of 2024 graduates reported that they participated in at least one internship (paid and/or unpaid). A total of 76% reported they participated in at least one paid internship, and 39% reported they participated in at least one unpaid internship.

- A total of 18.8% of Class of 2024 graduates are **enrolled in a program of continuing education** as their primary activity after graduation. Of those, approximately two-thirds (72%) are pursuing Master's degrees, 12% are pursuing Law degrees, 9% are pursuing Doctorates (which includes: D.D.S., D.M.D., D.N.P, Psy.D., and Ph.D.), 3% pursuing M.D. or D.O. degrees, and about 3% are pursuing a certificate, another degree, or are enrolled in a non-degree program.

- Among students enrolled in a program of continuing education, the top areas of study are:

  - Business   25%
  - STEM   18%
  - Law   13%
  - Education   12%
  - Humanities or Social Sciences   6%
  - Social Work   4%
  - Policy or Planning   3%
  - Counseling   3%
  - Communications   3%
  - Medicine   3%
  - Other[3]   2%
  - Nursing   2%
  - Health   2%
  - Dentistry   1%
  - Fine and Performing Arts   1%

    Note that students across degree types are categorized into areas of study: for example, for the Class of 2024, "Law" includes those pursuing JD, Master's and LLB degrees, and "STEM" includes those pursuing Associates, Master's, and Doctorate-level degrees.

- Graduates reporting that they are engaged in volunteering or service are serving in organizations such as: Peace Corps, the Jesuit Volunteer Corps, and AmeriCorps. Class of 2024 graduates are also volunteering with a host of other service organizations, both domestic and international.

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[3] Programs categorized as "other" may include post-baccalaureate programs, sub-baccalaureate programs, and non-degree granting programs.

Appendix A – Industries by Industry Groups

Industry Group	Individual Industry
Arts, Entertainment, Sports, Recreation	Arts
	Entertainment
	Sports/Recreation
Communications, Media, Marketing	Advertising and Public Relations
	Journalism, Media, and Publishing
	Marketing
	Online/Social Media
Consulting, Business Services, & Entrepreneurship	Consulting
	Entrepreneurship and Startup
	Hospitality/Food Services/Leisure
	Human Resources, Recruiting, and Staffing
	Professional Services
Consumer Products & Retail	Consumer Goods
	Fashion
	Food and Beverage Products
	Retail
Education	Education (Early Childhood)
	Education (Higher Education)
	Education (K-12)
Financial Services & Accounting	Accounting
	Banking/Finance
	Insurance
	Investment Management
	Real Estate
Government, Law, Public Policy	Government (Federal)
	Government (State and Local)
	Law and Legal Services
	Law Enforcement, Investigation, and Security
	Military
	Public Policy
Healthcare, Life & Physical Sciences, Environment	Biotechnology and Pharmaceuticals
	Environmental Services/Sustainability
	Healthcare and Healthcare Administration
	Medical Equipment and Supplies
	Research (Scientific)
Nonprofit & Social Impact	Advocacy
	Foundation/Non-Governmental Organization (NGO)
	Museums, Historical Sites, and Similar Institutions
	Religious Organizations
	Social Impact Organizations
	Social Services
Technology & Engineering	Architecture & Planning
	Computer Software
	Cybersecurity
	Engineering Services
	Information Technology and Services
Other	Construction
	Manufacturing
	Other
	Research (Other)
	Transportation and Utilities