CAREER ADVANCEMENT BEYOND NORTHWESTERN HIGHLIGHTS SIX MONTHS AFTER GRADUATION THE UNDERGRADUATE CLASS OF 2015 BEYOND NORTHWESTERN Northwestern CAREER ADVANCEMENT HIGHLIGHTS FIRST DESTINATION STUDY SIX MONTHS AFTER GRADUATION
PURPOSE

Our graduates’ success is one of the most important outcomes of the Northwestern University undergraduate experience. This study sought to identify what the students who graduated in 2014-2015 were doing six months after graduation.

THE INFORMATION GATHERING PROCESS

This report represents data from 1,707 (79%) members of the undergraduate class of 2015. According to the University Registrar, 2,159 undergraduate students graduated in Fall 2014, Winter 2015, Spring 2015, and Summer 2015.

Information about the first destination of the undergraduate class of 2015 was collected from the following sources:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SOURCES OF INFORMATION</th>
<th>NUMBER (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015 Post-Graduation Survey (conducted by NCA between November 2015-January 2016)</td>
<td>994 (46%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Student Clearinghouse graduate enrollment data</td>
<td>130 (6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three Northwestern undergraduate schools and the Department of Athletics</td>
<td>105 (5%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Association of American Medical Colleges and Law School Admission Council</td>
<td>6 (&lt;1%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LinkedIn</td>
<td>472 (22%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1,707 (79%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
THE UNDERGRADUATE CLASS OF 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Class of 2015</th>
<th>Participants 2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1,019 (47%)</td>
<td>789 (46%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>380 (18%)</td>
<td>318 (19%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>334 (15%)</td>
<td>241 (14%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>175 (8%)</td>
<td>169 (10%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>133 (6%)</td>
<td>120 (7%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>58 (3%)</td>
<td>46 (3%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 (3%)</td>
<td>24 (1%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2,159 (100%)</td>
<td>1,707 (100%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WHERE IS THE CLASS OF 2015 NOW?

- Full-time employment or paid public service: 64%
- Graduate or professional school: 20%
- Part-time employment or paid public service: 3%
- Post-graduate internship/practicum/student teaching: 3%
- Self-employed or freelance work: 2%
- Volunteer or unpaid public service, additional undergraduate coursework, military, other: 2%
- Entrepreneur or working in a startup: 1%
- Fellowship: 1%
- Actively applying to graduate or professional school: 1%
- Actively job searching: 3%
1,086 (64%) recent graduates were employed full time six months after graduation. Industry information was available for 1,062 of these graduates.

### Industry Information

- **21%**: Business Services, Financial Services, Investment Banking
- **18%**: Consulting
- **16%**: Communications, Marketing, Media
- **10%**: Engineering
- **6%**: Education or Teaching
- **6%**: Non-Profit, Government
- **5%**: Biotechnology, Pharmaceutical, Healthcare
- **5%**: Information Technology
- **3%**: Entertainment
- **3%**: Law
- **3%**: Science and Research
- **1%**: Visual or Performing Arts
- **3%**: Other
### Salary Information

Starting salary information was available for 423 of the 1,086 recent graduates who were employed full time six months after graduation. The average salary overall was $52,742. Salary data is influenced by the industry a student selects.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College/Program</th>
<th>Number of Recent Graduates</th>
<th>Average Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences</td>
<td>186</td>
<td>$52,348</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McCormick School of Engineering and Applied Science</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>$65,722</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medill School of Journalism, Media, Integrated Marketing Communications</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>$46,876</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School of Communication</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>$37,034</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School of Education and Social Policy</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>$49,520</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bienen School of Music</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>$37,100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WHERE are they working?

Locations were available for 1,036 of the recent graduates who were employed full time.

Selected Organizations Employing the Class of 2015

- 3M
- A.T. Kearney
- AbbVie
- ABC News
- Accenture
- Adobe
- Aldi
- Allstate Insurance Company
- American Enterprise Institute
- American Psychological Association
- AmeriCorps
- Apple
- AQR Capital Management
- Architectural Digest
- AT&T
- Atlantic Media Company
- Bain & Company
- Bank of America
- Merrill Lynch
- Baxter International, Inc.
- BBDO
- BlackRock
- Blackstone
- Blue Cross Blue Shield Association
- Boeing
- Boston Consulting Group
- Boston Globe
- BrainTree
- Broadway in Chicago
- Burson-Marsteller
- Buzzfeed
- Capital One
- Chicago Shakespeare Theater
- Chicago Tribune
- City Year Boston
- Consumer Financial Protection Bureau
- DaVita Healthcare
- Dell
- Deloitte
- DigitasLBi
- Evercore
- ExxonMobil
- Facebook
- FCB Chicago
- Forbes Media
- GCM Grosvenor
- Genentech
- Goldman Sachs
- Google
- Huffington Post
- IBM
- IDEO
- Kirkland & Ellis LLP
- L.E.K. Consulting
- LinkedIn
- Macy’s, Inc.
- Massachusetts General Hospital
- Match Education
- McKinsey & Company
- Merck
- Microsoft
- Morgan Stanley
- Morningstar
- National Institutes of Health
- NBCUniversal
- New World Symphony
- Nielsen
- Nike
- Northern Trust Corporation
- Novantas
- Penguin Random House
- People Magazine
- PepsiCo
- POLITICO
- Procter and Gamble
- PwC
- Roland Berger
- Salesforce
- Smithsonian Institution
- Sony Pictures
- Entertainment
- Sotheby’s
- SpaceX
- Sprout Social
- Strategy&
- Teach for America
- Tesla Motors
- The Field Museum
- The New York County District Attorney’s Office
- The Walt Disney Company
- The Washington Post
- The Weinstein Company
- The White House
- Twitter
- U.S. Department of Justice
- U.S. Senate
- Uber
- VICE Media
- Visa
- Weber Shandwick
- Wells Fargo & Company
- ZS Associates
337 (20%) recent graduates were attending graduate/professional schools six months after graduation. Data about the degrees they are seeking and their fields of study were available for 265 and 267 of these recent graduates, respectively.

Class of 2015

Selected Graduate and Professional Schools

- American University
- Boston University
- California Institute of Technology
- Carnegie Mellon University
- Columbia University
- Cornell University
- Duke University
- George Washington University
- Georgetown University
- Harvard University
- Indiana University
- Johns Hopkins University
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- McGill University
- New York University
- Northwestern University
- Princeton University
- Rice University
- Stanford University
- The Juilliard School
- The Ohio State University
- Tulane University
- University of California, Berkeley
- University of California, Los Angeles
- University of Cambridge
- University of Chicago
- University of Florida
- University of Iowa
- University of Michigan
- University of Minnesota
- University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
- University of Notre Dame
- University of Oxford
- University of Pennsylvania
- University of Texas at Austin
- University of Wisconsin-Madison
- Vanderbilt University
- Washington University in St. Louis
- Yale University

Fields of Study

Degrees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Master's (Arts and Sciences or Engineering)</th>
<th>Medicine</th>
<th>Engineering</th>
<th>Business (Management or Finance)</th>
<th>Law</th>
<th>Humanities or Social Science</th>
<th>Communications or Media</th>
<th>Biological Sciences</th>
<th>Healthcare</th>
<th>Mathematics or Physical Sciences</th>
<th>Education</th>
<th>Computer Science or Information Technology</th>
<th>Visual or Performing Arts</th>
<th>Economics</th>
<th>Entertainment</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doctorate (Ph.D.)</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Master's</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>1%</td>
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<td>1%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Doctorate</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
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</table>
As part of the 2015 Post-Graduation Survey (one source of information for this study), recent graduates were given a list of twenty-five experiential learning opportunities and asked to check all those in which they had participated as undergraduates. 746 recent graduates responded to this question.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

88% of the Post-Graduation Survey respondents reported that they had engaged in one or more experiential learning opportunities.

Of the 88% who had engaged in one or more experiential learning opportunities . . .

• 38% had engaged in 1 experiential learning opportunity.
• 32% had engaged in 2 experiential learning opportunities.
• 18% had engaged in 3 experiential learning opportunities.
• 12% had engaged in 4 or more experiential learning opportunities.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

• McCormick Professional Engineering Internship Program
• Cooperative Engineering Education Program (COOP)
• McCormick Gateway Research Awards
• McCormick Summer Research Awards
• Medill Journalism Residency Program
• Lund Grant
• Medill on the Hill
• Justice Project
• Medill Watchdog
• Chicago Bureau
• Medill Media Teens
• School of Communication/EPICS Internship Program
• School of Communication/EPICS International Seminars
• School of Communication/Modules
• SESP Practicum or SESP Summer Field Studies
• Civic Engagement Certificate Program
• Student Teaching and Secondary Teaching Practicum
• Chicago Field Studies
• Global Health – Chicago Field Studies (Global Health Minor)
• Undergraduate Research Grant Program
• Barry Farrell Summer Experiential Learning Award
• Study Abroad
• Internship (not for credit and paid)
• Internship (not for credit and unpaid)
• Internship (for credit and unpaid)
Internships

- 76% of the Post-Graduation Survey respondents reported that they had participated in one or more internship experiences as undergraduates. This number includes internships completed in conjunction with an academic program, such as the Medill Journalism Residency Program, Chicago Field Studies, and the McCormick Professional Engineering Internship Program.
- Of the 76% who participated in one or more internship experiences, 35% had participated in only paid internships, 27% had participated in only unpaid internships, 22% had participated in both paid and unpaid internships, and 16% had participated in only internship experiences through their academic programs.
- Of the recent graduates who reported that they had participated in paid internships, the average number was 2.04. Similarly, of the recent graduates who reported that they had participated in unpaid internships, the average number was 2.00.
Research

- 55% of the Post-Graduation Survey respondents reported that they had participated in one or more research experiences as undergraduates.

DEFINITION OF RESEARCH

Research includes experience gained through an independent study or in conjunction with an instructor/director primarily for the pursuit of knowledge. It can be for pay or on a volunteer basis. This definition of research does not include research performed in conjunction with a class project. Research can be completed at any time throughout the year.

Deep Involvement

- 93% of the Post-Graduation Survey respondents reported that they had been “deeply” involved in one or more student organizations, clubs, or varsity athletic teams as undergraduates.
- 88% reported that they had held a leadership position in one or more student organizations, clubs, or varsity athletic teams.
- 45% indicated that they had been “deeply” involved in one or more community service projects.
- 49% reported that they had held a significant on-campus work-related position.

DEFINITION OF “DEEP INVOLVEMENT”

Deep involvement in a student organization, club, varsity athletic team, community service, or work-related position means more than just attending a meeting or two. Deep involvement includes attending meetings/activities of an organization/club/team on a regular basis over an extended period of time and contributing in some significant way to the organization, e.g., serving on a committee, participating in fund raising efforts, planning and implementing a program, playing on a team, exercising significant responsibility, etc.