

2020 Graduate Destinations Survey Instrument

About

The Graduate Destinations Survey (GDS) is administered by the Office of Data Analytics three times a year to all CU Boulder Alumni, six months after graduation. Survey topics include employment activity, employment details, post-graduation plans, and how well the university prepared students for those ventures.

Questions and Feedback

Please reach out to the CU Boulder Office of Data Analytics Survey Team at ODA-surveys@colorado.edu.

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Post-Graduation Activities

What is your PRIMARY activity at this time?

- Employment (including military service, freelance, self-employed, part-time, etc.)
- Continuing my education (including graduate school, professional school, certificate, second bachelor's, etc.)
- Volunteer/service work (e.g. AmeriCorps, Peace Corps, Teach for America)
- Seeking employment
- Other

If the respondent indicated other:

What best describes the "other" activity you are currently engaged in?

- Parenting or starting/raising a family
- Traveling
- Sick or unable to work
- Taking time off
- Other (please specify)

If the respondent is seeking employment:

You indicated that you are currently seeking employment. If you would like to be contacted by CU Boulder's Career Services for help related to job placement, please provide an email address below where they may reach you. (Optional. Leave blank if you do not wish to be contacted.)

NOTE: Your response to this question will be removed from the rest of your survey responses and ONLY the email address you provide will be shared with CU Career Services.

Prior to graduating from CU Boulder, what did you intend to be doing now?

- Employment (including military service, freelance, self-employed, part-time, etc.)
- Continuing my education (including graduate school, professional school, certificate, second bachelor's, etc.)
- Volunteer/service work (e.g. AmeriCorps, Peace Corps, Teach for America)
- Seeking employment
- Other (please specify): _____

If the respondent is a bachelor's graduate and did not intend to continue their education:

Do you plan to attend graduate or professional school to receive an advanced degree?

- Yes, planning to attend or apply for an advanced degree within the next year
- Maybe, considering pursuing an advanced degree at some point in the future
- No, not interested in pursuing an advanced degree
- No, already completed an advanced degree

Where do you currently reside?

- U.S. States [List of options removed for brevity]

If the respondent resides outside the U.S.:

Where outside of the U.S. do you currently reside?

- Countries [List of options removed for brevity]

To what degree has the COVID-19 pandemic impacted your post-graduation plans?

- Not at all
- Somewhat
- To a large degree
- Completely

If the respondent selected somewhat, to a large degree, or completely:

Has the COVID-19 pandemic made it more difficult for you to find employment?

- Yes
- No
- I have not sought employment during the pandemic

Current School Information

Block show to bachelor's graduates who indicate they are continuing their education

As you continue your education, which of the following best fits your field of study?

- Fields of Study [List of options removed for brevity]

As you continue your education, what degree level and type of program are you pursuing?

Research/scholarship programs are academic courses of study that offer more advanced programs of study (beyond a bachelor's degree) in certain disciplines.

Professional practice programs help prepare students for careers in specific fields. Examples include medical, law, pharmacy, business, library, and social work schools.

- Doctoral Level - Research/Scholarship Program
- Doctoral Level - Professional Practice Program
- Master's Level - Research/Scholarship Program
- Master's Level - Professional Practice Program
- Bachelor's Level Program
- Other Post-Secondary Coursework

Are you enrolled as a full-time or part-time student?

- Full-time
- Part-time

Where are you attending school?

- List of Higher Education Institutions [List of options removed for brevity]

If the respondent's school is not in the list:

What is the name of the school you are attending?

Were you accepted into your first or second choice of graduate school?

- I was accepted into my first choice
- I was accepted into my second choice
- I was accepted into my first **and** second choice
- No, I was not accepted into my first or second choice

Current Employment Information

Block shown to graduates who indicated their current activity is volunteer/service work or employment

If the primary activity at this time is volunteer/service work:

Earlier in the survey, you indicated that your current primary activity is **volunteer/service work**. For this section of the survey, please consider your volunteer/service work when answering questions related to your current employment.

If the primary activity at this time is employment:

Which best describes your current employment?

- Permanent employment at an organization
- Employed as a freelancer
- Self-employed
- Temporary/contract work assignment
- Internship or fellowship
- Military Service

If the respondent is a PhD graduate:

Which of the following best describes your current employment status?

- Tenure track faculty, research institution
- Tenure track faculty, liberal arts institution
- Non-tenure track faculty
- Teacher, community college
- Teacher, secondary level
- Postdoctoral researcher, fellow, or associate
- Researcher, academic setting
- Researcher, nonacademic setting (e.g., national lab, industry, medical center)
- Professional in a field for which my program prepared me
- Other employment

Are you employed full-time or part-time?

- Full-time (30 or more hours a week)
- Part-time (less than 30 hours a week)

If primary activity at the time is military service:

In which branch of the United States military are you serving?

- Air Force
- Army
- Coast Guard
- Navy
- Marine Corps
- Space Force
- I am serving in the military in a different country

If not serving in the military in a different country:

What is your current military status?

- Active duty
- Reserves or National Guard

If primary activity is employment but not described as military service:

Which of the following best describes your occupation?

- List of Occupations from the Bureau of Labor Statistics [List of options removed for brevity]

Which of the following best describes the industry in which you are employed?

- List of industries from the North American Classification System [List of options removed for brevity]

What is the name of the organization for which you work?

Please write the organization's full name without abbreviations.

What is your current annual salary? If you don't wish to answer, leave blank.

Enter only numbers in this field. DO NOT enter a dollar sign before your answer.

(Salary information helps us to provide current competitive rate information to our current students and employers. No individual salaries will be posted, only summaries.)

When did you begin your job search?

- 6+ months prior to graduation
- Between 2-6 months prior to graduation
- Less than 2 months prior to graduation
- At or after graduation
- I have kept the same job or been promoted from within
- I did not engage in a job search

How did you find out about your current position? (Select all that apply.)

- Already worked there
- Academic Department/Faculty Advisor
- CU Career Fair
- CU Career Services/Handshake Job Board
- CU Career Services On-Campus Interview
- Friend/colleague/family member/networking
- Internet job search site/company website (e.g., LinkedIn, Indeed)
- Internship/co-op
- Newspaper/Magazine/Advertisement
- Professional Organization
- Recruitment Agency
- ROTC/Military Officer Selection
- Other (please specify): _____

Did you work at your current organization while you were a student at CU Boulder?

- Yes - I worked there as an employee
- Yes - I worked there for an internship, co-op, field experience, student teaching or clinical placement
- Yes - I volunteered there
- No - I had no involvement with the organization while at CU Boulder

Please rate your overall satisfaction with your job:

- Very dissatisfied
- Dissatisfied
- Somewhat dissatisfied
- Somewhat satisfied
- Satisfied
- Very satisfied

How much would you say your position directly relates to your academic major/program while at CU Boulder?

- Not related to my major/program
- Some relation to my major/program
- Considerable relation to my major/program

To what extent does your current position make use of your skills and abilities?

- Not at all - I do not use my skills and abilities very often
- Somewhat - My position uses my skills and abilities some of the time
- Considerable - I frequently use my skills and abilities

Was your degree necessary or helpful to get your current position?

- Necessary - the degree was required/expected by my employer
- Helpful - the degree was not required, but did give me an advantage
- No - the degree was NOT necessary or helpful for my current position

Career Services Use

How many times have you used CU Boulder's job search platform, Handshake (formerly Career Buffs, CU Job Board), while a student or since graduation?

- Never
- 1 time
- 2-4 times
- 5 or more times
- I'm not sure if I've used Handshake

If Handshake has been used at least once:

How many times have you used CU Career Services resources (career advising, on-campus interviewing, career fairs, etc.) while a student or recent graduate?

- Never
- 1 time
- 2-4 times
- 5 or more times

What office(s) provided the resources you utilized? (select all that apply)

- Central Career Services (C4C)
- Engineering Career Services
- CMCI Internship Office
- Leeds Office of Career Strategy
- Leeds MBA Office
- Law School

Would you be willing to be contacted by Career Services about participating on a panel to talk about your job search or career?

NOTE: Your response to this question will be removed from the rest of your survey responses and ONLY the email address you provide will be shared with CU Career Services.

- Yes, I can be contacted at this email address: _____
- No (0)

One last thing... The Office of Data Analytics (ODA) will report your responses in summary with other alumni's responses. ODA will keep your individual responses strictly confidential unless you expressly provide permission to share certain information with your college/school and/or the Alumni Association.

If you would like to share your current residence (state or country) and limited information about your current activities (e.g., industry/occupation/organization for employment, field of study/degree level/institution for additional education), please indicate your permission below. (Select all that apply.)

Note the default choice is that your information will NOT be shared.

- Please share my current activity with my college/school.
- Please share my current activity with the Alumni Association.
- Do NOT share any information with either my college/school or the Alumni Association.

If permission is granted to share current activity:

If selected above, would you also like to provide an updated **non-CU email address** to share with your school/college and/or the Alumni Association? If yes, please provide a non-CU email address below.

Closing

Thank you for your time. Please click the **SUBMIT SURVEY** button below to complete this survey and have your responses recorded. After closing the survey, you will be directed to a website with survey results from previous years' respondents.