

Introduction

Parents, prospective students, employers, colleagues, and other interested constituents frequently ask the Office of Career Services for information about our students after they graduate from Buena Vista University. In an effort to provide this valuable information, we survey each graduating class about their first destination.

The information in this report describes the destinations of Storm Lake campus students who graduated in August 2008, December 2008, January 2009, and May 2009, which comprises the Class of 2009. The survey started in October 2008, approximately 6 months after the majority of our students completed their bachelor's degree. Data collection was completed in January 2009.

Procedure

A comprehensive effort to reach every graduate was made. We first contacted graduates via BVU email and other email addresses they provided prior to graduating. Following this, we mailed a self-reply postcard to parents' addresses, and followed up with telephone calls to home phone numbers and cell phones. We were also able to reach some graduates through Facebook. For those remaining graduates who we were unable to reach through those methods, we consulted with BVU faculty and staff who were acquainted with them. Thus, in a few cases, information was obtained from secondary sources.

From a class of 209 Storm Lake graduates, we were able to obtain reliable information on 195 graduates, which is 93% of the class, leaving 14 graduates (7%) unaccounted for. This return on our efforts far exceeds the national average of 80% for a survey of this type.

Summary

Of the 195 graduates who responded, 125 or 64% of the respondents are permanently employed full-time. Fifty-one (51) or 26% are attending graduate school. Three (1.5%) graduates indicated they are voluntarily not seeking employment at this time. Sixteen (16) graduates (8%) are still seeking employment, for a combined **employment/graduate school rate of 92%**.

Worth noting this year is a significant increase from last year in the number of graduates going on to graduate or professional school. Over the past several years we have seen a steady 1-2% increase in graduate school destinations; however this year, we recorded a 5% increase (26%) as compared to the Class of 2008 (21%).

A large number of our graduates planned to remain in Iowa either for employment or to continue their education. Of those who responded, 97 of our graduates (68%) indicated they would remain in Iowa.

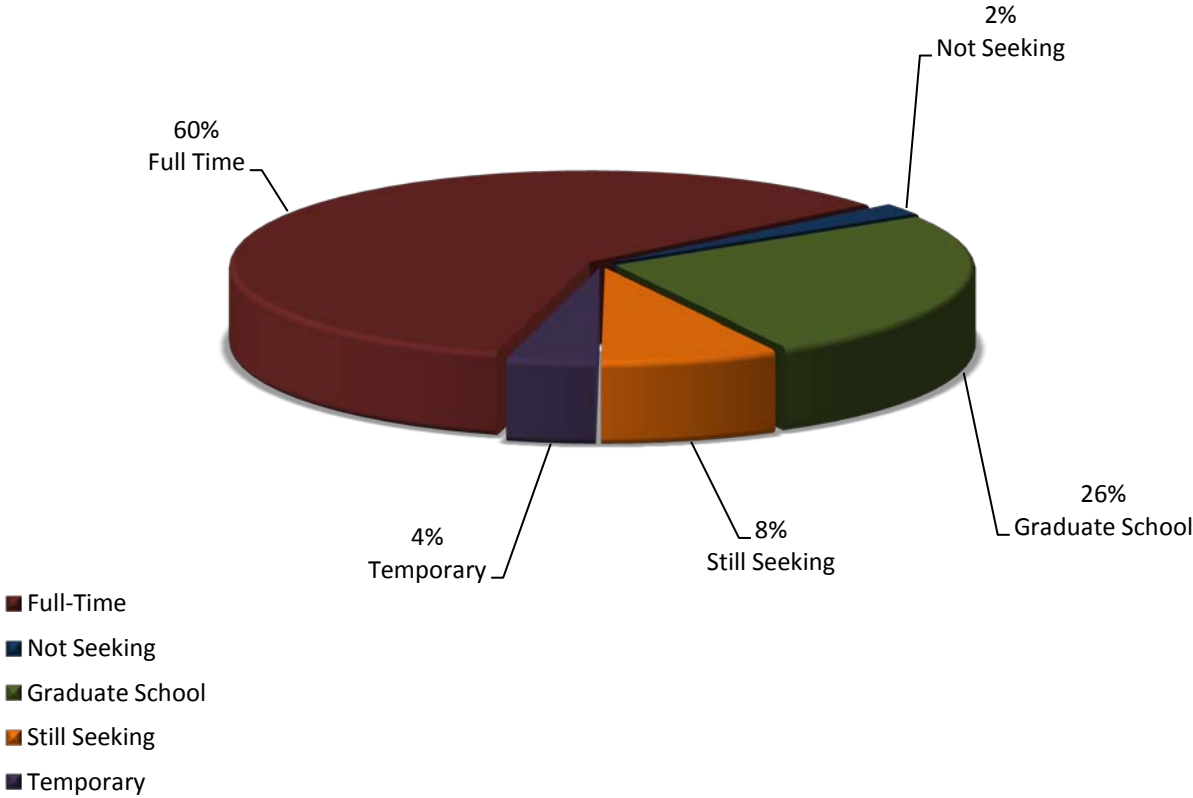
We were able to gather starting salary information from only 19 of the graduates, a mere 10% of the respondents. Average salary for these graduates was \$31,813, a decrease of just \$37 over last year (Class of 2008) in which 26% of the graduates reported salary information.

The following pages will break down the data in a number of ways. We trust that you will find this information helpful. If you have questions or would like additional copies of this document, please contact our office at 712.749.2440.

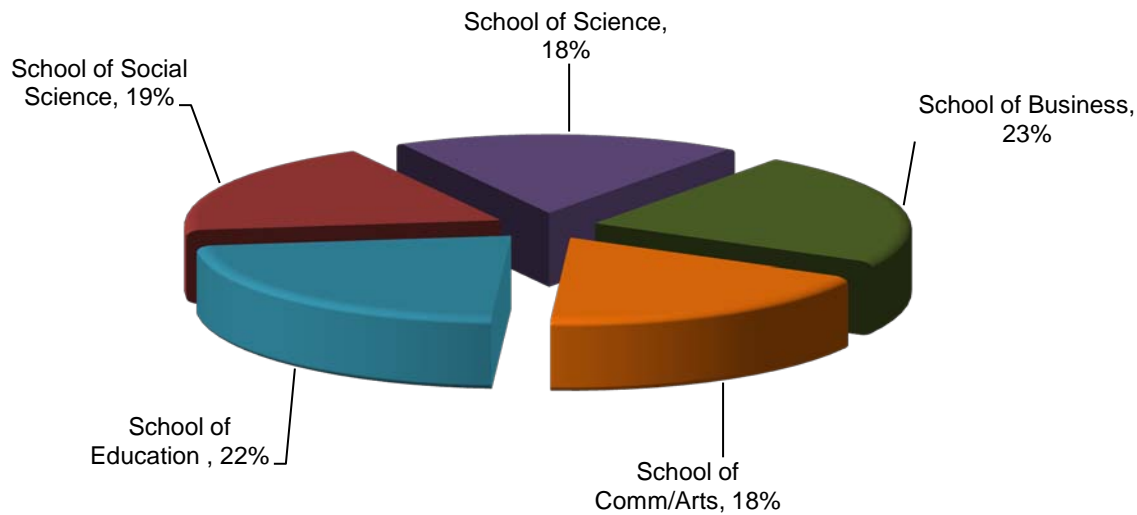
--Prepared by Carol Lytle, Director of Career Services and Brenda Dodge, Office Manager, Office of Career Services

Class of 2009 Employment/Graduate Study Summary

Of those 195 graduates (93%) who responded to our survey, 117 (60%) are permanently employed full-time. Fifty three (51) or 26% are attending graduate school, for a combined employment/graduate study rate of 92%.



Overview of the Class of 2009



Students who earned a secondary education license are listed in their discipline and not under the School of Education.

School of Business

Accounting	11
International Business	4
Finance & Banking	5
Management - General	13
Management - Human Resources	4
Marketing	12
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	49

School of Comm/Arts

Art	3
Arts Management	1
Comm & Perf Studies Corp Comm	2
Comm & Perf Studies (Comm Studies)	1
Comm & Perf Studies (Theatre)	1
Distributive	5
English	6
Comm & Graphic Design	4
Media Studies	9
Music	2
Spanish	3
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School of Education

Athletic Training	5
Business Education	2
Elementary Education	15
Exercise Science Teaching	4
Exercise Science	19
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School of Social Science

Criminology & Criminal Justice	16
History	5
Philosophy - Religion	1
Political Science	3
Psychology	9
Socail Science	1
Social Work	5
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	40

School of Science

Biology	22
Chemistry	3
Computer Science	3
Computer Science - Math	1
Environmental Science	4
Mathematics	3
Mathematics - Corporate	2
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Geographic Destination

Of the 142 graduates who reported their geographic destination, 97 or 68% remained in Iowa, followed by Nebraska with 11 graduates (7%) and Illinois with 6 graduates (4%).

Employment Locations

Colorado	2
Florida	1
Georgia	1
Illinois	1
Iowa	79
Kansas	1
Minnesota	3
Missouri	3
Nebraska	7
South Dakota	1
Virginia	1

Graduate School Locations

Arizona	1
Illinois	5
Iowa	18
Kansas	1
Kentucky	1
Maryland	1
Minnesota	2
Missouri	1
Nebraska	4
Pennsylvania	1
South Dakota	3
Texas	1
Vermont	1
Virginia	1
Wisconsin	1

Types of Employment Obtained

Buena Vista University graduates, Class of 2009, are employed in the following industries and occupational groups:

Accounting	Human Resources	Management
Arts Management	Health Care	Performing Arts
Broadcast Media	Information	Print Media
Computer Technology	Technology	Retail Services
Education K-12	Laboratory Technology	Sales
Financial Services	Law Enforcement	Social Work
Fitness/Exercise	Leisure and Hospitality	State and Federal
Graphic Design	Marketing	Government

Graduate/Professional School Enrollment

Buena Vista University graduates, Class of 2009 are attending graduate and professional schools in these disciplines:

Business Administration	Mathematics	Counseling
Psychology	Medicine/Healthcare	Physical Therapy
Mortuary Science	Early Childhood	Radiologic Technology
Pharmacy Technician	Science	Divinity
Criminal Justice	Conservation	English Literature
Music	Social Work	Exercise Science
Physical Education	History	Sports Management