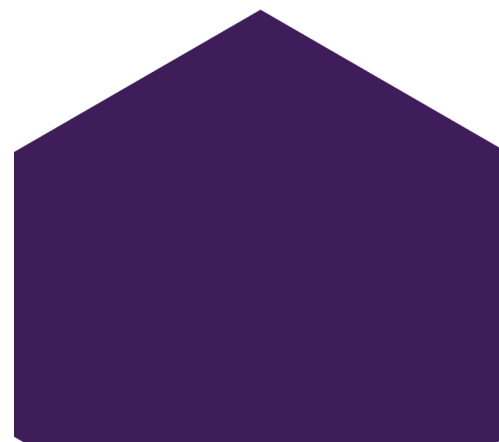
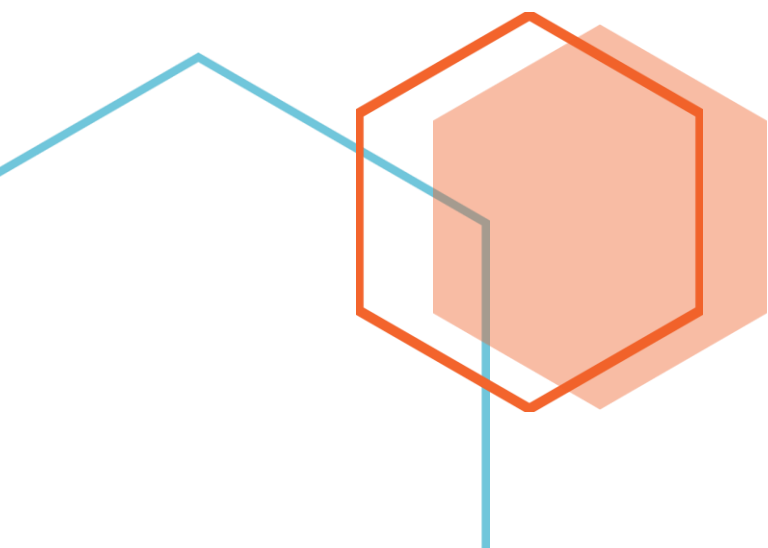
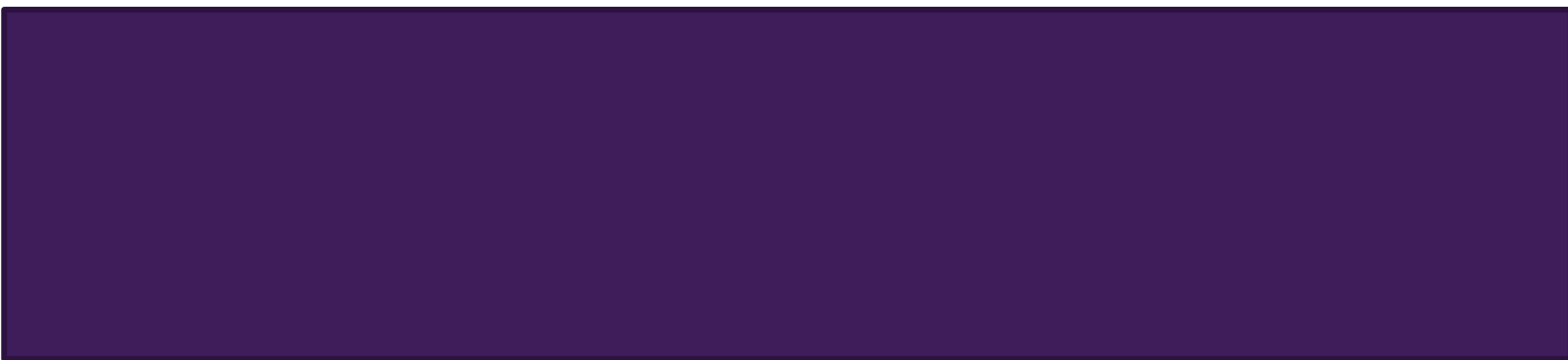




# Primary Post-Graduation Activity Report Graduate Students Class of 2020-2021

University of Sioux Falls  
Thomas Kilian Academic Success Center



# Primary Post-Graduation Activity Report Graduate Students

Class of 2020-2021

## Introduction

The University of Sioux Falls First Destination Report reflects students' outcomes for all graduate students and their first destination after they have completed their program of study at USF. Throughout the data collection cycle, the Thomas Kilian Academic Success Center (ASC) surveys each new graduation class to assess their primary post-graduation activities. The survey is routinely conducted over a 6-month period following graduation consistent with the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) First Destination Survey Standards and Protocols. The data within this report was collected primarily through online surveys, emails, telephone calls, text messages, social media, and communication with university staff and faculty.

The following report provides information for both the post-graduation activities for the 2020-2021 academic year and the past five academic years. It highlights the vocational and educational destinations of the 146 master's degree recipients for the MBA, M.Ed., and Ed.S.

## Methodology

An online survey was routinely conducted over a 6 month period. ASC staff invited graduates by email to take the survey following graduation and continued to remind members of class about the online survey until it closed six months later.

To increase the survey response rate, ASC staff made additional efforts to learn about the post-graduation plans of graduates. Staff connected with graduates via email, text messages, phone calls, social and professional websites, and academic departments to reach members of the class who had either not responded to the survey or stated that they were still seeking employment or seeking acceptance to graduate school at the time of graduation. If staff members reached these students, they conducted an abbreviated version of the questionnaire.

The purpose of the survey was to collect data pertaining to employment, continuing education, military service, volunteer or other activities for each graduate. The survey consisted of approximately 25 questions, and pending the response by each respondent, took between 5-10 minutes to complete. Students were not required to respond to all questions within the survey, and therefore, response rates vary for each question.

The target population making up the Class of 2021 consists of students who earned a Master's degree summer 2020, fall 2020, interim 2021, and spring 2021. The graduate list for summer, fall, and spring semesters were obtained from the Registrar's Office, which tracks students' academic status and application for graduation.

## Knowledge Rate

The term knowledge rate (also referred to as response rate) is defined as "the percent of graduates for which the institution has reasonable and verifiable information concerning the graduates' post-graduation career activities" according to the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) First Destination Standards and Protocols.<sup>1</sup> Of the 146 degree recipients, a knowledge rate of 92% was obtained for the Class of 2021. The target goal outlined by NACE is a 65% knowledge rate.<sup>1</sup> USF's knowledge rate exceeds NACE's target goal by 27%.

## Career Outcomes

Career outcomes rate (also referred to as placement rate) as defined by NACE is the percentage of graduates who reported that they are employed full-time or part-time, are enrolled in a program of continuing education, are serving in the U.S. Armed Forces, or participating in a program of voluntary service.<sup>1</sup> Of the respondents, USF's graduates reported their principle activity was to secure employment. Excluding the non-seeking respondents and the individuals who provided no information, 100% (133/133) secured a position or continued their education within six months of graduation.

## Where USF Graduates Work

Of the respondents reporting employment for the class of 2021, 129 identified the location of their employer. The percent of employment does exclude respondents who reported attending graduate school, interning, volunteering or enlisting in the military. Of the 2020-2021 respondents that identified the location of their employer, 72% of these graduates were employed in South Dakota. In addition, of the individuals who remained in South Dakota, all specified the city in which they were employed. Seventy-six percent of these respondents reported that they were employed in Sioux Falls or within 30 miles of Sioux Falls.

## Department Specific Statistics

The table below reports the average outcome and response rate for each of the graduate programs at USF. Six-year averages are also included to provide a historical context for each program.

**Table A: Average Survey Results by Academic Program**

Graduate Program	2020-2021 % Employed	2020-2021 Response Rate	6 Year % Employed	6 Year Response Rate
MBA	100%	93%	99%	95%
M.Ed.	100%	90%	99%	96%
Ed.S	100%	94%	100%	99%

## Median Salary

When asked about their salary, 31 of the 129 (24%) 2020-2021 graduates employed full-time responded. Salary ranges and medians are provided below. The response rate is not high enough to determine clear earning trends for graduates.

Area	Median	Min	Max	# of Response
Business	\$76,500	\$49,000	\$167,500	15/69 (22%)
Education	\$60,000	\$30,160	\$114,000	16/60 (27%)

## Hiring Organizations & Job Titles

The following are a sampling of the positions that graduates reported when they responded to the 2020-2021 survey.

**Table C: Employers of USF Graduates**

MBA Employers	Job Title
Accura HealthCare	Regional Director Of Business Development
Arizona State University	Assistant Director of Research
Augustana University	Recreation Coordinator
Avera McKennan	Registered Nurse
Avera McKennan	Provider Credentialing Supervisor
Avera McKennan	Radiology Manager
Bethel University	Residence Hall Director

Blue Star Investments	Human Resources Generalist
Sturdevant's Auto Parts	Business Operations Specialist
CAPITAL Services	Human Resources Advisor
Cargill	Senior Capital Costing Analyst
CCL Healthcare	Manufacturing Technician
College Instructor	Lake Area Technical College
Corval Group	Human Resources Manager
Country Club of Sioux Falls	Operations Manager
Crossroads Pavilion Event Center	Assistant General Manager
Diamond Care Center	Administrator
Duluth Trading Company	Assistant Retail Store Manager
Eide Bailly LLP	Tax Associate
ELO CPAs & Advisors	Senior Business Service Associate
Equity Trust Company	Compliance Analyst II
First Bank & Trust	Credit Analyst
FirstLine Funding	Risk Management Specialist
Florida Cancer Specialists & Research Institute	Associate Director, Payer Relations & Business
General Mills	Senior Director for Food Safety and Quality
Globe Life Family Heritage Division	Insurance Agent
Grant Street Group	Product Manager
Grant Thornton LLP	Audit Associate
JPMorgan Chase Bank	Private Client Banker
Lifescape	Director of Case Management and Program
Lower Brule Schools	Superintendent
Marsh McLennan Agency	Client Coordinator
Metabank	Vice President for Risk Management
Midcontinent Communications	Product Manager
Northwest Iowa Community College	Director of College Advancement
POET	Regional Merchandising Manager
POET LLC	Process Engineer
Principal Financial Group	Associate Accountant
Rice Memorial Hospital	Director of Perioperative Services and
Sanford	Application Support Analyst
Sanford	Director of Medicare Programs
Sanford	Executive Assistant
Sanford	Project Manager
Sanford	Senior Consultant for Organizational Effectiveness
Sanford	Senior Financial Analyst
Securian Financial Group	Business Operations Manager
Security Savings Bank	Assistant Vice President
South Dakota Air National Guard	Wing Cybersecurity Manager

M.Ed./Ed.S. Employers	Job Title
Bishop O'Gorman Catholic Schools	High School Teacher
Bison School District	Superintendent
Brandon Valley School District	Elementary School Teacher
Centerville School District	Middle School Teacher
Coppell High School	Assistant Principal
Custer High School	High School Teacher
Dell Rapids School District	Technology Integration
Edgemont School District	Elementary School Teacher
Enderlin Area School	Elementary School Teacher
Hardin Simmons University	Resident Director
Harrisburg School District	Elementary School Teacher
Harrisburg School District	Middle School Teacher
Henry School District	Superintendent
Iowa Lakes Community College	Intermediary Connections Coordinator
Irving Middle School	Middle School Teacher
Kenai Peninsula College	Learning Center Director
Lindsay High School	High School Teacher
Madison School District	Elementary School Teacher
Meade County School District	High School Principal
Mount Vernon School District	High School Teacher
Oldham Ramona School District	Principal
Sanford Health	Learning and Development
Santa Rosa Junior College	Outreach Specialist
Sioux Falls School District	Elementary School Teacher
Sioux Falls School District	Middle School Teacher
Sioux Falls School District	High School Teacher
Southwest West Central Cooperative	Alternative Learning Teacher
Springfield Public Schools	Principal

## References

<sup>1</sup>National Association of Colleges and Employers. (2019). *Standards and protocols for the collection and dissemination of graduating student initial career outcomes information for undergraduates*. Retrieved from NACE: <http://www.nacweb.org/uploadedfiles/files/2020/publication/first-destination/first-destination-survey-standards-and-protocols.pdf>