



DISCOVER YOUR FUTURE

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY
UNDERGRADUATE POST-GRADUATION SUCCESS
Featuring 2020 – 2021 First-Destination Survey Results



We all have been tested by the ongoing pandemic that has impacted our society. Oakland University students and supporting employers have remained determined, resourceful and driven to succeed throughout this difficult time. As we saw companies shift goals and students grapple with starting new positions remotely, we were reminded of the grit that is the Oakland University community.

At the start of the New Year, Career Services, in collaboration with the University Communications and Marketing division, launched a progressive interactive dashboard, showcasing the post-graduation successes of recent OU students. The Post-Graduation Outcomes Dashboard uses the First-Destination Survey results administered annually by Oakland University.

Within this report, you will find stories of triumph for our 2020-2021 undergraduate students, who have positively impacted our region and beyond. This is also evident in the praises sung by employers dedicated to hiring our students and alumni. By utilizing our strong relationships with employers across diverse industries, we have opened doors for our graduates and allowed them to demonstrate high-quality skills and contribute immediately to real-world industry projects.

Oakland University Career Services is grateful for our employer partners in Southeast Michigan, who have committed to providing meaningful experiences to Oakland University graduates, fulfilling career aspirations and impacting the workforce of tomorrow.

Wayne Thibodeau
Senior Director, Career Services

Sample of institutions Oakland University Graduates admitted into:

- Oakland University
- Wayne State University
- University of Michigan
- Michigan State University
- University of Detroit Mercy

Select top employers hiring Oakland University graduates:

- Amazon
- Ascension
- Beaumont Health System
- Detroit Medical Center
- Ford Motor Company
- General Motors
- Henry Ford Health System
- Oakland University
- Rocket Companies
- Stellantis
- Trinity Health
- UWM

HIGHLIGHTS FROM ALL PROGRAMS

\$58,305

average full-time starting salary
for graduates earning an annual salary

12%

of graduates enrolled in continuing education

84%

of graduates are employed, pursuing continuing education, serving in the military or pursuing other commitments such as volunteer or service programs or raising a family

99%

of employed graduates are employed
in Michigan

74%

had an internship or internship-like
experience while at OU

CAREER SERVICES METRICS

- **45,000 + employment opportunities** in 2020 from more than 6,000 employers available via online recruitment platform, Handshake.
- **Oakland University** is among the top five in-state institutions from which employers actively recruit.

2022 Starting Salaries for Co-op Students and Recent College Graduates Survey by American Society of Employers

- **More than 2,700 student and alumni attendees** engaged in recruitment and networking opportunities, such as:
 - Career fairs
 - Professional development and networking events
 - Employer meet and greets
 - And more!



Select top employers hiring College of Arts and Sciences graduates:

- Amazon
- Beaumont Health System
- Blue Cross Blue Shield Association
- Ford Motor Company
- General Motors
- UWM

Embarking on her new position post-graduation, **Katie Bishop** knew that keeping an open mind for adventures would lead to a successful career. Years of focusing on career development while studying Communications at Oakland University gave her the confidence to leap towards directions she never before considered.

As Communications Manager for Animal Adventures, a national music school focusing on child education, Katie brings her passion for creativity and innovation to her always exciting role. ➤

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

80%
of graduates are employed, pursuing continuing education, serving in the military or pursuing other commitments, such as volunteer or service programs or raising a family

70%
had an internship or internship-like experience while at OU

19%
are enrolled in continuing education

98%
of employed graduates are employed in Michigan

OPEN-MINDED

“At Gateway Pediatric Therapy, our experience working with Oakland University students and Oakland graduates has been fantastic. We are looking for hard-working and compassionate individuals, and we often find that these qualities are commonplace at Oakland University. Gateway Pediatric Therapy is a quick growing company, encompassing several locations throughout Michigan including Sterling Heights, Lake Orion, Shelby Township, Bingham Farms, Dearborn, Southgate, Livonia, Canton, and more! The Oakland campus is centered in between several of our clinic locations, making the commute for current students stress-free. We strongly believe that Gateway Pediatric Therapy is also a great opportunity for recent graduates, especially those looking to get a jump start in the field. We have had several students and graduates with backgrounds in medical studies, psychology, counseling, teaching, early childhood development, and more that we have greatly enjoyed working with, and hope to continue working with in the future!”

– **Haley DeFeyter**
Recruitment and Development Manager, Gateway Pediatric Therapy, LLC

ENRICHED

Inspired by his mother's perseverance as a single parent, **Julio Lee** approaches every challenge with tenacity and grit. Growing up in Southwest Chicago and witnessing the role of education in a successful future, he made it his mission to jump headfirst into a degree that would be both challenging and fulfilling.

Julio dedicated his time as a student to mastering his studies and maintaining a robust presence on campus with a passion for uplifting the voices of others. Now a Digital Analyst at Shift Digital, he leverages the lessons learned at OU offices like Career Services to blaze a new trail as a young professional. 🌟

Select top employers hiring School of Business Administration graduates:

- BorgWarner Inc.
- Comerica Inc.
- DTE
- Plante Moran
- Rocket Companies
- Shift Digital
- Stellantis

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

89%

of graduates are employed, pursuing continuing education, serving in the military or pursuing other commitments, such as volunteer or service programs or raising a family

79%

had an internship or internship-like experience while at OU

\$53,100

median full-time starting salary for graduates earning an annual salary

99%

of employed graduates are employed in Michigan

25%

of employed graduates reported that Career Services was the primary connection to their job lead

"I've had the pleasure of working with the School of Business at Oakland University over the past five years, and it has been a fantastic partnership. The career readiness that the Oakland University students have is unmatched. Oakland invests so much in their students, and you can tell the difference during the hiring and onboarding process. Enterprise has hired many OU alumni and is really pleased with the quality of talent."

– **Danny Lorentzen**
Talent Acquisition Manager, Enterprise



Select top employers hiring
School of Health Sciences graduates:

- Ascension
- Beaumont Health System
- Detroit Medical Center
- Henry Ford Health System
- Team Rehabilitation

DETERMINATION

By channeling her inquisitive mind, **Alaina Nido** has dedicated her new career as a Medical Laboratory Scientist at Beaumont to painting an accurate clinical picture needed for quality patient care.

Alaina’s successes were created from challenging curricula built on critical thinking. These earned skills have become pivotal in the quality of care she has been determined to provide her patients. Beyond the classroom, Alaina’s time at Oakland University provided her with the opportunities to seek out career-building opportunities and continuing education that has shaped her post-graduate future. ➤

SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES

\$64,760
median full time starting
salary for graduates earning
an annual salary

100%
of employed graduates are
employed in Michigan

29%
are enrolled in continuing education

“MedNetOne has several OU graduates on our team. Not only do they make significant contributions to our community-based care approach, but they routinely exhibit strong analytical skills needed to solve problems. They exhibit sophisticated skills of decision-making affecting both short-term and long-term goals. Their local presence during their academic career makes it easy for us to offer year-round internships and part-time work opportunities with students who live on campus or in the nearby area. MedNetOne has grown along with Oakland University; starting in Rochester in 1981, we made it a priority to establish local connections, including with OU. Our relationship with the university has expanded significantly in the past decade, first with our hiring of several OU grads with degrees in exercise science and then with the addition of OU’s Master of Public Health degree program. Our relationship has also extended to my serving on the board of advisors (BOARD) for the School of Health Sciences, which is truly a privilege. We have an ongoing need for graduates in public health. With the availability of OU’s Master of Public Health Program, we have found excellent talent, and our retention rate for OU grads has truly been outstanding.”

– **Ewa Matuszewski**
CEO – MedNetOne

UNSTOPPABLE

As a first-generation college graduate, **Alondra Calderon** lives every day with the unstoppable work ethic and optimism that her parents have always embodied. Immigrating to the United States before she was born, Alondra’s parents encouraged her to pursue education as a top priority.

Transforming that drive, Alondra excelled as an Oakland University HRD student invested in learning from experienced faculty. Now a full-time Human Resources Generalist for American Axle & Manufacturing, she stands proud and ready to take on her career. 🍷

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES

90%

of graduates are employed, pursuing continuing education, serving in the military or pursuing other commitments, such as volunteer or service programs or raising a family

84%

of full-time graduates report that their job is related to their career plans and interests

97%

had an internship or internship-like experience while at OU

99%

of employed graduates are employed in Michigan

Select top employers hiring School of Education and Human Services graduates:

- Allegis Global Solutions
- Clarkston Community Schools
- Holly Area Schools
- National Heritage Academies
- Target
- Troy School District
- Utica Community Schools

“Easterseals Michigan has had a long-standing relationship with Oakland University and the wonderfully talented students they cultivate. We have found that the students are confident, conscientious and well prepared for their internships. Many of these students manage a full schedule of classes and work while completing their internships. We admire their commitment to developing skills and experience in their fields of study. We view our relationship with Oakland University as a key component to developing a pool of star interns. We have hired several interns from Oakland University across our various programs and departments and have found that these students are invested and engaged in our mission, vision and purpose.”

– **Kim Moore**
MBA, Human Resources Supervisor, Easterseals

INDEPENDENCE

Shortly before graduating, **Adrian Hildebrant** was empowered to ace her interview at MyMichigan Medical Center by attending a Career Services resume building workshop and mock interview. With a nod to these resources and exceptional faculty in the School of Nursing, Adrian is living out her dream of being a nurse and bright light for patients in their darkest moments.

Her time at Oakland University challenged Adrian to become skilled and independent in her field. This tenacity is how she put her best foot forward when starting a brand new journey during a harrowing pandemic in a high-volume hospital. 🐾

Select top employers hiring School of Nursing graduates:

- Ascension
- Beaumont Health System
- Detroit Medical Center
- Henry Ford Health System
- McLaren Health Care
- Trinity Health

SCHOOL OF NURSING

90%

of graduates are either employed or studying for a professional, graduate prep or certification exam such as the NCLEX

\$55,000

median annual earnings for graduates working full time earning an hourly wage

98%

of employed, full time graduates report that their job is related to their career plans and interests

98%

of employed graduates are employed in Michigan

"At Henry Ford Health System, further growing and developing our relationship with Oakland University is front and center of our strategic plan for obtaining top nursing talent. Our nursing team seeks out students from OU for their clinical competence and sound decision-making in patient care immediately following graduation. We have full confidence in OU graduates to be successful in their nursing career at Henry Ford and have been able to witness their transition to other roles in the system such as leadership positions. It has been clearly demonstrated through the many successful hires we have had from OU that these students believe in Henry Ford's mission and execute the patient care that is necessary to be known as a leading healthcare system in the nation."

– **Ashley Lineberry**
Nurse Recruiter, Henry Ford Health System



OPPORTUNITY

Inspired by her education at Oakland University and time spent as a General Motors TRACK (Technical Rotation and Career Knowledge) Student Engineer, **Alexandra Jodzis** believes that the most challenging problems can be solved with drive and hard work. To her, opportunity has been at the forefront of her collegiate career.

Nearing the TRACK program completion, Alexandra is headed towards a dynamic career at GM. She credits OU engineering professors and career advisors for challenging her to think beyond a textbook and remember that teamwork and professional development are crucial. ➤

Select top employers hiring School of Engineering and Computer Science graduates:

- Amazon
- Esys Automation
- Ford Motor Company
- General Motors
- Magna
- Stellantis
- Tyler Technologies

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

87%

of graduates are employed, pursuing continuing education, serving in the military or pursuing other commitments, such as volunteer or service programs or raising a family

\$70,000

median full time starting salary for graduates earning an annual salary

87%

of graduates completed an internship or internship-like experience while at OU with a median hourly wage of \$18.50

34%

of employed graduates reported that Career Services was the primary connection to their job lead

"At General Motors, our people are our greatest strength. We've had the pleasure of welcoming many Oakland University graduates and students to our workforce, and we look forward to welcoming even more as we transition to an all-electric future. From engineers, to IT professionals, to teammates working on the assembly lines, we're building a diverse pipeline of talent who feel valued and inspired to do work they can be proud of now and in the future."

– **Kristen Siemen**
Vice President - Chief Sustainability Officer, GM

POST-GRADUATION OUTCOMES DASHBOARD

Oakland University surveys all graduates, in the region and beyond, embarking on their first destination beyond college. Top employers, salaries, industry partners, among other factors, are displayed on the Post-Graduation Outcomes Dashboard. Future Golden Grizzlies and their families can see a dynamic breakdown of prospective career outcomes by exploring the dashboard via the information listed below.*

For an even more customized view of current career outcomes, please get in touch with Career Services at (248) 370-3250.



**SCAN the QR Code
to visit the dashboard,**
or log on to
oakland.edu/app/post-grad-dsh/

**The First-Destination Survey is administered annually by Oakland University Career Services. The survey content, timeline, and procedures align with guidelines published by the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE). The survey was administered to OU students who graduated within the fiscal year and results were collected through December 31st the following year. Results are not displayed if there are less than ten records.*

ABOUT THE DATA

The data presented in this report was compiled from the First-Destination Survey, which is administered annually by Oakland University Career Services. This survey captures post-graduation outcomes of Oakland University undergraduate degree recipients. The survey content, timeline and procedures align with guidelines published by the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE). The survey was completed by OU students who graduated between July 01, 2020 and June 30, 2021. Results were collected through December 31st, 2021 to conform with NACE standards.

The survey was created with Handshake, a Career Services platform for Higher Education with over 800 institutional partners, and was distributed electronically. Summer graduates were emailed the survey in late October. Winter and Spring graduates completed the survey on the virtual commencement fair platforms. Career Services called and emailed non-respondents and those still seeking employment throughout the collection period. Finally, we queried the National Student Clearinghouse and OU student records, collected public social media profile data from LinkedIn and other platforms, and compiled records from other departments across campus for those students who indicated they were still seeking employment the last time we surveyed them.

This collection period was also heavily impacted by the global Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Our main source of data, the Fall and Winter in-person commencement fair, were canceled and provided via an alternative format and graduates faced heightened unemployment rates across the United States.

We took care to include only high integrity data in this report. Data was inspected for duplicate responses, frequent suspicious responses (e.g., “jklaj” or “12345”), missing responses on more than five key questions and other validation measures. More specific details regarding data handling and interpretation are available upon request and can be directed to Oakland University Career Services.

IN TODAY’S COMPETITIVE JOB MARKET, YOU NEED AN EDGE ...

Find yours and secure your future at
Oakland University Career Services



CAREER SERVICES

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY MISSION STATEMENT

Oakland University cultivates the full potential of a diverse and inclusive community. As a public doctoral institution, we impact Michigan and the world through education, research, scholarship, and creative activity.

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY VISION STATEMENT

Oakland University will unlock the potential of individuals and leave a lasting impact on the world through the transformative power of education and research.



For more information, visit or contact Career Services

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oakland.edu/careerservices | (248) 370-3250 | Social: @oucareers