



Information BRIEF

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SUS GRADUATES CONTINUE THEIR EDUCATION

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HIGHLIGHTS

- Nearly one-third of SUS graduates in the study pursued additional education within one year of completing a bachelor's degree
- Nearly three-fourths of those pursuing additional education worked at the same time
- The proportions of female, Black/African American, and Hispanic graduates who continued their education is comparable to their proportions among all graduates in the study

Introduction

Students, parents, educators, and policy-makers need information regarding the employment outcomes of bachelor's degree recipients after they complete college. Students need better information to make decisions about education and employment. Parents and educators need that same information to guide students. Policy-makers across the country have shifted their focus from inputs (e.g., enrollments) to outputs (e.g., graduates who work). Employment estimates show that in the next four to eight years, jobs requiring bachelor's degrees or higher will account for somewhere between 15 and 30 percent of all job openings in Florida (2015-2023 Projections Statewide, Florida Department of Economic Opportunity; *Recovery: Job Growth and Education Requirements Through 2020*, Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce).

This report is one in a series of information briefs based on a recent study conducted by staff at the Board of Governors. This brief focuses on the education outcomes of the Class of 2015. A comprehensive overview of employment and educational outcomes is available in the *Baccalaureate Follow-Up Study: Class of 2015* on the Board's website <http://flbog.edu/forstudents/gfs/>.

Study Overview

Records for 60,333 students who received baccalaureate degrees during the 2014-2015 academic year were used for the study. This includes graduates from 11 of the 12 institutions that make up the State University System of Florida (SUS). The newest SUS institution, Florida Polytechnic

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University, enrolled its first students in Fall 2015 and did not have any graduates to include in this analysis. The SUS institutions award degrees in 28 fields of study.

Employment and/or enrollment records were available for 89% of graduates. Data for the remaining 6,843 graduates were not found. Employment information was available from Florida and from the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and 40 additional states participating in WRIS 2. Enrollment data was available from the National Student Clearinghouse, which has a database of records from 3,600 colleges and universities nationwide. Refer to the full report for more details.

The study was designed to answer the following four questions.

1. Do graduates get jobs?
2. Do graduates pursue additional education?
3. Do graduates work while pursuing additional education?
4. What are the starting salaries of graduates?

This brief focuses on the second research question - do graduates pursue additional education?

Findings

In response to the question - do graduates pursue additional education? - the answer is yes. Approximately 30% of the Class of 2015 continued their education within one year after completing a bachelor's degree. Due to data limitations, it is impossible to determine 1) how many enrolled in graduate level programs, 2) what their field of study was, and 3) how many were enrolled on a full-time basis. See the full report for details regarding data limitations.

The fields of study with the highest numbers of graduates pursuing additional education were Health Professions (2,220), Biological Sciences (2,082), Business & Marketing (2,072), Psychology (1,900), and Social Sciences (1,606).

The percentage of graduates who were enrolled one year after graduation ranged from 10% of Engineering Technician graduates to 53% of Biological Sciences and Physical Sciences graduates.

The following table shows the number and percent of graduates pursuing additional education for each of the 28 fields of study in which SUS institutions award baccalaureate degrees.

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Table 1. Baccalaureate Graduates Enrolled in Further Education One Year After Graduation, by Fields of Study

Field of Study	# Enrolled	% of Found	# Found
Health Professions	2,220	34%	6,609
Biological Sciences	2,082	53%	3,901
Business & Marketing	2,072	21%	9,813
Psychology	1,900	42%	4,540
Social Sciences	1,606	33%	4,913
Engineering	697	21%	3,255
Security & Protective Services	675	30%	2,258
Education	646	22%	2,922
Public Administration	516	49%	1,057
English & Literature	435	27%	1,632
Communication & Journalism	433	15%	2,860
Recreation & Fitness Studies	345	39%	883
Physical Sciences	307	53%	584
Visual & Performing Arts	280	18%	1,528
Interdisciplinary Studies	260	26%	985
Agriculture	246	49%	499
Computer & Information Sciences	196	15%	1,290
Languages & Linguistics	188	40%	472
History	181	32%	562
Liberal Arts & Sciences	175	26%	684
Family & Consumer Sciences	169	39%	438
Legal Studies	155	44%	354
Mathematics & Statistics	147	40%	364
Natural Resources	110	27%	411
Philosophy & Religious Studies	100	41%	244
Architecture	72	40%	178
Cultural Studies	45	41%	110
Engineering Technician	14	10%	144
Total	16,272	30%	53,490

Sources: Board of Governors staff analysis of data from the National Student Clearinghouse and the State University Data System.

Notes: Includes graduates whose degrees were granted in the Summer and Fall terms of 2014 and the Spring of 2015. Graduates enrolled in further education within one year are counted if they enrolled within 14 months, or 426 days, after graduation. Includes graduates who also worked while enrolled.

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Follow up question 1: Do graduates work while pursuing additional education?

The majority of graduates (74%) worked while pursuing additional education. By field of study, the proportion who worked while enrolled ranged from 56% of Physical Sciences enrolled graduates to 84% of enrolled Education graduates and Security & Protective Services graduates.

Table 2. Baccalaureate Graduates Working While Enrolled, by Fields of Study

Field of Study	# Working & Enrolled	% of Total Enrolled	Total # Enrolled
Education	544	84%	646
Security & Protective Services	565	84%	675
Public Administration	422	82%	516
Business & Marketing	1,669	81%	2,072
Natural Resources	88	80%	110
Health Professions	1,771	80%	2,220
Computer & Information Sciences	155	79%	196
Engineering Technician	11	79%	14
Communication & Journalism	340	79%	433
Recreation & Fitness Studies	268	78%	345
Interdisciplinary Studies	194	75%	260
Psychology	1,411	74%	1,900
Architecture	53	74%	72
Social Sciences	1,175	73%	1,606
English & Literature	314	72%	435
History	130	72%	181
Languages & Linguistics	134	71%	188
Philosophy & Religious Studies	71	71%	100
Legal Studies	110	71%	155
Engineering	493	71%	697
Liberal Arts & Sciences	122	70%	175
Family & Consumer Sciences	112	66%	169
Visual & Performing Arts	184	66%	280
Biological Sciences	1,338	64%	2,082
Mathematics & Statistics	93	63%	147
Cultural Studies	28	62%	45
Agriculture	146	59%	246
Physical Sciences	171	56%	307
Total	12,112	74%	16,272

Sources: Sources: Board of Governors staff analysis of data from the Florida Education & Training Placement Information Program, the National Student Clearinghouse, and the State University Data System.

Notes: Includes graduates whose degrees were granted in the Summer and Fall terms of 2014 and the Spring of 2015. Graduates enrolled in further education within one year are counted if they enrolled within 14 months, or 426 days, after graduation. Graduates working within one year are counted if they worked at least one quarter.

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Follow up question 2: Do female graduates pursue additional education after completing a bachelor's degree?

Overall, the proportion of female graduates who pursued additional education are comparable to the proportion among all graduates. Females represented 59% of all graduates and 62% of graduates who pursued additional education. By field of study, the proportion of female graduates who pursued additional education were comparable with one exception. Females represented 73% of Agriculture graduates pursuing additional education; however, females comprised only 62% of all Agriculture graduates. Females comprised between 18% (Computer & Information Sciences) and 93% (Family & Consumer Sciences) of graduates who enrolled.

Table 3. Female Baccalaureate Graduates Enrolled in Further Education, by Fields of Study

Field of Study	Female				Total	
	# of Graduates Enrolled	% of Graduates Enrolled	# of Graduates Found	% of Total Graduates Found	# of Graduates Enrolled	# of Graduates Found
Family & Consumer Sciences	158	93%	409	93%	169	438
Public Administration	444	86%	884	84%	516	1,057
Psychology	1,564	82%	3,619	80%	1,900	4,540
Health Professions	1,733	78%	5,371	81%	2,220	6,609
Education	491	76%	2,395	82%	646	2,922
Cultural Studies	34	76%	84	76%	45	110
English & Literature	319	73%	1,120	69%	435	1,632
Agriculture	179	73%	311	62%	246	499
Languages & Linguistics	135	72%	330	70%	188	472
Communication & Journalism	307	71%	2,037	71%	433	2,860
Liberal Arts & Sciences	117	67%	425	62%	175	684
Interdisciplinary Studies	173	67%	641	65%	260	985
Biological Sciences	1,251	60%	2,337	60%	2,082	3,901
Visual & Performing Arts	160	57%	920	60%	280	1,528
Social Sciences	863	54%	2,560	52%	1,606	4,913
Legal Studies	83	54%	216	61%	155	354
Natural Resources	57	52%	223	54%	110	411
Recreation & Fitness Studies	173	50%	408	46%	345	883
Business & Marketing	1,029	50%	4,722	48%	2,072	9,813
Physical Sciences	150	49%	260	45%	307	584
Security & Protective Services	319	47%	1,122	50%	675	2,258
Mathematics & Statistics	65	44%	157	43%	147	364
History	75	41%	219	39%	181	562
Architecture	26	36%	71	40%	72	178
Engineering	141	20%	641	20%	697	3,255
Computer & Information Sciences	36	18%	218	17%	196	1,290
Philosophy & Religious Studies	*	*	85	35%	100	244
Engineering Technician	*	*	21	15%	14	144
Total	10,119	62%	31,806	59%	16,272	53,490

*Data not available due to low number of students in some categories.

Sources: Board of Governors staff analysis of data from the National Student Clearinghouse and the State University Data System.

Notes: Includes graduates whose degrees were granted in the Summer and Fall terms of 2014 and the Spring of 2015. Graduates enrolled in further education within one year are counted if they enrolled within 14 months, or 426 days, after graduation. Includes graduates who also worked while enrolled.

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Follow up question 3: Do graduates from Florida's largest underrepresented minority groups pursue additional education after completing a bachelor's degree?

Overall, the proportions of Black/African American and Hispanic graduates who pursued additional education were comparable to their proportions among all graduates. Black/African Americans represented 13% of all graduates in the study and 14% of graduates who pursued additional education. Hispanics comprised 25% of all graduates in the study and 25% of those who pursued additional education.

Due to the small numbers of graduates in some fields, outcomes can only be reported for the ten fields of study with the highest number of degrees awarded to the Class of 2015. The proportions of Black/African American and Hispanic graduates who pursued additional education were also comparable to their proportions among graduates in their respective fields of study.

Black/African Americans comprised between 6% of Engineering graduates who pursued additional education one year after graduation and 24% of Security & Protective Services who pursued additional education.

Table 4. Black / African American Graduates Enrolled in Further Education, by Largest Fields of Study

Field of Study	Black/African American				Total	
	# of Graduates Enrolled	% of Graduates Enrolled	# of Graduates Found	% of Total Graduates Found	# of Graduates Enrolled	# of Graduates Found
Security & Protective Services	160	24%	535	24%	675	2,258
Communication & Journalism	79	18%	380	13%	433	2,860
Health Professions	381	17%	1,239	19%	2,220	6,609
Social Sciences	250	16%	745	15%	1,606	4,913
Psychology	236	12%	563	12%	1,900	4,540
Visual & Performing Arts	33	12%	150	10%	280	1,528
Education	73	11%	274	9%	646	2,922
Business & Marketing	218	11%	948	10%	2,072	9,813
Biological Sciences	199	10%	388	10%	2,082	3,901
Engineering	44	6%	236	7%	697	3,255
All Other Disciplines	544	15%	1,519	14%	3,661	10,891
Total	2,217	14%	6,977	13%	16,272	53,490

Sources: Board of Governors staff analysis of data from the National Student Clearinghouse and the State University Data System.

Notes: Includes graduates whose degrees were granted in the Summer and Fall terms of 2014 and the Spring of 2015. Graduates enrolled in further education within one year are counted if they enrolled within 14 months, or 426 days, after graduation. Includes graduates who also worked while enrolled.

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Hispanics comprised between 19% of Visual & Performing Arts graduates who pursued additional education one year after graduation and 34% of Psychology graduates who pursued additional education.

Table 5. Hispanic Graduates Enrolled in Further Education, by Largest Fields of Study

Field of Study	Hispanic				Total	
	# of Graduates Enrolled	% of Graduates Enrolled	# of Graduates Found	% of Total Graduates Found	# of Graduates Enrolled	# of Graduates Found
Psychology	646	34%	1,499	33%	1,900	4,540
Communication & Journalism	122	28%	819	29%	433	2,860
Business & Marketing	562	27%	2,630	27%	2,072	9,813
Biological Sciences	558	27%	1,062	27%	2,082	3,901
Security & Protective Services	180	27%	636	28%	675	2,258
Engineering	180	26%	860	26%	697	3,255
Social Sciences	385	24%	1,185	24%	1,606	4,913
Education	153	24%	603	21%	646	2,922
Visual & Performing Arts	64	23%	375	25%	280	1,528
Health Professions	412	19%	1,251	19%	2,220	6,609
All Other Disciplines	839	23%	2,454	23%	3,661	10,891
Total	4,101	25%	13,374	25%	16,272	53,490

Sources: Board of Governors staff analysis of data from the National Student Clearinghouse and the State University Data System.

Notes: Includes graduates whose degrees were granted in the Summer and Fall terms of 2014 and the Spring of 2015. Graduates enrolled in further education within one year are counted if they enrolled within 14 months, or 426 days, after graduation. Includes graduates who also worked while enrolled.

Data for graduates in the other race/ethnic categories also cannot be reported due to the low numbers of graduates.

Conclusion

Nearly one-third of the graduates in the study from the Class of 2015 pursued further education within one year of completing a bachelor's degree. Subsequent analyses showed that the proportions of female, Black/African American, and Hispanic graduates who continued their education was comparable to their proportions among all graduates in the study.

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Data Sources & Notes

The analysis utilized individual-level data for the 60,333 graduates from the State University Data System (SUDS) maintained by the Florida Board of Governors. These records were matched to records in the National Student Clearinghouse (NSC) and the Florida Education and Training Placement Information Program (FETPIP) to determine employment and education outcomes.

Data reported in this information brief include graduates whose degrees were granted in the Summer and Fall terms of 2014 and the Spring of 2015. Enrollments were counted within 14 months, or 426 days, of graduation. Graduates who worked within one year were counted if they worked at least one quarter within four quarters after graduation. Full- and part-time employment status was based on employment in the 4th quarter following graduation. The outcomes reported in this brief also include graduates who worked while pursuing further education.

Additional Information

For more information about the study or other outcomes for the Class of 2015, refer to the full report – *Baccalaureate Follow-Up Study: Class of 2015* - on the Board's website <http://flbog.edu/forstudents/gfs/>. Details about the methodology, data sources, and data limitations are also available in the full report.

Staff Contact

Dr. Christy England
Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Research and Policy
Academic and Student Affairs
(850) 245-0466
christy.england@flbog.edu