Mason Career Plans Survey  
Summer and Fall 2015, Spring 2016  
This instrument is for informational purposes only. If you are eligible to take the Career Plans Survey you will be notified electronically. For more information, contact assessment@gmu.edu.

Congratulations on your graduation! Information on your post-graduation plans increases the value of your Mason degree, enhances Mason’s reputation, helps us assess the quality of the Mason academic and co-curricular experience, and serves as a tool for advising current and future students. It also provides information for prospective students, their families, and the general public about potential career paths. Please take a few moments (3 – 5 minutes) to complete this survey. At the end of the survey, you will have the opportunity to enter a drawing to win an iPad!

Privacy Statement: The career patterns of Mason graduates will be reported to help students and faculty learn about career and graduate/professional school opportunities. No reports will identify any individual student/alumnus. However, your contact information, job title, and employer name and address will be sent to the Office of Alumni Affairs to update their database. Your data may also be shared with your college/department for internal analyses. Your survey answers and academic program information will be reported in the aggregate (no personally identifiable information) and will be released at the university’s discretion.

1. Employment Status: Which of the following BEST describes your PRIMARY post-graduation status?
   - Employed full time (on average 30 hours or more per week) (Go to question 4)
   - Employed part time (on average less than 30 hours per week) (Go to question 4)
   - Post-graduate intern or fellow part time (Go to question 6)
   - Post-graduate intern or fellow full time (Go to question 6)
   - Seeking employment (Go to question 14)
   - Enrolled in a program of continuing education (e.g., Graduate School or Professional School) (Go to question 15)
   - Planning to continue education but not yet enrolled (Go to question 15)
   - Participating in a volunteer or service program (Go to question 2)
   - Serving in the U.S. military (Go to question 3)
   - Not seeking employment or continuing education at this time (Go to question 14)

   Answer if Q1= Participating in a volunteer or service program

   2. Please provide the following information about your volunteering assignment:
      - Organization: _______________
      - Assignment city: _______________
      - Assignment state: _______________
      - Assignment country: _______________
      - Role or title: _______________

   Answer if Q1= Serving in the U.S. military

   3. Please provide the following information about your assignment:
      - Service: _________
      - Branch: _________
      - Rank: _________

   Answer Q4 & Q5 if Q1= Employed full time OR Employed part time

   4. Please select the category which BEST describes your employment:
      - Entrepreneur
      - Temporary/Contract work assignment
      - Freelancer
      - Postdoctoral fellowship, residency, other appointment
      - Postdoctoral faculty tenure track position
      - Postdoctoral faculty non-tenure track position
      - Other full-time/part-time employment opportunity

Sponsored by University Career Services, the Office of Alumni Affairs, and the Office of Institutional Assessment
5. Are you employed in a position already held when you began pursuing the degree?
☐ Yes
☐ No

Answer if Q1 = Employed full time OR Employed part time OR Post-graduate intern or fellow part-time OR Post-graduate intern or fellow full-time

6. Please answer the following questions regarding the position you will be in after graduation (including self-employment):
   - Position title: _______________
   - Employer full name: _______________
   - Employer address: _______________
   - City: _______________

   Answer if Q1 = Employed full time OR Employed part time OR Post-graduate intern or fellow part-time OR Post-graduate intern or fellow full-time OR Serving in the U.S. military

7. Is the position related to your career goals?
☐ Yes
☐ No

8. In which country is your position?
Country: _______________

Answer if Q8 = United States

9. In which state or US territory is your position?
State: _______________

Answer Q10 & Q11 if Q1 = Employed full time OR Employed part time OR Serving in the U.S. military

10. Please select the industry that best characterizes your company: (select one)
☐ Agriculture and Forestry
☐ Arts, Media, and Entertainment
☐ Construction
☐ Consulting
☐ Education
☐ Energy, Petroleum, and Utilities
☐ Engineering and Architectural Services
☐ Financial Services (including Accounting)
☐ Government/Military
☐ Health Care, including Pharmaceuticals and Biotechnology
☐ Human Services
☐ Hospitality and Tourism
☐ Law and Criminal Justice
☐ Manufacturing
☐ Marketing, Public Relations, and Advertising
☐ Non-profit
☐ Real Estate
☐ Retail and Consumer Products
☐ Sports and Recreation
☐ Technology
☐ Transportation

11. How will your employer compensate you?
☐ Salary
☐ Hourly/Contract Work
☐ Unpaid/Stipend
☐ Commission only
☐ I prefer not to respond

Answer if Q11 = Salary

12. Your first annual salary is defined as your base plus any guaranteed first year bonus. This information is strictly confidential and no individual salary will be identified. If you receive an hourly rate, please calculate your best estimate of your annual salary. (Please enter a whole number)
Salary: _______________

Sponsored by University Career Services, the Office of Alumni Affairs, and the Office of Institutional Assessment
13. Bonuses: If you have received a guaranteed first year bonus for this position, please indicate the amount:
(Please enter a whole number; e.g., $500 should be entered as 500)
Bonus: _______________________

Answer if Q1 = Employed full time OR Employed part time OR seeking employment OR participating in a volunteer or service program OR Serving in the U.S. military

14. Have you been accepted to a graduate or professional program?
☐ Yes, I have been accepted or I am continuing in a graduate or professional program
☐ Not yet, but I am exploring or applying
☐ No, I don’t plan to pursue additional graduate/professional education at this time

Answer if Q1 = Enrolled in a program of continuing education OR Q1 = Planning to continue education but not yet enrolled OR Q14 = Yes, I have been accepted or I am continuing in a graduate or professional program OR Q14 = Not yet, but I am exploring or applying

15. Which school are you attending/most likely to study?
☐ George Mason University
☐ Other: please spell out full name: _______________________

16. In which field are you most likely to study? (Select one)
☐ Arts
☐ Business
☐ Dentistry
☐ Education
☐ Engineering
☐ Hospitality & Tourism
☐ Humanities
☐ Information Technology
☐ Law
☐ Medicine/Health
☐ Sciences
☐ Social Sciences
☐ Sports & Recreation
☐ Theology
☐ Veterinary Medicine
☐ Other (please specify): ____________________

17. Which degree type are you pursuing or will you pursue?
☐ Professional certificate
☐ Master’s degree
☐ Doctoral degree
☐ Law degree
☐ Medical degree
☐ Other (please specify): _________________________
18. School or College:
☐ College of Humanities and Social Sciences
☐ College of Science
☐ College of Education and Human Development
☐ College of Health and Human Services
☐ College of Visual and Performing Arts
☐ School of Business (formerly School of Management)
☐ School of Policy, Government, and International Affairs
☐ School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution
☐ Volegeau School of Engineering
☐ New Century College
☐ Krasnow Institute for Advanced Studies

Answer if Q18=School of Business (formerly School of Management)
*School of Business students, the next three questions are specifically for ranking/reporting purposes to U.S. News & World Report. Please answer fully.

19. Is your position a:
☐ Full-time permanent position
☐ Full-time temporary position
☐ Internship (part time, career related)
☐ Internship (full time, career related)
☐ Part-time position (career related)
☐ Part-time position (not career related)
☐ Other (please specify): ____________________________

20. Please indicate your job function:
☐ Consulting (strategic planning, management, etc.)
☐ Finance/Accounting (auditing, corporate finance, investments, public finance, treasury, etc.)
☐ General Management
☐ Human Resources
☐ Marketing/Sales (public relations, product management, market research, advertising, etc.)
☐ Management Information Systems
☐ Operations/Logistics
☐ Other (please specify): ____________________________

21. Are you currently seeking employment? (Please respond even if you are currently employed)
☐ Yes, I am currently seeking employment
☐ No, I plan to continue to work in my current position
☐ No, I have accepted a new position with my current employer
☐ No, I have accepted a new position with a new employer
☐ No, I am starting a new business
☐ No, I am continuing my education
☐ No, I am postponing my job search
☐ No, I am not seeking employment for other reasons
22. Are you currently seeking employment? (Please respond even if you are currently employed)
☐ Yes, I am currently seeking employment
☐ No, I plan to continue to work in my current position
☐ No, I have accepted a new position with my current employer
☐ No, I have accepted a new position with a new employer
☐ No, I am continuing my education
☐ No, I am postponing my job search
☐ No, I am not seeking employment for other reasons

23. Please indicate the sector in which you work:
☐ Academia
☐ Federal Government
☐ Local Government
☐ Multilateral/International
☐ NGO/Non-profit
☐ Private Sector - Consulting
☐ Private Sector – General
☐ State Government
☐ Other (please specify): __________________________

24. Which of the following tasks do you perform in your current role? (Check all that apply)
☐ Write analytically; including, but not limited to, policy/decision memoranda
☐ Compose brief written analyses on a regular and timely basis
☐ Make policy recommendations
☐ Identify and apply quality research and data sources; critically review research literature
☐ Conduct statistical analysis, using programs such as STATA, SPSS, etc.
☐ Create graphs, charts and tables to illustrate data
☐ Lead small or large groups to complete projects
☐ Make formal or informal presentation of information to colleagues or managers
☐ Publish original writing, whether online or in a hard format
☐ None of the above

25. How do you expect to use your Volgenau degree in the long-term? (10+ years)
☐ I will remain in a technical position in engineering or computing as specified by my degree
☐ I will use my degree to work my way up to a managerial/leadership role
☐ I will use my degree as a stepping stone to enter another industry
☐ I will use the skills gained to pursue medical school, law school, or an MBA program
☐ Unsure
☐ Other (please specify): __________________________

26. Was there a major you would have been more likely to pursue if it had been offered through Volgenau School of Engineering?
☐ Yes
☐ No
27. Which major?
Major: ___________________________________

28. If available, would you be interested in participating in part-time professional/executive education opportunities through Volgenau School of Engineering?
☐ Yes
☐ No

29. If engaged in arts education, in which setting are you employed?
☐ K-12
☐ Private instruction
☐ Non-profit
☐ Other (please specify): ____________________________
☐ I am not involved in arts education

30. Did you develop a second academic/career interest beyond the scope of your major during your time at Mason?
☐ Yes
☐ No

31. Please explain your second academic/career interest beyond the scope of your major:
___________________________________

32. What did you value most during your time as a student in the College of Visual and Performing Arts? (Check all that apply)
☐ Faculty
☐ Coursework
☐ Facilities
☐ Internships
☐ Performance/Exhibit opportunities
☐ Technology
☐ Other (please specify): ____________________________

33. What are your long-term career aspirations?
___________________________________

34. Considering the academic program you most recently completed, how satisfied are you with your overall educational experience?
☐ Very satisfied
☐ Satisfied
☐ Neutral
☐ Dissatisfied
☐ Very dissatisfied

Sponsored by University Career Services, the Office of Alumni Affairs, and the Office of Institutional Assessment
35. We are interested in learning about your job or career experience and aspirations associated with the program you most recently completed at Mason. Which of the following best describes you?

☐ I have applied for and accepted a position
☐ I have applied for and was offered a position, but have not yet accepted a position
☐ I have applied for a position, but I have not yet been offered one
☐ I have not applied for a position, but intend to apply for one in the future
☐ I have not applied for a position and I do not anticipate applying for one in the future
☐ I do not intend to pursue a position in a field associated with the program I most recently completed
☐ Other (please specify): ______________________

36. We are interested in whether you have applied for and received licensure/certification in the field you studied in your most recent program at Mason. Which of the following best describes you?

☐ I have applied for and received licensure/certification
☐ I have applied for licensure/certification, but my application is currently pending
☐ I have applied, but was initially denied licensure/certification
☐ I have not yet applied for licensure/certification, but intend to do so in the future
☐ I have not applied for licensure/certification, and do not intend to do so in the future
☐ I already have licensure/certification in a different field, and am not seeking an additional credential
☐ I did not complete a program that qualifies me for licensure/certification
☐ I already have licensure/certification related to my career goals

*Answer if Q36=I applied for and received licensure/certification*

37. Please specify the license/certificate you received:

__________________________________________________________

38. Which school within the College of Education and Human Development are you graduating from?

☐ School of Recreation, Health, and Tourism
☐ Graduate School of Education

*Answer if Q38=School of Recreation, Health, and Tourism*

39. How relevant to your career goals and direction were your internship/practicum experiences?

☐ Highly relevant
☐ Relevant
☐ Somewhat relevant
☐ Not relevant
☐ I did not participate in an internship/practicum

*Answer if Q38=Graduate School of Education*

40. Which of the following best describes the program you most recently completed?

☐ Completed all or most of my courses on a Mason campus (Fairfax, PWC, Arlington, Loudon)
☐ Completed all or most of my courses as part of an off-campus cohort
☐ Completed all or most of my courses online
☐ Other (please specify): ______________________

*Answer if Q18=College of Science*

41. Are you expected to be employed in your field within the next year?

☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Not sure

*Sponsored by University Career Services, the Office of Alumni Affairs, and the Office of Institutional Assessment*
42. What company or which employer do you expect to work for?
___________________________________

43. What company/which agency would be your ideal employer after graduation?
___________________________________

44. Which BEST describes your employment? (Check all that apply)
☐ I will be working in a laboratory
☐ I will be conducting research
☐ I will be doing fieldwork
☐ I will be working for a government agency (please specify): __________
☐ I will be working in a position not related to my career goals
☐ I will not be employed immediately after graduation
☐ None of the above

45. If you plan to continue your education immediately after graduation, which BEST describes the nature of your coursework?
☐ Non-degree undergraduate courses
☐ Non-degree graduate courses
☐ Masters level degree granting program
☐ PhD level degree granting program
☐ Professional school (e.g., medicine, dentistry, public health, law, business)
☐ I will not be continuing my education at this time

Answer if Q45=Professional School (e.g., medicine, dentistry, public health, law, business)

46. Please specify which professional school you plan to pursue (e.g., medicine, dentistry, public health, law, business): __________________________

47. Would you like to be added to the College of Science’s alumni listserv?
☐ Yes
☐ No

Answer if Q47=Yes

48. Please provide your email address:
___________________________________

Answer if Q18=College of Humanities and Social Sciences

49. Are you currently seeking employment? (Please respond even if you are currently employed)?
☐ Yes, I am currently seeking employment
☐ No, I plan to continue to work in my current position
☐ No, I have accepted a new position with my current employer
☐ No, I have accepted a new position with a new employer
☐ No, I am continuing my education
☐ No, I am temporarily postponing my job search
☐ No, I am not seeking employment

Sponsored by University Career Services, the Office of Alumni Affairs, and the Office of Institutional Assessment
50. Which of the following activities in the college do you believe have been most helpful in preparing you for your career? (Check all that apply)
- Internship or experiential learning
- Capstone course
- Major research project
- Courses in my major
- A course on "college to career"
- University Career Services
- Other (please specify): ____________
- None of the above

51. How do you expect to use your CHSS degree in the long-term (10+ years)?
- I will be in a position closely related to my degree
- I will use my degree to work my way up to a managerial/leadership role
- I will use my degree as a stepping stone to enter another industry
- I will use the skills gained to pursue graduate/professional education in the same field as my major
- I will use the skills gained to pursue graduate/professional education in a different field than my major
- Unsure
- Other (please specify): ____________

52. Are you authorized to permanently work in the United States?
- Yes
- No
- Unsure

53. What Career Services resources did you use while at Mason? (Check all that apply)
- HireMason
- Mason Career Fairs
- On-campus Interview Program
- Career counseling/advising appointments
- Career workshops, programs, and events
- Career course(s)
- Networking opportunities with Mason alumni
- Networking opportunities with faculty and/or staff
- Other (please specify): ____________________________
- None of the above

54. While a student at Mason, in which did you participate? (Includes independent and class required experiential learning) (Check all that apply)
- Internship/Practicum/Field experience/or field studies
- Cooperative education (Co-op)
- Study abroad
- On-campus job
- Part-time job related to my career goals
- Full-time job related to my career goals
- Research position
- Leadership position in student organization
- Did not have any of the above experiences

Sponsored by University Career Services, the Office of Alumni Affairs, and the Office of Institutional Assessment
55. Contact information after graduation

Please provide the following information:

First name: ____________________
Last name:_____________________
Preferred email address: ________
Address 1: _____________________
Address 2: _____________________
City:___________________________
Zip:___________________________
Day phone:_______________________
Evening phone:____________________

56. In which country will you be living after graduation?
Country: _______________________

57. In which state or US territory will you be living after graduation?
Country: _______________________

58. Thank you for providing your feedback. If you would like to be entered into a drawing for a chance to win an iPad, please provide the following information: (Entry is optional; please leave boxes blank if you do not wish to be entered into the drawing.)

Name:_________________________
Cell phone number:______________
Email address:__________________