

December 2019 Graduate Future Plans Survey College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Summary Report

This report presents summary results from the December 2019 Graduate Future Plans Survey for departments and types of degree programs in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, followed by summary information on employment and further education for the college as a whole.

Highlights for the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

- 58% of the doctoral and master's students in CALS graduating in Fall 2019 responded to the survey
- 80% of doctoral respondents and 44% of master's respondents in CALS report that they have secured full-time employment for the coming year
- CALS graduates with full-time employment report an average salary in the coming year of \$53,190 (median = \$52,500)
- 80% of CALS graduates with full-time employment will be working in North Carolina (55% in the Research Triangle Area)
- 47% of master's students in CALS report that they plan to return to graduate/professional school in the coming year
- 83% of master's students in CALS with definite plans to graduate/professional school will be attending a school in North Carolina

Department Summaries

The following tables provide summary statistics for December 2019 graduates in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. Table 1 includes the number of graduate students in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences who graduated in December 2019 and the number of those students who submitted the Graduate Future Plans Survey. It also includes the number of students who indicated at the time of the survey that they would be working full-time, as well as the number of those who indicated they were either pursuing or planning to pursue another graduate or professional degree in the coming year. Finally, it includes summary statistics on the self-reported salaries of those who reported that they would be employed full-time. Table 2 and Table 3 provide the same summary statistics for December 2019 graduates in each department in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, for doctoral graduates and master's graduates, respectively.

Table 1: College Summary

College	Survey Population	Survey Respondents	Response Rate	N Full Time Job	N Grad/Prof School*	25th Percentile Salary	Median Salary	75th Percentile Salary	Average Salary	N Reporting Salary
CALS Overall	100	58	58%	31	20	32,500	52,500	67,500	53,190	29

Table 2: Department Summaries, Doctoral Degree Students

Department	Survey Population	Survey Respondents	Response Rate	N Full Time Job	N Grad/Prof School*	25th Percentile Salary	Median Salary	75th Percentile Salary	Average Salary	N Reporting Salary
Agricultural and Human Sciences	2	1	50%	1	.	**	**	**	**	1
Agricultural and Resource Economics	2	**	**	**	**	.
Animal Science	2	1	50%	.	.	**	**	**	**	.
Biological and Agricultural Engineering	2	2	100%	2	.	**	**	**	**	2
Crop and Soil Science	3	2	67%	2	.	**	**	**	**	1
Entomology and Plant Pathology	4	4	100%	2	.	**	**	**	**	1
Food, Bioprocessing, and Nutrition Sciences	2	2	100%	2	.	**	**	**	**	2
Horticultural Science	2	1	50%	1	.	**	**	**	**	1
Plant and Microbial Biology	2	1	50%	1	.	**	**	**	**	1
Prestage Dept of Poultry Science	1	1	100%	1	.	**	**	**	**	1
CALS Doctoral Degree Recipients Overall	22	15	68%	12	.	52,500	70,000	77,500	67,750	10

*Includes all students planning on going to graduate/professional school in the coming year for another degree, including those who were currently enrolled as of the time of the survey or who have been accepted to graduate/professional school and know where they will be going, as well as those who have been accepted to at least one school but have not yet finalized their plans, those who have applied but have not yet been accepted, and those who have not yet applied but plan to do so.

**Statistics on salary information for those departments with fewer than 4 respondents reporting their salary have been excluded from the table.

Table 3: Department Summaries, Master's Degree Recipients

Department	Survey Population	Survey Respondents	Response Rate	N Full Time Job	N Grad/Prof School*	25th Percentile Salary	Median Salary	75th Percentile Salary	Average Salary	N Reporting Salary
Agricultural and Human Sciences	9	7	78%	5	1	27,500	27,500	42,500	34,000	5
Agricultural and Resource Economics	2	1	50%	1	.	**	**	**	**	1
Animal Science	7	7	100%	2	3	**	**	**	**	2
Applied Ecology	3	2	67%	1	.	**	**	**	**	1
Biological and Agricultural Engineering	2	**	**	**	**	.
Crop and Soil Science	5	4	80%	1	2	**	**	**	**	1
Entomology and Plant Pathology	2	2	100%	1	1	**	**	**	**	1
Food, Bioprocessing, and Nutrition Sciences	11	4	36%	2	2	**	**	**	**	2
Molecular and Structural Biochemistry	1	1	100%	1	.	**	**	**	**	1
Plant and Microbial Biology	2	1	50%	1	.	**	**	**	**	1
Prestage Dept of Poultry Science	34	14	41%	4	11	35,000	52,500	70,000	52,500	4
CALS Master's Degree Recipients Overall	78	43	55%	19	20	27,500	42,500	57,500	45,526	19

*Includes all students planning on going to graduate/professional school in the coming year for another degree, including those who were currently enrolled as of the time of the survey or who have been accepted to graduate/professional school and know where they will be going, as well as those who have been accepted to at least one school but have not yet finalized their plans, those who have applied but have not yet been accepted, and those who have not yet applied but plan to do so.

**Statistics on salary information for those departments with fewer than 4 respondents reporting their salary have been excluded from the table.

Full-Time Employment (college overall)

Table 4: Name of Company/Organization, Doctoral Degree Recipients

	N
Bartlett Tree Experts	1
Biotech Company	1
Clemson University	1
Crops Research Institute (CSIR)	1
Meherrin Agricultural and Chemical Co	1
NC State University	4
Smithfield Foods	1
Triangle Center for Evolutionary Medicine	1
United States Environmental Protection Agency	1

Table 5: Name of Company/Organization, Master's Degree Recipients

	N
Agricultural Institute, NC State University	1
C-Tron Inc	1
Commercial Air Systems Inc	1
Eastern Carolina Human Services	1
GNR Health Departments	1
Grand Slam USA	1
MilliporeSigma	1
NC State University	4
Nash UNC Health Care	1
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	1
Syngenta	1
UNC Medical Center	1
UNC Nutrition Research Institute	1
UNC School of Medicine	1
United States Environmental Protection Agency	1
Wake Technical Community College	1

Table 6: Location of Company (state), Doctoral Degree Recipients

	N	%
North Carolina	9	82%
Massachusetts	1	9%
South Carolina	1	9%

Table 7: Location of Company (state), Master's Degree Recipients

	N	%
North Carolina	15	79%
Georgia	1	5%
Puerto Rico	1	5%
South Carolina	1	5%
Virginia	1	5%

Table 8: Region of Company (inside/outside NC Triangle), Doctoral Degree Recipients

	N	%
Triangle	7	58%
Other NC	2	17%
Outside NC	3	25%

Table 9: Region of Company (inside/outside NC Triangle), Master's Degree Recipients

	N	%
Triangle	10	53%
Other NC	5	26%
Outside NC	4	21%

Table 10: Job Title, Doctoral Degree Recipients

	N
Assistant Director	1
Assistant Professor	1
Environmental Engineer	1
Extension Associate	1
Extension Program Coordinator	1
Fermentation Process Engineer	1
Nutritionist	1
Plant Disease and Insect Diagnostician	1
Postdoctoral Researcher	1
Research Associate	1
Research Scientist	1
Sales Support / Product Development	1

Table 11: Job Title, Master's Degree Recipients

	N
Account Manager	1
Case Manager	1
Clinical Endoscopy Technician	1
Clinical Research Coordinator	1
Coastal Economist	1
Executive Assistant	1
Field Research Assistant	1
Field Research Technician	1
Laboratory assistant	1
Manager	1
Manager / Instructor	1
Nutritionist	1
Office Assistant	1
Owner / Operator	1
Plant Pathologist	1
Plumber	1
Program Coordinator	1
Recruiter	1
Research Associate	1

Table 12: Resources Used to Help Get/Locate Job, by Degree Received*

	CALs Overall		Doctoral		Masters	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
NC State faculty member	9	36%	4	40%	5	33%
Personal/professional connection(s) within the company	6	24%	2	20%	4	27%
Professional association (members, conferences, publications, etc.)	5	20%	3	30%	2	13%
Family/friends/classmates/co-workers	5	20%	1	10%	4	27%
Internet: LinkedIn	4	16%	1	10%	3	20%
Campus or college career center	2	8%	1	10%	1	7%
Career fair at NC State	2	8%	1	10%	1	7%
Internet (Other)	2	8%	2	20%	0	0%
Consultation w/ NCSU Career Counselor/Coach	1	4%	0	0%	1	7%
Applied for job via ePACK	1	4%	0	0%	1	7%
Employer found resume on ePACK	1	4%	0	0%	1	7%
On-campus interviewing	1	4%	1	10%	0	0%
Internship/externship	1	4%	0	0%	1	7%
Optional Practical Training (OPT)	1	4%	1	10%	0	0%
Student teaching experience	1	4%	1	10%	0	0%
Staffing agency	1	4%	0	0%	1	7%
Career fair off campus	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Employer info session on campus	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Co-op experience	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Clinical placement	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Volunteer work	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Other	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%

*Respondents could select more than one resource.

**Question was asked of those who indicated they would be employed full-time in a position they had obtained during their graduate program or at the time of graduation (i.e., excluding those who said they would be employed in a position they had obtained prior to beginning their graduate program).

Further Education (college overall)

Table 13: Status for Further Graduate/Professional School Attendance, Master's Degree Recipients (among those planning to attend)

	N	%
Am already enrolled and pursuing the degree	4	20%
Have been accepted and know where I'm going	2	10%
Have been accepted but undecided	2	10%
Have applied, but not yet been accepted	8	40%
Have not applied but plan to do so within the next year	4	20%

Information provided in the tables below is collected and reported only for respondents who indicated that at the time of the survey they had been accepted to graduate/professional school to pursue another degree and were currently enrolled or knew where they would be going.

Table 14: Name of Graduate/Professional School Students Will be Attending, Master's Degree Recipients

	N
East Carolina University School of Dental Medicine	1
NC State University	4
Texas Tech University	1

Table 15: Location of Graduate/Professional School Students Will be Attending, Master's Degree Recipients

	N	%
North Carolina	5	83%
Texas	1	17%

Table 16: Type of Degree Pursuing, Master's Degree Recipients*

	N	%
Master's	1	17%
Doctoral	4	67%
Professional	1	17%
Other	0	0%

*Respondents could select more than one degree.

Table 17: Master's Degree Pursuing, Master's Degree Recipients

	N
MS	1

Table 18: Doctoral Degree Pursuing, Master's Degree Recipients

	N
PhD	4

Table 19: Professional Degree Pursuing, Master's Degree Recipients

	N
DDS	1

Table 20: Academic Program, Master's Recipients*

	N
Animal Science	1
D.M.D.	1
Masters of Analytics at Institute for Advanced Analytics	1
Plant Breeding/Crop Science	1
Plant Pathology	1
Soil Science	1

*Academic program has not been cleaned. Responses are verbatim.

For more information on the Graduate Future Plans Survey contact:

Hannah McQueen, Assistant Director for Survey Research
Institutional Strategy and Analysis
NCSU Box 7002
Phone: (919) 515-6438
Email: hmmcquee@ncsu.edu