

May 2020 Graduate Future Plans Survey College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Summary Report

This report presents summary results from the May 2020 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

- 54% of the doctoral and master's students in CALS graduating in spring 2020 responded to the survey
- 67% of doctoral respondents and 29% 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 \$55,000 (median = \$57,500)
- 65% of CALS graduates with full-time employment will be working in North Carolina (43% in the Research Triangle Area)
- 51% of master's students in CALS report that they plan to return to graduate/professional school in the coming year
- 57% 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 May 2020 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 May 2020 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 May 2020 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	151	81	54%	30	32	42,500	57,500	67,500	55,000	27

Table 2: Department Summaries, Doctoral 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
Animal Science	1	.	.	.	.	**	**	**	**	.
Applied Ecology	3	3	100%	2	.	**	**	**	**	2
Biological Sciences	1	.	.	.	.	**	**	**	**	.
Biological and Agricultural Engineering	2	1	50%	.	.	**	**	**	**	.
Crop and Soil Science	5	2	40%	1	.	**	**	**	**	1
Entomology and Plant Pathology	3	3	100%	2	.	**	**	**	**	2
Food, Bioprocessing, and Nutrition Sciences	1	1	100%	1	.	**	**	**	**	1
Genetics	1	1	100%	1	.	**	**	**	**	1
Horticultural Science	1	1	100%	1	.	**	**	**	**	1
Plant and Microbial Biology	6	4	67%	3	.	**	**	**	**	3
Prestage Dept of Poultry Science	3	2	67%	1	.	**	**	**	**	1
CALS Doctoral Degree Recipients Overall	27	18	67%	12	.	50,000	62,500	72,500	62,500	12

*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	13	9	69%	5	.	40,000	47,500	57,500	48,750	4
Agricultural and Resource Economics	1	.	.	.	.	**	**	**	**	.
Animal Science	5	4	80%	1	3	**	**	**	**	1
Applied Ecology	1	.	.	.	.	**	**	**	**	.
Biological and Agricultural Engineering	3	1	33%	1	.	**	**	**	**	1
Crop and Soil Science	5	5	100%	2	.	**	**	**	**	2
Entomology and Plant Pathology	5	.	.	.	.	**	**	**	**	.
Food, Bioprocessing, and Nutrition Sciences	9	5	56%	1	5	**	**	**	**	.
Horticultural Science	8	5	63%	2	.	**	**	**	**	1
Molecular and Structural Biochemistry	1	.	.	.	.	**	**	**	**	.
Physiology	13	6	46%	1	5	**	**	**	**	1
Plant and Microbial Biology	19	11	58%	5	5	52,500	57,500	67,500	58,500	5
Prestage Dept of Poultry Science	41	17	42%	.	14	**	**	**	**	.
CALS Master's Degree Recipients Overall	124	63	51%	18	32	37,500	52,500	62,500	49,000	15

*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
BASF	1
Czech University of Life Sciences	1
Environmental and Geotechnical Specialists, Inc.	1
Food and Drug Administration	1
King Abdulaziz University	1
NC State University	2
North Carolina Biotechnology Center	1
Takara Bio USA, Inc.	1
United States Fish and Wildlife Service	1
University of Wisconsin-Madison	2

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

	N
Beacon Health Options	1
Biogen	1
Chiesi USA, Inc.	1
Ecosystem Planning & Restoration	1
EpiCypher, Inc.	1
GNC / NCCU Dietetic Internship	1
Habitat for Humanity	1
Henry County Public Schools	1
NC Cooperative Extension	2
NC Plant Conservation Program	1
NC State University	1
Revlon	1
Starbucks	1
United States Forest Service	1
University Of Cape Coast	1
Wayne County Public Schools	1

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

	N	%
North Carolina	4	40%
Wisconsin	3	30%
Florida	1	10%
Not sure	1	10%
Maryland	1	10%

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

	N	%
North Carolina	13	81%
Virginia	1	6%
Colorado	1	6%
Not applicable - Working remotely	1	6%

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

	N	%
Triangle	4	36%
Other NC	.	0%
Outside NC	7	64%

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

	N	%
Triangle	8	47%
Other NC	5	29%
Outside NC	4	24%

Table 10: Job Title, Doctoral Degree Recipients

	N
Assistant Professor	1
Associate Director, Business Development and Investor Engagement	1
Fish and Wildlife Biologist	1
Geotechnical Staff Engineer	1
Inside Sales Representative I	1
Postdoc	1
Postdoctoral Research Associate	1
Postdoctoral Scholar	1
Research Associate	1
Research Fellow	1
Research Scholar	1
Sales and Marketing Development Specialist	1

Table 11: Job Title, Master's Degree Recipients

	N
Access Specialist	1
Agriculture Teacher	1
Construction Crew Leader	1
Engineering Intern	1
Extension Agent	3
Horticulture Teacher	1
Marketing Communication Manager	1
Patient Services Promotional Compliance Program Lead Co-Op	1
QC Microbiologist	1
Regulatory Specialist I	1
Research Specialist	1
Sales Associate/ Dietetic Intern	1
Shift Supervisor	1
Soil Scientist	1
Teaching Associate	1

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

	CALs Overall		Doctoral		Masters	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Research assistantship	4	29%	3	33%	1	20%
Personal/professional connection(s) within the company	3	21%	3	33%	0	0%
Internship/externship	2	14%	1	11%	1	20%
Student teaching experience	2	14%	1	11%	1	20%
NC State faculty member	2	14%	1	11%	1	20%

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

	CALs Overall		Doctoral		Masters	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Professional association (members, conferences, publications, etc.)	2	14%	2	22%	0	0%
Internet: LinkedIn	2	14%	2	22%	0	0%
Applied for job via ePACK	1	7%	1	11%	0	0%
Staffing agency	1	7%	1	11%	0	0%
Family/friends/classmates/co-workers	1	7%	1	11%	0	0%
Campus or college career center	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Consultation w/NC State Career Counselor/Coach	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Employer found resume on ePACK	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
On-campus interviewing	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Career fair at NC State	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
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%
Teaching assistantship	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Optional Practical Training (OPT)	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Clinical placement	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Volunteer work	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Internet (Other)	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Other	3	21%	1	11%	2	40%

*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	13%
Have been accepted and know where I'm going	10	31%
Have been accepted but undecided	.	0%
Have applied, but not yet been accepted	8	25%
Have not applied but plan to do so within the next year	10	31%

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
Case Western Reserve University	1
Duke University	1
Long Island University	1
NC State University	5
North Carolina Central University	1
Purdue University	1
University of Nebraska	1
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	1
University of Wisconsin-Madison	1
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University	1

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

	N	%
North Carolina	8	57%
Ohio	1	7%
New York	1	7%
Indiana	1	7%
Nebraska	1	7%
Wisconsin	1	7%
Virginia	1	7%

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

	N	%
Master's	5	36%
Doctoral	6	43%
Professional	4	29%
Other	0	0%

*Respondents could select more than one degree.

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

	N
MBA	4
MPH	1

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

	N
PhD	6

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

	N
DVM	1
MD	2

Table 20: Other Degree Pursuing, Master's Degree Recipients

	N
Dietetic Internship	1

Table 21: Academic Program, Master's Recipients*

	N
Animal Breeding and Genetics	1
Animal Science	2
Business Administration	4
College of Veterinary Medicine	1
Dietetic Internship	1
Food Science	1
Food science	1
Medical School	1
Plant Biology	1
School of Medicine	1

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