This report provides information on the post-graduation plans of associates and bachelors graduates during Academic Year 2013-2014. These data include SU13, FA13 and SP14. There were 1,275 unique IDs who were awarded undergraduate degrees. Of these, 701 unique IDs completed the survey which provided a 55.1% response rate. Approximately 70.4% (n=699) of graduates indicated that they had secured satisfactory employment, enrolled in graduate school, or planned to engage in other activities such as military service or volunteer activity (i.e., Peace Corps).

The survey was administered to students within 6 months of their graduation date (~ 2 months before graduation to ~4 months after graduation). A link to the survey was emailed to the students by the Office of Academic Evaluation and Assessment initially on a weekly basis until then end of term moving to every 2-4 weeks until the end of data collection. The timeline varies by term as not all terms have the same lead time. Students were confidentially tracked so that they could update their information over this period of time.

As noted in previous reports, little information from graduating students was gathered from FY ’04 - FY ’06. It should also be noted that the survey method used and content were slightly altered before the spring 2009 administration and revised further when it was moved to a new web delivery provider in the summer of 2010 (AY10-11). However, the core content of the items in the survey have remained relatively consistent. The official list of possible candidates for degree and final graduates were obtained from the Registrar’s Office. The initial list encompasses all those approaching graduation even if they do not graduate. This serves to generate the survey and provided degree completer names, degrees, and majors. This official final graduates list provides the student ID’s and degrees completed (including multiple degrees/majors). Those completing the survey who are on the final graduation lists are the respondents included in the survey results.

This report outlines the vocational and educational plans of these graduates, as well as salary information of the possible 701 respondents. Only unique ID’s are used where summative information is provided on degree completers overall. However, as students can obtain multiple degrees and majors, results for each major are reviewed separately. In such cases, a person was counted for each degree/major they earned.

Of the 701 total respondent 699 respondents completed the graduating plans item. If these 699 42.9% reported that they had secured satisfactory employment and 27.6% were planning to attend graduate school or additional undergraduate education. 28.9% percent of respondents to the survey indicated that they were still seeking employment. Chart 1 shows the reported post-graduation plans of respondents. Table A shows the graduate placement rates for previous years.
When these undergraduates were asked the question, “Are you satisfied with the quality of your education at USD?” of the 680 respondents, 91.6% indicated they were “somewhat satisfied” or higher. Of these graduates, 73.1% indicated they were “satisfied” or “extremely satisfied.” Chart 2 illustrates these results. Of the 220 respondents to item 5, 90.0% reported that the positions they accepted were related to the degree(s) they received (Chart 3).
Chart 3: Is this position related to your major or degree program?

1. Highly Related 72%
2. Somewhat Related 18%
3. Not Related 10%

N=220
Table B provides the results of the survey by academic program. Unlike the overall analysis, students with double degrees/majors are included for each degree/major. Placement percent includes accepted full-time, accepted Part-Time, continuing one’s education, military service and volunteer service.

### USD Major by Q1: Main Which of the following best describes your PRIMARY post-graduation plans?

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Additional Education and Graduate School Information

One hundred 170 of survey respondents (27.6%) indicated that they would be pursuing additional undergraduate coursework or enrolling in graduate school. Of these, 12.5% (n=85) indicated graduate coursework and 3.4% (n=24) indicated undergraduate coursework with 3.3% (n=23) in internships. Of the 170 who responded to the item, 79.4% (n=135) respondents listed future schools. Of these, 67.4% (n=91) were considering further academic work at USD, while 30% (n=41) indicated that he/she would be enrolling at a school outside of the state. Only 2.2% (n=3) indicated an intent to attend another in-state institution. The list of schools being investigated or enrolled in is provided below:

Arizona State University  
Belmont  
California State University Long Beach  
Capella University  
Colorado State University  
Creighton University  
Dakota Wesleyan University  
Denver Theological Seminary  
Eastern Kentucky University  
Emporia  
Iowa State University  
Kansas State University  
Lake Area Technical Institute  
Maryville University  
Minnesota State University Mankato  
NOVA Southeastern  
National American University  
Nebraska Methodist College  
North Carolina State University  
North Dakota State University  
Northern State University  
Northwestern University  
Pennsylvania State University  
Purdue University  
Saint Mary's University  
South Dakota State University  
Southeast Technical  
The John Marshall Law School  
Thomas Jefferson University  
University of Illinois Chicago  
University of Indianapolis  
University of Iowa  
University of Montana  
University of Nebraska-Omaha  
University of North Dakota  
University of Ohio  
University of South Dakota  
University of St Thomas, Minnesota  
University of Wisconsin-Madison  
West Virginia University

*Chart 4 below illustrates the intended areas of study for all respondents.*

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<tr>
<th>Area of Study</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<td>Education Related</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health Sci./Medical related</td>
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<tr>
<td>Business Related</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sciences/ Humanities Related</td>
<td>19%</td>
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<tr>
<td>FA/Art/Music related</td>
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<tr>
<td>SPL/AUD Related</td>
<td>5%</td>
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Areas of Study

There were 150 respondents that reported a future area of study, 90.0% (n=135) also indicted a school. Of these, 30.4% (n=41) planned on leaving South Dakota to pursue education.

The respondents leaving South Dakota listed the following areas of study.

- Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine
- Analytics
- Art therapy
- Biomechanics
- Biomedical Sciences
- Biostatistics in Public Health
- Cell and Molecular Biology
- Cell and Molecular Biology/Infectious Disease
- Clinical Mental Health Counseling
- Computer Science
- Counseling Psychology
- Dentistry
- Doctorate of Physical Therapy
- English
- FNP
- Fine Art Paintings
- GIS Certification
- Industrial Organizational Psychology
- Law School
- M.S. in Public Communication and Technology
- MBA
- MFA, Sculpture
- Marine Biology
- Marriage and Family Therapy
- Masters of Anthropology
- Masters of Biomedical Sciences
- Medicinal Chemistry
- Medicine
- Mental Health Counseling
- Occupational Therapy
- Physical Therapy
- Physician Assistant
- Psychology
- Radiology
- Social Work
- Surveying
- Veterinary Medicine

All the respondents listed areas of study.

- Accounting
- Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine
- Addiction Studies
- Analytics
- Art therapy
- Audiology
- Biochemistry/Molecular Biology
- Biology
- Biology-Ecology
- Biomechanics
- Biomedical Sciences
- Biostatistics in Public Health
- Business
- Business Administration
- Cell and Molecular Biology
- Cell and Molecular Biology/Infectious Disease
- Clinical Mental Health Counseling
- Communication Studies
- Computer Science
- Conservation Biology, Environmental Studies, or related field
- Counseling
- Counseling Psychology
- Criminal Justice
- Dental
- Dentistry
- Doctorate of Physical Therapy
- Economics & Finance
- Educational Administration - Adult & Higher Education
- Elementary Education
- English
State Retention

Of the 192 respondents that reported where they had accepted employment and listed an identifiable employer address, 76.6% (n=147) decided to remain in South Dakota while 23.4% (n=45) took positions out of state. Of the 45 who went to out of state, 68.9% (n=31) went to surrounding states. Specifically 8.3% went to Iowa, 3.1% in Nebraska, 3.1% in Minnesota, and 0.5% in North Dakota. Chart 5 provides these results by region, while Chart 6 shows employment by South Dakota City.
Employers

Of the 220 responding to the item addressing the relation of the degree to their employment, 90.0% (n=198) of graduates reported that they have found employment related to their major. The following is a list of some of the employers that hired USD graduates during AY13-14:

Aegis Food Testing Laboratories
Aflac
Armour School District
Avera Heart Hospital
Avera Marshall Regional Medical Center
Avera McKennan Hospital
Avera Saint Marys
Avera Sports Institute
Avera St Luke's
Avera St. Marys
Bev's on the River
Bridge City Publishing
Brookings Health System
Camble County Hospital
Campbell County Memorial Hospital
Carla Schwebach
CCADP
Centerpoint Medical Center
Centerville Care and Rehab Center
Centura Healthcare
Children's Care Hospital and School
Children's Dental Center
City of Chamberlain
City of Sioux Falls
City of Yankton
Coastal Communities Hospital
CorTrust Bank
Coteau Des Prairies
Council on Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence
Counseling and Support Services
Culver's
Custer Regional Hospital
Dakota Plains Surgical Center
Dakota Provision
Dave Deinert
DB Trucking
Dental office
Dr. Frank Pattersen
Dr. Jason Aanensen
East River Electric Company

Chart 6: Employment by SD City

- Yankton/Vermillion: 11%
- Sioux Falls: 46%
- Other East: 21%
- Rapid City: 11%
- Pierre: 3%
- Other West: 8%
- Other: 21%
- Sioux Falls: 46%
Eastern Farmers COOP
Edgewood vista
Eide Bailly
Epic Systems
Fastenal Company
Fellowship of Catholic University Students
FOCUS
Forest Products Distributors
Fort Meade VA hospital
Fred Assam Elementary
Golden Living
Good Samaritan Society
Hart Family Dental
Health Management Partners
Heart of the Rockies Regional Medical Center
Highmore Health
Home Federal Bank
HP Farm
Human Services Center
Hy-Vee
Independent Insurance Agents & Brokers of America
Inspired Chiropractic
Jimmy Johns
Jolley Elementary School
Ketel Thorstenson
Keystone Outreach
Kids of Character
Koch Industries, Inc
Lake County International
LDRH
Le Mars Public Library
Lindquist and Vennum
Little Wound School
Lloyd Companies
Manitou Group
Marion School
Marty Koch
Material Girl
McGladrey
Menard's
Mercy Medical Center
Mid-Iowa Family Therapy Clinic, Inc.
Minervas
Mitchell School District: L.B. Williams
Modern Woodmen
Nate Buchholz
Northwestern Mutual
Oakview Terrace
Ohiya Casino and Resort
Omaha Public Schools
Parkston School District
Parkview Care Center
Peerless Tires
Peters Lawn Service
Phillip Health Services
POET
Polaris Industries
Prairie Lakes Hospital
Rapid City Medical Center
Rapid City Regional Hospital
Representative Kristi Noem
Ridgeview Medical Center
Riverview Health Care
Runge Enterprises Inc.
Sacred Heart Catholic School
Sanford Health
Sanford Hospital
Sanford USD Medical Center
Scotland School District
ScribeAmerica
Secretary of State Campaign
Sertoma Butterfly House & Marine Cove
Seton Medical Center
Sioux Falls Police Department
Sioux Falls School District
Social Bug
Soluk Lab USD
South Dakota Air National Guard
South Dakota Secretary of State
South Dakota Shakespeare Festival
Spearfish Regional Medical Clinic
St Cloud Hospital
St. Luke's Magic Valley Medical Center
Sterling Computers
Sunrise Retirement Community
Target
Tea Area Elementary School
The King's College
The Owens Companies
The University of Wyoming
Thomas Roed
Salaries

There were 213 unduplicated respondents who reported current annual salary. Salary reports include those who reported accepting either a full-time and part time position. Summary salary information from all respondents is in Table C. Table D provides the Salary information broken down by major. If a person is listed as having multiple majors, then the data was counted for each major.

Table C: What is your annual income?

<table>
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<tr>
<th>What is your annual income?</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Cumulative Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>Cumulative Percent</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Unpaid</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>1.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Under $20,000</td>
<td>29.0</td>
<td>33.0</td>
<td>13.6</td>
<td>15.5</td>
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<td>3. $20,000-$35,000</td>
<td>73.0</td>
<td>106.0</td>
<td>34.3</td>
<td>49.8</td>
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<td>4. $36,000-$50,000</td>
<td>82.0</td>
<td>188.0</td>
<td>38.5</td>
<td>88.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. $51,000-$65,000</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td>208.0</td>
<td>9.4</td>
<td>97.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. $66,000-$80,000</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>211.0</td>
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<td>7. $81,000+</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>213.0</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>100.0</td>
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</table>

Major by What is your annual income? (Including multiple degrees and majors)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Major</th>
<th>1. Unpaid</th>
<th>2. Under $20,000</th>
<th>3. $20,000-$35,000</th>
<th>4. $36,000-$50,000</th>
<th>5. $51,000-$65,000</th>
<th>6. $66,000-$80,000</th>
<th>7. $81,000+</th>
<th>Total</th>
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**Career Development Center Resources and Career Search Tools**

Of the 228 persons indicating they accepted a full-time or part-time position, the frequency of use of various career search tools is provided in Chart 7. Note that respondents could choose more than one option. Of the 228 accepting positions, 94.5% (208) utilized one of more of the tools to assist in career searches. On average, these people used 2.5 different tools ($SD=1.7$). Chart 7 illustrates the frequency of tools used to find the current position.

Of the total of 571 unique ID’s completing the survey, 91.9% (525) utilized at least one of the career search tools to monitor the career market. On average, 2.3 ($SD=1.6$) different tools were utilized by these persons. Chart 8 illustrates tool usage by all persons.

![Chart 7: Frequency of Career Search Tools of Employed](chart.png)
Two questions regarding the services of the Career Development Center (CDC) were also asked. The first question addresses student awareness of CDC services. The second examines the perceived effectiveness of the services utilized. Of the 680 persons responding to the awareness item, 75.1% (n=511) indicated being aware of CDC services.

There were 221 respondents to this item who had accepted full-time or part-time positions. The level of awareness was similar to that of all respondents. See Chart 10 below for these data.
Approximately 67.4% of those who accepted positions and 67.2% of all respondents indicated they did not make use of the CDC. Chart 11 illustrates the perceived utility of the services by all who used the services (n=223). Chart 12 illustrates the perceived utility of CDC services by those who accepted full-time or part-time positions (n=72). Of the 223 respondents who indicated they used the services, 83.9% indicated the services were at least somewhat useful with 23.8% seeing the services as very helpful or essential. Of the 72 respondents who accepted FT/PT positions, 83.3% found the services at least somewhat useful with 31.9% seeing the services as very helpful or essential.