2024 Undergraduate Outcomes Report

The Office of Career & Professional Development

DAKOTA STATE
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Table of Contents

First Destinations Report for the Class of 2024

The Career and Professional Development Outcomes Report offers a snapshot of the post-graduation activities and destinations of new alumni as they embark on their careers. This report highlights the achievements of graduates as well as the range of organizations that seek the talents of Dakota State University graduates.

The Class of 2024 Outcomes Report includes graduates from both associate and bachelor's degree programs who were awarded degrees in August and December of 2023 and May of 2024.

Methodology:

Career and Professional Development collects outcome data using the following methods:

- Student-reported survey responses prior to commencement
- Student-reported survey responses for a six to nine-month period after graduation
- Employer-provided information
- Faculty-provided information
- Information from professional networking sites such as LinkedIn

Knowledge Rate:

The National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE), in its "First Destination Standards and Protocols" provides a target goal for colleges and universities. DSU's knowledge rate for 2024 is calculated from information gathered from 331 out of 388 graduates.
- NACE Target Goal: 65%
- DSU Knowledge Rate: 85.3%
- DSU Knowledge Rate **<u>EXCEEDS</u>** NACE Target Goal by 20 percentage points.

Understanding Salary Data:

Salary figures are based on self-reported data from a limited number of graduates and may not reflect the full range of outcomes. Due to a low response rate and potential self-reporting bias, these figures should be interpreted with caution. Salary outcomes can vary significantly by industry, job function, location, degree type, and prior experience, which may not be reflected in this summary.

Career Outcomes:

NACE defines "career outcomes," also referred to as "placement rate," as the ratio of respondents who reported finding employment (full or part-time), voluntary service, military service, or continuing education. DSU's undergraduate placement rate for the Class of 2024 is **99.1%**.

Continuing Education:

- **16.9%** of DSU Associate and Bachelor graduates are continuing their education.

Understanding Graduate and Degree Counts

When reporting graduation data, it's important to clarify the distinction between the *number of individual graduates* and the *total number of degrees awarded*. These figures may differ due to students earning more than one degree.

For instance, a college may report **201 individual graduates**, but **217 degrees awarded**. This occurs when some students complete multiple majors, commonly known as double or even triple majors. Each degree is counted individually, even when awarded to the same student.

In some cases, students pursue degrees from different colleges within the university. For example, a student might earn a Mathematics degree from the **College of Arts and Sciences** and a Computer Science degree from **The Beacom College of Computer and Cyber Sciences**. In such cases, each college appropriately counts the degree awarded within its program totals, even though it pertains to the same graduate.

- The **graduate count** reflects the number of *unique individuals* who earned at least one degree.
- The **degree count** reflects the *total number of degrees conferred*, including instances where a single student earned multiple degrees across one or more colleges.

Reporting both figures ensures a more comprehensive and accurate view of academic achievement at Dakota State University.

Associate Degree Totals

Total Number of Graduates	46
• Total Number of Degrees Awarded	49
(Some graduates earned multiple degrees)	
Graduates Accounted For:	40
• Employed	33
• Continuing Education	7 (17.5%)
• Unable to Contact	6
Total Placed	40
Program Placement Percentage	**100%**
SD Residents Employed in SD	91.3%
Non-Residents Employed in SD	40.0%

Bachelor Degree Totals

Total Number of Graduates	352
• Total Number of Degrees Awarded	375
(Some graduates earned multiple degrees)	
Graduates Accounted For:	300
• Employed	242
• Continuing Education	50 (16.7%)
• Still Seeking	3
• Not Seeking Employment	5
• Unable to Contact	52
Total Placed	292
Program Placement Percentage	**99.0%**
SD Resident Employed in SD	87.2%
Non-Resident Employed SD	31.9%

Class of 2024 Destinations

DSU graduates from the class of 2024 accepted employment in the states represented in blue.

The Beacom College of Computer and Cyber Sciences

Bachelor
- Artificial Intelligence (B.S.)
- Computer Game Design (B.S.)
- Computer Science (B.S.)
    - AI & Machine Learning (B.S.)
    - Software Engineering (B.S.)
- Cyber Operations (B.S.)
- Network and Security Administration (B.S.)

Associate
- Network and Security Administration (A.S.)
- Software Development (A.S.)

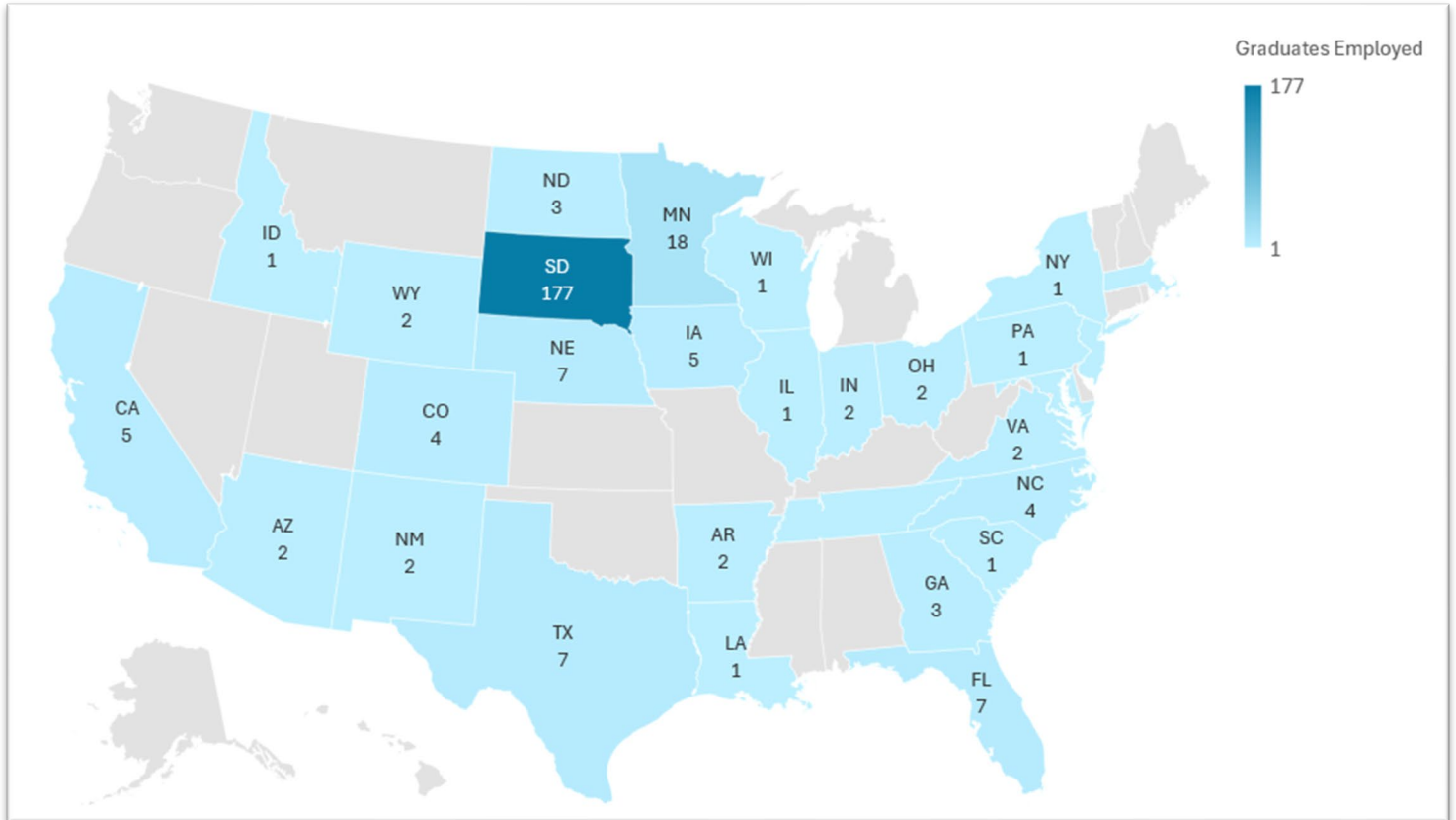## College Totals

Total Number of Graduates	201
• Total Number of Degrees Awarded *(Some graduates earned multiple degrees)*	217
Graduates Accounted For:	166
• Employed	129
• Continuing Education	33 (19.9%)
• Still Seeking	2
• Not Seeking Employment	2
• Unable To Contact	35
Total Placed	162
College Placement Percentage	**98.8%**

Artificial Intelligence (B.S.)

Total Number of Graduates	3
Graduates Accounted For:	3
• Employed	1
• Continuing Education	2
Total Placed	3
Program Placement Percentage	**100.0%**
Average Entry Salary	No Salary Available

Notable Employers & Positions:
- Kiewit - Software Engineer

Computer Game Design (B.S.)

Total Number of Graduates	10
Graduates Accounted For:	6
• Employed	4
• Continuing Education	1
• Still Seeking	1
• Unable To Contact	4
Total Placed	5
Program Placement Percentage	**83.3%**
Average Entry Salary	$41,964.00
Salary Response	50.0%

Notable Employers & Positions:
- Cheat Code Studios - 3D Artist
- Premier Bankcard LLC - Software Engineer I

Computer Science (B.S.)

Total Number of Graduates	64
Graduates Accounted For:	48
• Employed	38
• Continuing Education	9
• Not Seeking Employment	1
• Unable To Contact	16
Total Placed	47
Program Placement Percentage	**100.0%**
Average Entry Salary	$77,387.88
Salary Response	34.2%

Notable Employers & Positions:
- Department Of State - Cyber Security Analyst
- Roblox - Software Engineer
- The Bancorp - Software Developer
- Premier Bankcard LLC - Programming Coordinator

Cyber Operations (B.S.)

Total Number of Graduates	90
Graduates Accounted For:	79
• Employed	58
• Continuing Education	19
• Still Seeking	1
• Not Seeking Employment	1
• Unable To Contact	11
Total Placed	77
Program Placement Percentage	**98.7%**
Average Entry Salary	$61,174.59
Salary Response	37.9%

Notable Employers & Positions:
- Collins Aerospace -Test Engineering Sr. Technician
- Department Of Defense - IT Security Specialist
- First Bank & Trust - IT Security Analyst
- Northwestern Energy - Site Reliability Engineer

Network & Security Administration (A.S.)

Total Number of Graduates	17
Graduates Accounted For:	16
• Employed	13
• Continuing Education	3
• Unable To Contact	1
Total Placed	16
Program Placement Percentage	**100%**
Average Entry Salary	$58,493.33
Salary Response	69.2%

Notable Employers & Positions:
- ELBO Computing - I.S. Engineer
- KBR, Inc. - SOC Analyst
- Riverside Technologies, Inc. - Technician

Network & Security Administration (B.S.)

Total Number of Graduates	27
Graduates Accounted For:	25
• Employed	22
• Continuing Education	3
• Unable To Contact	2
Total Placed	25
Program Placement Percentage	**100%**
Average Entry Salary	$59,530.00
Salary Response	45.5%

Notable Employers & Positions:
- Amgen - Sr. Associate Software Analyst
- Fort Dodge Fiber - Network Engineer
- Sanford Health - Associate Network Engineer

Software Development (A.S.)

Total Number of Graduates	6
Graduates Accounted For:	4
• Employed	4
• Unable To Contact	2
Total Placed	4
Program Placement Percentage	**100%**
Average Entry Salary	$57,500.00
Salary Response	100%

Notable Employers & Positions:
- Gil Haugan - CNC Programming
- Northwestern Energy - Cyber Security Analyst

Beacom College Summary of Employment Trends

The Beacom College of Computer and Cyber Sciences at Dakota State University continues to distinguish itself as a leader in producing career-ready graduates across a spectrum of high-demand computing and cybersecurity disciplines. With 201 total graduates and 166 accounted for, the college achieved a remarkable **98.8% placement rate** for those seeking employment or continuing education—an indicator of both the relevance of its programs and the strong demand for its graduates in industry and government sectors.

Graduates from the college are thriving in roles that span software development, cybersecurity, networking, artificial intelligence, and game design, reflecting the diverse and future-focused nature of its academic offerings.

The **Computer Science (B.S.)** program had 64 graduates and a perfect placement rate among those seeking employment. With an **average entry salary of $77,388**, it boasts the highest reported average in the college. Graduates secured positions at notable employers including Roblox, the Department of State, and The Bancorp, showcasing the program's ability to prepare students for both public and private sector technology roles.

Similarly, the **Cyber Operations (B.S.)** program—another core component of the college—produced 90 graduates. Among 79 accounted-for students, 98.7% were placed, with employment at prestigious institutions like the Department of Defense, Collins Aerospace, and First Bank & Trust. The program's strong outcomes underscore its alignment with the increasing national need for cybersecurity talent. Graduates reported an average salary of $61,175, positioning the program as a strong return on educational investment.

The **Network and Security Administration (B.S.)** degree also showed 100% placement for 25 accounted graduates. The field remains a robust choice, with an average salary of $59,530 and placements at organizations like Amgen, Sanford Health, and Fort Dodge Fiber.
Emerging programs such as **Artificial Intelligence (B.S.)** also showed promising trends. While the AI program is new, the first graduates were all placed, with some pursuing further education, a sign of both early specialization and academic advancement. **Game Design (B.S)**, while more competitive, showed an 83.3% placement rate and included roles like 3D Artist and Software Engineer at Cheat Code Studios and Premier Bankcard.

The college's associate degree offerings provided accessible, high-value entry points into the tech industry. The **Network and Security Administration (A.S.)** and **Software Development (A.S.)** programs each achieved 100% placement rates, with graduates securing positions such as SOC Analyst, Technician, and Cyber Security Analyst. Average salaries in these programs—$58,493 for Network & Security Admin and $57,500 for Software Development—highlight their effectiveness in launching immediate careers in IT and cybersecurity.

Across all programs, **19.9% of graduates pursued further education**, particularly in advanced areas like artificial intelligence and cyber operations. This trend suggests a growing interest in academic and professional specialization, as well as the foundation provided by The Beacom College for graduate-level studies.

The Beacom College of Computer and Cyber Sciences continues to deliver on its mission of preparing students for the evolving demands of the digital workforce. Its graduates are securing impactful, well-compensated roles with industry leaders in sectors ranging from national defense to cloud services and game development. With high placement percentages across the board and strong starting salaries, the college stands out as a hub for talent development in computing, cyber sciences, and IT infrastructure.

College of Arts & Sciences

Bachelor

- Biology (B.S.)
- Biology Education (B.S.Ed.) *See Education Section*
- Computer Game Design (B.S.) *See Beacom Section*
- Cyber Leadership & Intelligence (B.S.)
  - Digital Forensics (B.S.)
  - World Affairs and Human Behavior (B.S.)
- Digital Arts and Design (B.S.)
  - Computer Graphics (B.S.)
  - Digital Sound Design (B.S.)
  - Production Animation (B.S.)
- English (B.S)
- English Education (B.S.Ed.) *See Education Section*
- English for New Media (B.S)
- General Studies (B.G.S.)
- Individualized Studies (B.S.)
- Mathematics Education (B.S.Ed.) *See Education Section*
- Mathematics Intermediate Education (B.S.Ed.) * *See Education Section*
- Mathematics (B.S.)
  - Cryptography (B.S.)
  - Information Systems (B.S.)

Associate

- General Studies (A.A.)

College Totals

Total Number of Graduates	79
• Total Number of Degrees Awarded	79
Graduates Accounted For:	61
• Employed	47
• Continuing Education	11 (18.0%)
• Still Seeking	1
• Not Seeking Employment	2
• Unable To Contact	18
Total Placed	58
College Placement Percentage	**98.3%**

Biology (B.S.)

Total Number of Graduates	3
Graduates Accounted For:	3
• Employed	2
• Continuing Education	1
Total Placed	3
Program Placement Percentage	**100%**
Average Entry Salary	No Salary Available

Notable Employers & Positions:
- Americorps Rural Health Partnership - Coordinator
- Sanford Health Partnership - Histology Technician

Cyber Leadership and Intelligence (B.S.)

(Specializations in: Digital Forensics or World Affairs & Human Behavior)

Total Number of Graduates	10
Graduates Accounted For	10
• Employed	9
• Continuing Education	1
Total Placed	10
Program Placement Percentage	**100%**
Average Entry Salary	$71,000.00
Salary Response	11.1%

Notable Employers & Positions:
- Department of Veterans Affairs - Support Technician/End User Operation
- Olsson - Cybersecurity Assistant
- US Department of Defense - Intelligence Specialist

Digital Arts & Design (B.S.)

(Specializations in: Computer Graphics, Digital Sound Design, Production Animation)

Total Number of Graduates	24
Graduates Accounted For:	16
• Employed	13
• Still Seeking	1
• Not Seeking Employment	2
• Unable To Contact	8
Total Placed	13
Program Placement Percentage	**92.9%**
Average Entry Salary	$38,064.00
Salary Response	38.5%

Notable Employers & Positions:
- NTV News - Newscast Director/Editor
- Saggio Technology - Content Creator
- Sandhills Global - Graphic Designer

English (B.S.)

Total Number of Graduates	3
Graduates Accounted For:	3
• Employed	3
Total Placed	3
Program Placement Percentage	**100%**
Average Entry Salary	$39,000.00
Salary Response	33.3%

Notable Employers & Positions:
- CNA Surety - Underwriter Associate
- Palma Photography - Owner (Entrepreneur)
- Oldham-Ramona-Rutland School District – Teacher

English for New Media (B.S.)

Total Number of Graduates	2
Graduates Accounted For:	2
• Employed	2
Total Placed	2
Program Placement Percentage	**100%**
Average Entry Salary	$52,000.00
Salary Response	50.0%

Notable Employers & Positions:
- Entrepreneur – Freelance Copywriter

General Studies (A.A.)

Total Number of Graduates	10
Graduates Accounted For:	8
• Employed	6
• Continuing Education	2
• Unable To Contact	2
Total Placed	8
Program Placement Percentage	**100%**
Average Entry Salary	$51,635.00
Salary Response	50.0%

Notable Employers & Positions:
- Clubhouse Hotel - Manager
- US Air Force - Cyber Warfare Operator

General Studies (B.G.S.)

Total Number of Graduates	15
Graduates Accounted For:	10
• Employed	7
• Continuing Education	3
• Unable To Contact	5
Total Placed	10
Program Placement Percentage	**100%**
Average Entry Salary	$43,347.00
Salary Response	14.3%

Notable Employers & Positions:
- Best Buy Corporation - Associate Director of Engineering
- Pinnacle Life Group - Financial Services Professional
- Sanford Health - Referral Specialist

Individualized Studies (B.S.)

Total Number of Graduates	2
Unable To Contact	2

Mathematics (B.S.)

Total Number of Graduates	8
Graduates Accounted For:	7
• Employed	3
• Continuing Education	4
• Unable To Contact	1
Total Placed	7
Program Placement Percentage	**100%**
Average Entry Salary	No Salary Available

Notable Employers & Positions:
- Flandreau Public School District - Teacher
- Innovative Systems - Software Developer
- Wurth Elektronik Group - Software Developer

Arts & Sciences Summary of Employment Trends

The College of Arts and Sciences at Dakota State University continues to demonstrate its strength in preparing students for diverse career paths and continued academic success. With a wide-ranging portfolio of programs spanning the sciences, humanities, digital arts, and interdisciplinary studies, the college equips its graduates with flexibility, critical thinking, and specialized knowledge needed to thrive in a rapidly evolving professional landscape.

Out of 80 total graduates, 62 were successfully accounted for, resulting in an impressive **98.3% placement rate** among those seeking employment or further education. Of these, 48 secured employment, while 11 chose to pursue graduate or professional studies, highlighting the college's dual emphasis on career readiness and academic advancement.

Graduates found success across a wide range of industries, including education, healthcare, finance, public service, media, and cybersecurity. Among the many programs offered by the college, **Cyber Leadership and Intelligence** stood out as one of the most successful in terms of both job placement and salary outcomes. All graduates from this program were placed, with reported employment in high-impact roles such as **intelligence specialists, cybersecurity assistants, and federal support technicians**. The **average starting salary of $71,000** was among the highest in the college, reflecting the demand for graduates skilled in digital forensics, world affairs, and cyber policy.

Other programs also showed strong performance. Graduates from **General Studies**, both at the associate and bachelor's levels, achieved **100% placement** with competitive average salaries. Job placements included roles such as **cyber warfare operator**, **hotel management**, and **referral specialists**, demonstrating the versatility of this interdisciplinary degree.

Graduates from the **English** and **Mathematics** programs also reported excellent placement rates, with many entering roles in education, business services, software development, and entrepreneurship. Mathematics alumni were placed in positions such as **software developers and high school math teachers**, with many continuing on to graduate studies—affirming the strength of these foundational disciplines in both workforce entry and academic progression.

The **Digital Arts and Design** program offered a creative pathway into the workforce, with graduates employed as **graphic designers, content creators, and newscast editors**. The range of job titles and media employers such as **NTV News and Sandhills Global** reflects meaningful engagement in the creative and communication industries.

Importantly, many graduates throughout the college leveraged their degrees to launch careers at notable organizations including the **Department of Defense, Sanford Health, CNA Surety, Olsson, and Best Buy Corporation**, underscoring the value of a DSU education in both public and private sectors.

The data reflects not only the strong placement outcomes across programs, but also the **employability and adaptability** of graduates in fields that require both specialized knowledge and broad-based skills. Importantly, the data also reflects the impact of DSU's commitment to providing students with a strong liberal arts foundation that supports lifelong learning and professional versatility. Many graduates chose to build on their undergraduate experience by entering graduate programs, pursuing advanced study in areas like the sciences, humanities, cybersecurity, and education.

Overall, the employment outcomes for the College of Arts and Sciences affirm its role—empowering students with the knowledge, creativity, and confidence to succeed in an interconnected and ever-changing world.

College of Business and Information Systems

Bachelor

- Business Administration (B.B.A.)
    - Accounting (B.B.A.)
    - Business Technology (B.B.A.)
    - Finance (B.B.A.)
    - Management (B.B.A.)
    - Marketing (B.B.A.)
- Business Education (B.S.Ed.) *See Education Section*
- Computer Education (B.S.Ed.) *See Education Section*
- Computer Information Systems (B.S.)
    - Application Development
    - Business Analytics
    - Health Informatics
    - Project Management
- Health Information Administration (B.S.)
- Health Informatics and Information Management (B.S.)

Associate

- Business Analytics (A.S.)
- Business Management (A.S.)
- Digital Accountancy (A.S.)
- Health Informatics and Information Management (A.S.)
- Health Information Technology (A.S.)
- Project Management (A.S)
- Web Development (A.S.)

College Totals

Total Number of Graduates	50
• Total Number of Degrees Awarded	56
(Some graduates earned multiple degrees)	
Graduates Accounted For:	46
• Employed	38
• Continuing Education	8 (17.4%)
• Unable To Contact	4
Total Placed	46
College Placement Percentage	**100%**

Business Administration (B.B.A.)

(Specializations in: Accounting, Business Technology, Finance, Management, Marketing)

Total Number of Graduates	20
Graduates Accounted For	19
• Employed	14
• Continuing Education	5
• Unable To Contact	1
Total Placed	19
Program Placement Percentage	**100%**
Average Entry Salary	$54,718.00
Salary Response	57.1%

Notable Employers & Positions:
- Amazon - Fulfillment Technologies & Robotics
- Bluestar Investments - Accounting
- Liberty First Credit Union - Branch Manager/Loan Officer
- PREMIER Bankcard - Marketing Coordinator
- Vantage Point Solutions - Analyst

Business Analytics (A.S.)

Total Number of Graduates	1
Graduates Accounted For:	1
• Employed	1
Total Placed	1
Program Placement Percentage	**100%**
Average Entry Salary	No Salary Available

Business Management (A.S.)

Total Number of Graduates	9
Graduates Accounted For:	8
• Employed	6
• Continuing Education	2
• Unable To Contact	1
Total Placed	8
Program Placement Percentage	**100%**
Average Entry Salary	$71,380.00
Salary Response	33.3%

Notable Employers & Positions:
- Black Hills Federal Credit Union - Payment Services Specialist
- CNH - Program Manager

Computer Information Systems (B.S.)

(Specializations in: Application Development, Business Analytics, Health Informatics, Project Management)

Total Number of Graduates	13
Graduates Accounted For:	11
• Employed	10
• Continuing Education	1
• Unable To Contact	2
Total Placed	11
Program Placement Percentage	**100%**
Average Entry Salary	$60,186.67
Salary Response	60.0%

Notable Employers & Positions:
- CAPITAL Services - Project Manager
- Colorado State University - System Administrator
- DigiKey - Engineer

Digital Accounting (A.S.)

Total Number of Graduates	1
Graduates Accounted For:	1
• Employed	1
Total Placed	1
Program Placement Percentage	**100%**
Average Entry Salary	$45,760.00
Salary Response	100%

Health Information Administration (B.S.)

Total Number of Graduates	5
Graduates Accounted For:	5
• Employed	5
Total Placed	5
Program Placement Percentage	**100%**
Average Entry Salary	$43,108.00
Salary Response	40.0%

Notable Employers & Positions:
- Brookings Health System - Coding Specialist

Health Informatics and Information Management (B.S.)

Total Number of Graduates	1
Graduates Accounted For:	1
• Employed	1
Total Placed	1
Program Placement Percentage	**100%**
Average Entry Salary	No salary data available

Notable Employers & Positions:
- Grand Island Regional Medical Center – HIM Specialist

Health Information Technology (A.S.)

Total Number of Graduates	2
Graduates Accounted For:	2
• Employed	2
Total Placed	2
Program Placement Percentage	**100%**
Average Entry Salary	$38,605.00
Salary Response	100%

Project Management (A.S.)

Total Number of Graduates	1
Graduates Accounted For:	1
• Employed	1
Total Placed	1
Program Placement Percentage	**100%**
Average Entry Salary	$97,000.00
Salary Response	100%

Web Development (A.S.)

Total Number of Graduates	2
Graduates Accounted For	2
• Employed	2
Total Placed	2
Program Placement Percentage	**100%**
Average Entry Salary	$53,500.00
Salary Response	100%

Notable Employers & Positions:
- Brandon Valley School District - Assistant Technology Coordinator

College of Business & Information Systems Summary of Employment Trends

The College of Business and Information Systems at Dakota State University continues to demonstrate exceptional outcomes in graduate employment and continued education, with a **100% placement rate** for graduates who were accounted for. Among the 50 total graduates from the most recent reporting period, 46 were successfully tracked. Of those, 38 graduates (82%) entered the workforce directly, while 8 (17%) pursued further education, underscoring the college's dual strength in preparing students for both immediate employment and graduate-level academic pursuits.

Bachelor's degree programs, particularly **Business Administration (B.B.A.)** and **Computer Information Systems (B.S.)**, showed strong performance with full placement and competitive starting salaries. Business Administration graduates, who specialized in areas such as Accounting, Finance, Management, Marketing, and Business Technology, reported an average starting salary of $54,718, with employment at notable organizations like Amazon, PREMIER Bankcard, and Liberty First Credit Union. Meanwhile, Computer Information Systems graduates, with emphasis ranging from Application Development to Health Informatics, earned an average of $60,186 with placements including roles at CAPITAL Services and DigiKey.

Associate-level programs also exhibited outstanding placement outcomes. **Business Management (A.S.)** and **Project Management (A.S.)** stood out, with the latter boasting the highest reported starting salary at $97,000. Other associate programs, such as **Web Development, Digital Accounting, Health Information Technology,** and **Business Analytics**, all achieved full employment for their graduates, reinforcing the value and demand of these credentials in today's job market.

The Health Information Administration (B.S.) and Health Information Technology (A.S.) programs also maintained perfect placement records, with graduates securing positions in healthcare settings.

Across all programs, the data reflects a **consistent and robust alignment with workforce needs**, complemented by the college's strategic focus on career readiness and professional placement. Graduates are securing meaningful employment across a variety of industries, including finance, healthcare, technology, education, and logistics. The strong performance in both salary and placement percentages illustrates the college's continued success in cultivating professionals who are not only employable but also well-compensated and well-prepared to contribute to their fields.

The College of Business and Information Systems has positioned itself as a leader in workforce preparation, with graduates achieving remarkable success across both traditional business and technology-driven domains.

College of Education & Human Performance

Bachelor

- Elementary Education (B.S.Ed.)
- Elementary Education/Special Education (B.S.Ed.)
- Exercise Science (B.S.)
- Mathematics Education (B.S.Ed.)
- Secondary Education (B.S.Ed.)
    - Biology Education (B.S.Ed.)
    - Business Education (B.S.Ed.)
    - Computer Education (B.S.Ed.)
    - English Education (B.S.Ed.)
    - Mathematics Education (B.S.Ed.)

College Totals

Total Number of Graduates	72
• Total Number of Degrees Awarded	72
Graduates Accounted For:	70
• Employed	60
• Continuing Education	9 (12.9%)
• Not Seeking Employment	1
• Unable To Contact	2
Total Placed	69
College Placement Percentage	**100%**

Exercise Science (B.S.)

Total Number of Graduates	10
Graduates Accounted For:	9
• Employed	3
• Continuing Education	6
• Unable To Contact	1
Total Placed	9
Program Placement Percentage	**100%**
Average Entry Salary	$42,000.00
Salary Response	33.3%

Elementary Education (B.S.Ed.)

Total Number of Graduates	36
Graduates Accounted For:	35
• Employed	33
• Continuing Education	1
• Not Seeking Employment	1
• Unable To Contact	1
Total Placed	34
Program Placement Percentage	**100%**
Average Entry Salary	$47,072.50
Salary Response	60.6%

Notable Employers & Positions:
- School Districts throughout South Dakota, Minnesota & Wyoming

Secondary Education (B.S.Ed.)

Total Number of Graduates	14
Graduates Accounted For:	14
• Employed	12
• Continuing Education	2
Total Placed	14
Program Placement Percentage	**100%**
Average Entry Salary	$47,099.66
Salary Response	58.3%

Notable Employers & Positions:
- School Districts throughout South Dakota, Minnesota, Nebraska, Arizona

NOTE: Secondary Education Programs include Biology, Business, Computer, English, Math, and Physical Education

Elementary/Special Education (B.S.Ed.)

Total Number of Graduates	12
Graduates Accounted For:	12
• Employed	12
Total Placed	12
Program Placement Percentage	**100%**
Average Entry Salary	$48,602.43
Salary Response	58.3%

Notable Employers & Positions:
- School Districts throughout South Dakota

College of Education & Human Performance Summary of Employment Trends

The College of Education and Human Performance at Dakota State University continues to be a cornerstone of the university's mission to prepare compassionate, highly capable educators and human services professionals. With a strong emphasis on practical experience, instructional excellence, and student-centered learning, the college empowers graduates with the tools necessary to meet the evolving needs of schools, communities, and organizations across the region and beyond.

Graduates from this college consistently demonstrate strong employment outcomes. Whether pursuing licensure in teaching or entering the workforce in roles that support wellness, leadership, and development, alumni of the college are making meaningful contributions across educational institutions, public service sectors, and community-focused organizations.

Employment trends reflect both high demand and successful preparation for graduates in programs such as elementary and secondary education, special education, physical education, and human services. A significant portion of graduates secure full-time teaching positions immediately after graduation, with others continuing into graduate study in areas such as curriculum development, counseling, or educational leadership. Placement rates across the college remain consistently high, underscoring the relevance and effectiveness of DSU's educator preparation programs.

Graduates have gone on to serve in a variety of roles including K–12 classroom teachers, athletic coaches, school counselors, paraprofessionals, and directors of student support services. Many are employed within South Dakota's public and private school systems, while others have taken positions in neighboring states, reflecting the broad geographic reach and reputation of the college. In addition to traditional school settings, some alumni have found success in community-based organizations, youth development programs, and human performance or wellness initiatives—demonstrating the versatility of a degree from this college.

One of the college's most dynamic and forward-looking programs is **Exercise Science**, which has emerged as an excellent **pre-professional degree** for students aiming to enter high-demand health careers. A majority of Exercise Science graduates are choosing to continue their education in graduate or professional schools, pursuing fields such as **physical therapy (PT), occupational therapy (OT), chiropractic care, dentistry, pre-medical studies**, and other advanced health sciences. The program's strong foundation in anatomy, physiology, biomechanics, and human performance provides the rigorous preparation needed for success in these competitive pathways, while also fostering a holistic understanding of health and wellness.

Students in Exercise Science benefit from hands-on learning experiences, including internships and laboratory work, that strengthen their applications for advanced study. This pathway not only supports their long-term career goals but also aligns with national trends emphasizing preventative care and integrated wellness approaches in healthcare.
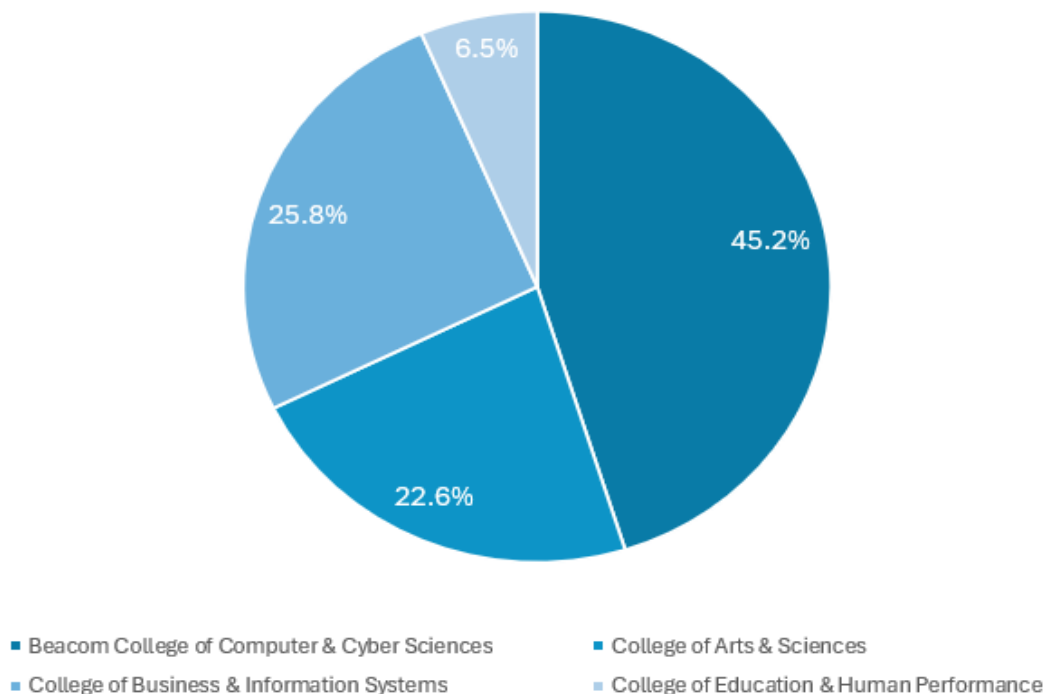
Employers value DSU graduates not only for their academic preparation but also for their readiness to lead classrooms, engage learners, and adapt to the complex demands of modern education. Whether stepping directly into their first teaching position or furthering their expertise through graduate school, graduates of the College of Education and Human Performance are exceptionally well-prepared to guide, support, and inspire the next generation.

As the demand for skilled educators and human performance professionals continues to grow, the college remains committed to graduating individuals who are not only job-ready but purpose-driven—equipped to make lasting, positive impacts in schools and communities across the region.

Transfers

Total Number of Graduates	**31**
Total Number of Degrees Awarded	32
College	**Graduates**
Beacom College of Computer & Cyber Sciences	14
College of Arts & Sciences	7
College of Business & Information Systems	8
College of Education & Human Performance	2

* Note: Graduates are counted per college for each degree earned.
* Note: Graduates earning certificate degrees only are not included in the individual college counts

College	**Degrees**
Beacom College of Computer & Cyber Sciences	14
College of Arts & Sciences	7
College of Business & Information Systems	9
College of Education & Human Performance	2
SD Residents Employed in SD	81.8%
Non-SD Residents Employed in SD	7.1%

Graduates by College

- Beacom College of Computer & Cyber Sciences
- College of Arts & Sciences
- College of Business & Information Systems
- College of Education & Human Performance

Online

Total Number of Graduates	104
Total Number of Degrees Awarded	109

College	Graduates
Beacom College of Computer & Cyber Sciences	60
College of Arts & Sciences	9
College of Business & Information Systems	17
College of Education & Human Performance	19

* Note: Graduates are counted per college for each degree earned.
** Note: Graduates earning certificate degrees only are not included in the individual college counts

College	Degrees
Beacom College of Computer & Cyber Sciences	61
College of Arts & Sciences	9
College of Business & Information Systems	20
College of Education & Human Performance	19

SD Residents Employed in SD	86.7%
Non-SD Residents Employed in SD	2.6%

Graduates by College

- Beacom College of Computer & Cyber Sciences — 57.1%
- College of Arts & Sciences — 8.6%
- College of Business & Information Systems — 16.2%
- College of Education & Human Performance — 18.1%