

# Post-Graduation Undergraduate Class of 2024 Career Outcomes Report

**Mary Toso | Student Success Center** 

At Augustana University, graduates launch their careers and make a difference in their communities with confidence, compassion and a commitment to excellence. Guided by its core values — Christian, Liberal Arts, Excellence, Community and Service — they embody the skills and mindset needed to succeed in an ever-changing world.

In this report, Augustana proudly celebrates the accomplishments of its graduates who have secured fulfilling careers, pursued advanced education and committed to meaningful service. Their journeys are a testament to the transformative power of an Augustana education. AU looks forward to staying connected as they continue to excel and make an impact.

## **METHODOLOGY & AGGREGATE STATISTICS**

Each year, Augustana University releases its First Destinations Report, which includes data on the career outcomes, job placement and continuing education acceptance rates for the graduating class (i.e., cohorts from August, December and May of the previous academic year). Augustana uses the methodology outlined by the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) to report on the professional destinations of alumni within six months of graduation.

The Student Success Center attempts to connect with all graduates to ensure a comprehensive overview of their accomplishments. The Student Success Center Team uses a variety of methods to gather this information. Outreach begins with a survey, followed by individual phone calls, emails and social media messages. Staff also connect with professors and academic advisors to collect information as students are often eager to share their updates with these important mentors. The collection of this verified information results in a knowledge rate that reflects the data known

I had a great time building relationships that will last a lifetime.

— Jarod Epperson '23
Exercise Science
Athletic Training, M.A. '24

for the destination of graduates. This report contains information on the Class of 2024. Augustana located information for 89% of these graduates, which exceeds NACE's recommended minimum of 65%.

Table 1 below includes information for the Class of 2024. Among the graduates who provided information, 99% achieved a positive career outcome and reported working, continuing their education, volunteering, serving in the military or not seeking employment. (Individuals seeking employment or admission into a continuing education program are not considered a positive career outcome.) Similarly, 99% of respondents who aspired to work secured full or part-time employment.

Graduates of Augustana embark on their careers with confidence — empowered by the university's distinctive approach to vocational preparation. From their first year to graduation, students benefit from personalized guidance provided by both faculty academic advisors and dedicated success advisors. First-year students engage in a vocational

exploration and planning course, setting the foundation for their academic and professional journey. Sophomores have the opportunity to deepen this exploration during a retreat designed to help them discern and pursue their callings. Juniors can be paired with alumni mentors in their chosen fields, offering invaluable connections and insights. Nearly every student engages in transformative signature experiences, including internships, practicums, fieldwork, research, creative projects and study away programs. By their senior year, students are well-prepared and routinely connect with graduate schools and employers through career fairs and other networking opportunities. This holistic approach, rooted in Augustana's core values, ensures its graduates are ready to thrive and make a meaningful impact.

- Full-Time, Career-Related/Chosen Employment: Working 30 hours or more per week Part-Time, Career-Related/Chosen Employment: Working fewer than 30 hours per week
- 2 Volunteer Service
- 2 Military Service
- 89 Continuing Education
- 1 Seeking Employment
- 1 Seeking Continuing Education
- 19 Not Seeking Employment or Continuing Education
- 37 No Information Available: Have not provided information
- 343 Total Number of Undergraduate Degree Recipients



The most meaningful experiences I had at Augie occurred while I was participating in track or cross country, studying away in Alaska or taking English courses. All of these experiences helped me to further understand who I am and who I wish to be. These experiences also introduced me to the best mentors and great friends, which will last long after I graduate.

— Caroline Sudbeck '24 English, Secondary Education



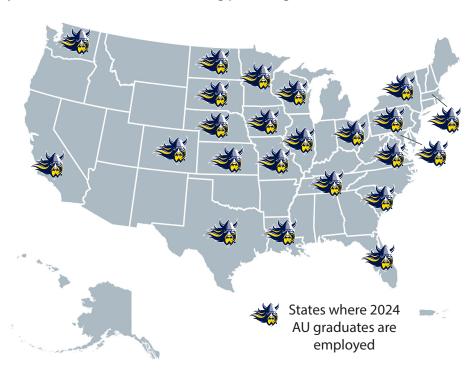
# **GEOGRAPHICAL DESTINATION**

Augustana graduates reported working across the United States, as well as in Norway, Paraguay, Spain and the United Arab Emirates. Among graduates who reported working in the U.S., 61% were employed in South Dakota. The region of Sioux Falls retained 55% of those who stayed in South Dakota. The remaining percentage landed in 22 other states.

Everything about my experience at Augie was meaningful. It's the community, the dedication from both the faculty and students, and the common goal of building up one another that made my Augie experience transformative.

— Yue Wang '24 Psychology, Biology

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# **AVERAGE SALARIES**

Across all respondents employed full-time, 23% provided salary information. The mean salary for undergraduate students in the Class of 2024 was \$54,770, with a median salary of \$54,500. Only aggregate salary information is published because sample sizes are small for academic programs and survey respondents were informed that their responses were confidential. Readers are instead encouraged to browse salary information published by the U.S. Department of Labor or the National Association of Colleges & Employers.

#### **EMPLOYERS**

Augustana graduates land competitive positions at premier organizations. In total, graduates secured positions at 132 unique organizations. Top employers include Avera Health, Sanford Health, as well as the Sioux Falls School District (SFSD). Hiring organizations of full-time employees are noted in Table 2.

# **Table 2**Organizations That Hired Full-Time AU Employees

A Homestead Brew Abby Kelley Foster Charter Public School

Abiding Savior Free Lutheran Church Aerotek Amazon

American Heart Association Heartcore

Augustana University Auxiliar de Conversación

Avera Health

Bethel School District Blue Light Investigations, LLC

**Boston Scientific** 

**Brainard Public School District** 

**Bridges Trust** 

**Bright Prospects Cooperative Preschool** 

**BSN Sports** 

Canby Public School District Canton School District

CCL Label Central Bank

Children's Home Society of South Dakota

Children's Nebraska City of Sioux Falls CLUTCH Performance CommonSpirit Health Denver Health

Digital Twin Imaging DMM Systems Dordt University Ecolibrium3 EmBe

**Encore Learning Center** 

Epic Epicosity Evergreen Health Exact Marketing

Fairview Health Services First Bank & Trust First PREMIER Bank Floor & Decor

Floor & Deco Florida Blue

Fountain School District No. 8 Freeport-McMoran Audubon Species Survival Center

Fresh Produce

Granada Huntley East Chain School District

**Grand Forks Public Schools** 

Gravity Global Great Plains Reporting H.Art and Health LLC Halifax Health

Hancock Public School District Harrisburg School District Holy Spirit Catholic Church Home Warranty of the Midwest Inc.

I&G Assistance Interpreter Services JDS Industries

Lakeville Public School District Lethert, Skwira, Schultz & Co. LLP

Lloyd Companies Lutheran Social Services

Martin County West School District Math and Science Academy

Mayo Clinic McLean Hospital

Medical University of South Carolina MedStar Georgetown University Hospital

Michaels

Mickelson & Company, LLC MicroBio Consulting

Middleton-Cross Plains Area School District

Minnehaha County Minotaur Books Mitchell School District Montevideo Public Schools Monument Health Morningside Academy

Mounds View Public School District

NAI Sioux Falls NBC Sports NCM Associates North Memorial Hospital Northrop Grumman

Northwestern Mutual

PeakTew Hooyer Farm Pho Thai

Rapid City Area School District

Rescale

Riverview International Center Robinsdale Public School District

RSM RTI, LLC SAIC

Sanford Health

Service First Federal Credit Union

Sibley-Ocheyedan Community School District

Sioux Falls Canaries Sioux Falls School District Sioux Falls YMCA

Siouxland Heritage Museum

SONIFI Health

South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks Stan Houston Equipment Company

State Farm

State of South Dakota

StretchLab Stryker

Summit Oaks Center Sunbird Software Swedish Medical Center Tacheny Exteriors

Target Tenaska

Ticktin Law Group Touchmark at All Saints

Transamerica United Hospital

United States House of Representatives

**Unity Point** 

**US Math Recovery Council** 

Viaflex

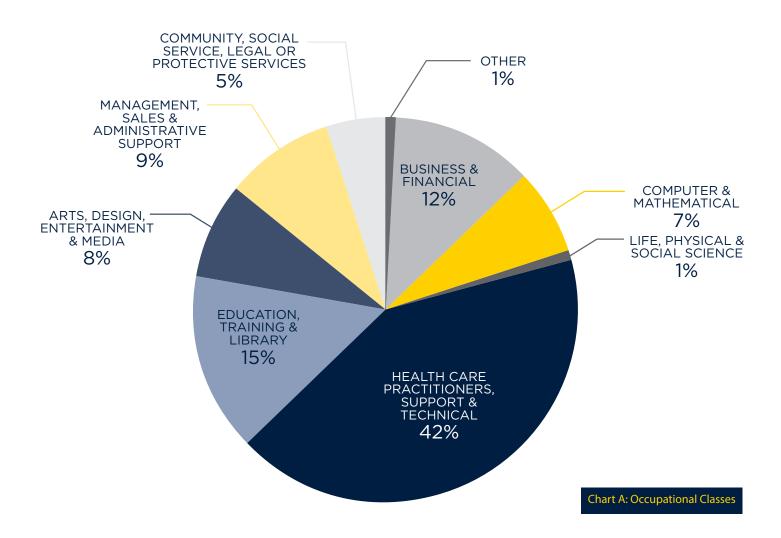
Viessman Trucking Watertown School District Wausau School District

Wells Fargo Bank, National Association

Wilkinson Barker Knauer, LLP Williams & Company P.C. Wilson Plumbing Windsor Mortgage Wolters Kluwer Health Yankton School District

### **OCCUPATIONAL CLASSIFICATION**

Augustana graduates secured employment in diverse occupational classifications defined by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics — demonstrating the multiple qualifications embedded in Augustana's liberal arts degrees. Popular occupational areas included health care, education, as well as business and financial operations. The top occupational classifications are highlighted below.







#### **CONTINUING EDUCATION OUTCOMES**

Among all respondents, 26% enrolled in graduate school or professional programs. Of the students who sought admission or continuing education, 99% were admitted. Most students who pursued additional undergraduate education enrolled in courses at Augustana. Graduate and professional schools that admitted AU graduates are included in Table 3.



The most significant experience I had at AU was being part of the Augustana International Club. I got to meet friends from all over the world! It was also great being on the cheer team. I was able get students excited about being involved and active.

— Mary Christensen '24 Exercise Science



# **Table 3**Institutions Where AU Graduates Continued Their Education

#### **Allied Health**

Augustana University, Athletic Training (5)
Briar Cliff University, Physical Therapy
Catawba College, Exercise Science
Cleveland University-Kansas City, Chiropractic
Mayo Clinic, Medical Laboratory Science
Michigan College, Optometry
Minnesota State University Moorhead, Speech Language
Pathology
Northwestern College, Physician Assistant

Northwestern College, Physician Assistant
Northwestern Health Science University, Chiropractic
Palmer College of Chiropractic, Chiropractic
Parker University, Chiropractic
Southwest Baptist University, Physical Therapy
Texas A&M, Nutrition

University of North Texas, Speech Language Pathology University of South Dakota, Medical Lab Science University of South Dakota, Occupational Therapy (2) University of South Dakota, Speech Language Pathology University of Utah, Speech Language Pathology University of Wisconsin La Crosse, Physical Therapy

# **Business Administration, Public Administration & Sports Administration**

Augustana University, Business Administration (11)
Augustana University, Sports Administration & Leadership (10)
University of Louisville, Public Health in Health Policy &
Health Administration

University of South Dakota, Kinesiology and Sport Management William Woods University, Business Analytics

#### **Engineering**

Washington University, Mechanical Engineering

#### **Humanities**

Tufts University, Studio Art University of North Texas, Music Business University of York, Music Production and Audio Cultures Western Illinois University, Museum Studies

#### Law

Lewis & Clark College

#### Medicine

Boston University University of Budapest, Veterinary School University of Colorado, Pharmacy School University of Iowa University of Minnesota University of Nebraska Medical Center (2) University of South Dakota (4)

## **Natural Sciences**

Mississippi State University, Entomology South Dakota State University, Animal Science Tulane University, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology University of Florida, Microbiology and Cell Science

#### **Seminary, Social Sciences & Education**

Arizona State University, Counseling Augustana University, Education (4) Augustana University, Special Education: Applied Behavior Analysis (2)

Minnesota State University Mankato, Mental Health Counseling Northern State University, Education

University of Central Florida, Communication Sciences and Disorders

University of Exeter, Anthropology University of Kansas, Anthropology University of Minnesota-Duluth, Education University of Wisconsin-Madison, Communication Sciences and Disorders

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Social Work

## Other

Arsutoria School, Shoe Design National Academy of Sports Medicine, Certified Personal Trainer 66

The most significant experience that I had at AU was the experiences I had through the ASL department. The engagement with the Deaf community puts AU in a great spot. Being able to be immersed into that culture allows for so many transformative experiences, and helped me to learn so much about a community I had very little information about. With this experience it allows me to relish in the victories of the community, but also to be inclusive and aware of the struggles of the community.

— Elliot Doyle '24 Philosophy

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The most significant experience I had at
Augustana University was the opportunities I had within the nursing department. I was able to learn and see so much through the clinicals I had been provided. I also had the opportunity to be a senior mentor and help the incoming nursing class and guide them. The nursing department is so excellent, and I am beyond grateful to have been given guidance from amazing faculty.

— Luke Bacialli '24 Nursing



The most significant experience I had at AU was starting the bee program at Augie. I benefited from it because I gained experience in beekeeping, local law, building and research. Because of this, I added another major in environmental studies and will be attending graduate school to study bees through an entomology degree.

— Janae Becher '24 Biochemistry, German, Environmental Studies The most significant experience I had at AU was the time spent with my friends freshman year. We all shared this strong bond right off the bat, and it persisted throughout my time at Augie. From it, I gained life lasting relationships, and could find my home away from home.

— Soniel Ngnotchue '24 Biochemistry

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The most significant experience I had at AU was the support I received from faculty and my advisors.

— Debanhi
Adame-Hernandez '24
Communication Disorders,
Spanish