

Alumni Employment Report

Class of 2019

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UW-Madison iSchool Class of 2019 – A Brief Overview

The University of Wisconsin-Madison Information School graduated 81 master’s students in May, August, and December 2019. Thirty-two of the graduates responded to the employment survey. Of respondents, the majority (97%) reported being employed. That number increases to 100% if the one person who continued graduate studies, and therefore is not employed, is not counted. Of the respondents, 31% reported finding jobs before graduation and 34% returned to a previous (or ongoing) employer. About half of the respondents (53%) reported working in public or academic libraries, and 44% reported employment in other information environments including government agencies, private industry, and school libraries.

Table 1: Comparative Placement Data 2013-2017

Graduation Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Number of graduates (from Graduate School Statistics)	86 (26 responses)	73 (47 responses)	94 (54 responses)	68 (39 responses)	81 (32 responses)
Employment rate of respondents	92%	100%	96%	100%	97% (100% if take out continuing student)
Employment in LIS institution	20	33	40	31	26
Employed outside of LIS field	2	4	10	7	5
Unemployed	2	0	4	0	1
If unemployed, or employed outside of the LIS field, Are you currently seeking employment within the LIS field?	2 yes 6 no	//	2 yes 1 no	//	No (ongoing studies)
No response to survey		17	40	30	49
Survey response rate	30%	63%	57%	55%	40%

Table 2: Types of Employers and Salaries for UW-Madison iSchool graduates as of summer 2017

Graduation Year	2015	2016**	2017	2018	2019
Known Number Employed	26		50	37	33
(type of agency)					
Academic library	7		11	10	4
Other academic unit	0		2	1	4
Archives	1		3	2	1
School library	0		1	0	2
Public library	10		21	13	13
Special library (medical, art, corporate, museum)***	1		1	0	/
Government library (state or federal)*	1		2	3	2
Other government agency*	1		0	1	1
Library cooperative/network*	1		1	0	1
Vendor (automation, database)*	1		/	0	/
Nonprofit organization other than a library*	1		1	3	/
Private industry*	2		4	1	3
Unemployed	0		4	0	1
Other	0		3	3	2
Mean salary	\$ 46,135	\$ 42,404	\$ 47,679	\$54,497	\$54,110
Median salary	\$ 50,000	\$ 43,000	\$ 47,800	\$49,500	\$47,000
Respondents reporting salary	10		26	21	19

*Category added in 2015

**Type of agency not recorded in 2016 report

*** Special library and Archives merged in 2019 survey

The mean salary reported was \$54,110. The median was \$47,000. Hourly salary rates reported were highly variable ranging from \$13 an hour to \$50 an hour. The mean reported hourly salary rate was \$23.88. The median was \$21.35.

Table 3: Field of Employment of UW-Madison iSchool graduates as of summer 2019

	On-campus (+ hybrid)	Online	Total
Number of graduates responding to survey	25	7	32
Employed in LIS institution	18	5	23
Employed in LIS capacity, but not in LIS institution	3	0	3
Employed outside LIS field	3	2	5
Unemployed	1	0	1
If unemployed, or employed outside of the LIS field, are you currently seeking employment within the LIS field?			No; is a continuing student

Table 4: Breakdown of Employer Type, Time to Employment, Location and Salary

	On-campus (+hybrid)	Online	Total
Number Employed			
Full-time/Part-time			
Full-time	20	6	26
Part-time	4	1	5
No response	1	0	1
Permanent/Temporary			
Permanent	23	13	25
Temporary	1	0	1

No response	5	1	6
Type of library/agency			
Academic library	4	0	4
Other academic unit	3	1	4
Archives/Special Collections	0	1	1
School library	2	0	2
Public library	10	3	13
Special library (medical, art, corporate, museum) (merged with Archives)	/	/	/
Government library (state or federal)*	2	0	2
Other government agency*	1	0	1
Library cooperative/network*	1	0	1
Vendor (automation, database)**	/	/	/
Nonprofit organization other than a library**	/	/	/
Private industry*	2	1	3
Other	1	0	1
Not reported	1	0	1
Time to Find a Job			
Returned to previous job/employer	5	6	11
Found job prior to graduation	9	1	10
Location	Wisconsin: 15 Other locations one each, New Hampshire, Maryland, Colorado, Virginia, Michigan, Minnesota, DC, (+2 not reported)	Wisconsin: 2 Other locations: Iowa (2), 1 each, Indiana, Montana + one remote in USA	Wisconsin: 17 Other locations: Iowa (2), one each, New Hampshire, Indiana, Maryland, Colorado, Virginia, Michigan, Minnesota, DC, Montana, one remote in USA + 2 not reported
Salary: FT Equivalent			
Average			
Median			
Salary: FT only			
Mean	\$49,542	\$66,900	\$54,110
Median	\$47,500	\$46,000	\$47,000

Total reported	14	5	19
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* Category added in 2015

**Vendor and Nonprofit were not included in 2019