

LAKE SUPERIOR STATE UNIVERSITY

Graduate Survey Report Spring 2020

The data in this report is primarily a summary of data taken from the Spring 2020 Graduate Survey, but it also includes some general information about the number of degrees awarded and the level of degree. The survey was administered through the Class Climate system to all Spring 2020 graduates six months after graduation. New to the survey is a question about the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on their employment.

For graduates in the Spring 2020, the Dean’s Council under the leadership of the Provost set a goal of increasing the response rate from past surveys in all areas and making the reporting and analysis of the data more uniform across the University as a whole. Graduates were first contacted by the deans through email. For those that did not respond, they were then contacted again by staff and faculty using a variety of methods. This new approach yielded a higher response rate and a clearer picture of LSSU graduates six months after graduation.

Degrees Awarded

There were **320 degrees** awarded in Spring 2020 to **239 unique individuals**. Of the 320 degrees awarded, **0.9% were at the certificate level, 27.8% at the associate level, and 71.3% at the bachelor level**. All of the degrees awarded at the certificate level were earned by graduates also earning another degree. Only 16 of the 239 individuals, or 6.7%, earned an associate degree without a bachelor’s degree. In fact, many graduates earn multiple degrees at the same time. In a majority of cases, this is a certificate or associate degree and a bachelor’s degree, but in some cases students earn multiple bachelor’s degrees. The following table, **Table 1**, breaks the data down by the number of degrees earned.

Number of Degrees Earned	Number of Graduates	Percentage of Graduates
One Degree	177	74.1%
Two Degrees	44	18.4%
Three Degrees	17	7.1%
Four Degrees	1	0.4%
	239	100%

Table 1: Number of Concurrent Degrees Earned by Graduates

Degrees are broken down by College and School in **Table 2** on the next page. For a list of programs by School, please see **Appendix A**. These data show that the College of Criminal Justice and Emergency Responders award the most degrees, although not having the highest number of individual graduates. The School of Criminal Justice, Fire Science, and Emergency Services also has the most graduates at the School level. The College of Innovation and Solutions had the highest number of individual graduates. Note that some individuals earned degrees from two different Schools, so the numbers in the last column

will not sum to 239. A majority of students earning multiple degrees, earned those degrees from the same School.

College	School	Degrees Awarded	Individuals by School*
College of Criminal Justice and Emergency Responders	School of Criminal Justice, Fire Science, and Emergency Services	76	44
College of Education and Liberal Arts	School of Arts and Letters	3	3
	School of Education	11	10
	School of General Studies	29	26
College of Health and Behavior	School of Kinesiology and Behavioral Sciences	37	27
	School of Nursing	25	25
College of Innovation and Solutions	Lukenda School of Business	42	37
	School of Computer Science and Mathematics	7	7
	School of Engineering and Technology	33	28
College of Science and the Environment	School of Natural Resources and Environment	33	29
	School of Science and Medicine	24	20
		320	

Table 2: Number of Degrees and Individuals by School

Response Rate

The **overall response rate of those surveyed was 84.1%**. Removing overlap from multiple degrees across Schools in order to not double-count individuals, the response rate can be broken down as follows in **Table 3**.

College	School	Unique Individuals without Double-Counting	Survey Responses	Response Rate	
College of Criminal Justice and Emergency Responders	School of Criminal Justice, Fire Science, and Emergency Services	44	31	70.5%	70.5%
College of Education and Liberal Arts	School of Arts and Letters	3	2	66.7%	77.8%
	School of Education	10	9	90.0%	
	School of General Studies	14	10	71.4%	
College of Health and Behavior	School of Kinesiology and Behavioral Sciences	26	21	80.8%	84.3%
	School of Nursing	25	23	92.0%	
College of Innovation and Solutions	Lukenda School of Business	35	34	97.1%	98.5%
	School of Computer Science and Mathematics	7	7	100.0%	
	School of Engineering and Technology	26	26	100.0%	
College of Science and the Environment	School of Natural Resources and Environment	29	23	79.3%	77.6%
	School of Science and Medicine	20	15	75.0%	
		239	201	84.1%	

Table 3: Individual Response Rate by School

If one instead bases the response rate on degrees conferred, the rates are as in **Table 4** on the next page.

College	School	Degrees Awarded	Responses by Degree	Response Rate by Degree	
College of Criminal Justice and Emergency Responders	School of Criminal Justice, Fire Science, and Emergency Services	76	58	76.3%	76.3%
College of Education and Liberal Arts	School of Arts and Letters	3	2	66.7%	86.0%
	School of Education	11	10	90.9%	
	School of General Studies	29	25	86.2%	
College of Health and Behavior	School of Kinesiology and Behavioral Sciences	37	30	81.1%	85.5%
	School of Nursing	25	23	92.0%	
College of Innovation and Solutions	Lukenda School of Business	42	41	97.6%	98.8%
	School of Computer Science and Mathematics	7	7	100.0%	
	School of Engineering and Technology	33	33	100.0%	
College of Science and the Environment	School of Natural Resources and Environment	33	25	75.8%	77.2%
	School of Science and Medicine	24	19	79.2%	
		320	273		85.3%

Table 4: Response Rate by Degrees Conferred

Employment

There were multiple questions on the survey about employment and employment in the field. The data in the next two tables also include some information about students continuing their education. Because students earning only an associate degree often continue and many of our programs have a high percentage of students seeking further study, it is valuable to view these numbers together. In a later section, those continuing their education will be broken down further to differentiate between those seeking further certification, bachelor's degrees, professional degrees, or graduate degrees.

Table 5 provides information about the employment and educational status of graduates by individual. The rates are separated by School. In most cases, there is some overlap between graduates who are employed with those who are continuing their education, so the overall rate is also included.

School	Employment Rate	Continuing Their Education	Employed or Continuing Their Education
School of Criminal Justice, Fire Science, and Emergency Services	86.7%	30.0%	90.3%
School of Arts and Letters	50.0%	50.0%	50.0%
School of Education	100.0%	22.2%	100.0%
School of General Studies	72.7%	36.4%	77.3%
School of Kinesiology and Behavioral Sciences	45.5%	81.8%	90.9%
School of Nursing	100.0%	4.3%	100.0%
Lukenda School of Business	75.0%	19.4%	83.3%
School of Computer Science and Mathematics	57.1%	42.9%	100.0%
School of Engineering and Technology	78.6%	21.4%	85.7%
School of Natural Resources and Environment	82.6%	26.1%	87.0%
School of Science and Medicine	73.3%	66.7%	100.0%
Overall	78.1%	31.3%	89.6%

Table 5: Rates of Employment and Continued Studies

Given the pandemic, lower rates than past surveys were somewhat expected in **Table 5**. Graduates were also asked if they were employed in a field related to their major. That information is included in **Table 6**, again seen through the lens of continuing studies. As can be seen in the table, the pandemic has affected employment in the field of study more than it did employment. It also affected areas that are considered less essential more than those areas that are working on the front line. Examples of employers and job titles are provided in **Appendix B**.

School	Employed in Field	Continuing Their Education	Employed or Continuing Their Education
School of Criminal Justice, Fire Science, and Emergency Services	60.0%	30.0%	71.0%
School of Arts and Letters	50.0%	50.0%	50.0%
School of Education	100.0%	22.2%	100.0%
School of General Studies	54.5%	36.4%	72.7%
School of Kinesiology and Behavioral Sciences	18.2%	81.8%	86.4%
School of Nursing	100.0%	4.3%	100.0%
Lukenda School of Business	36.1%	19.4%	50.0%
School of Computer Science and Mathematics	57.1%	42.9%	100.0%
School of Engineering and Technology	71.4%	21.4%	82.1%
School of Natural Resources and Environment	56.5%	26.1%	65.2%
School of Science and Medicine	60.0%	66.7%	86.7%
Overall	58.7%	31.3%	75.1%

Table 6: Employment in Field and Continuing Studies Rates

The Dean’s Council foresaw that the Covid-19 pandemic could have an impact on graduates’ ability to find employment. Anecdotally, they were aware of graduates whose job offers had been rescinded. To gauge this impact, they added a question to the survey that asked, “Has the COVID-19 pandemic caused the loss of a job or a job offer to be rescinded?” The rates of those reporting in the affirmative are included in **Table 7**.

School	Impacted by Covid
School of Criminal Justice, Fire Science, and Emergency Services	40.0%
School of Arts and Letters	100.0%
School of Education	11.1%
School of General Studies	50.0%
School of Kinesiology and Behavioral Sciences	54.5%
School of Nursing	8.7%
Lukenda School of Business	36.1%
School of Computer Science and Mathematics	28.6%
School of Engineering and Technology	10.7%
School of Natural Resources and Environment	56.5%
School of Science and Medicine	4.3%
Overall	30.80%

Table 7: Employment Impacted by Covid-19

Graduates were also asked whether or not they were actively seeking employment. These rates are included in **Table 8**.

School	Actively Seeking Employment
School of Criminal Justice, Fire Science, and Emergency Services	13.8%
School of Arts and Letters	50.0%
School of Education	0.0%
School of General Studies	18.2%
School of Kinesiology and Behavioral Sciences	13.6%
School of Nursing	0.0%
Lukenda School of Business	13.9%
School of Computer Science and Mathematics	14.3%
School of Engineering and Technology	10.7%
School of Natural Resources and Environment	21.7%
School of Science and Medicine	0.0%
Overall	11.4%

Table 8: Graduates Actively Seeking Employment

Graduates were asked whether or not they were employed in the state of Michigan. The rates in **Table 9** represent graduates employed in Michigan as a percentage of graduates who are employed (and not as overall rates which include those who are not employed).

School	Employed in Michigan
School of Criminal Justice, Fire Science, and Emergency Services	84.6%
School of Arts and Letters	100.0%
School of Education	100.0%
School of General Studies	81.3%
School of Kinesiology and Behavioral Sciences	70.0%
School of Nursing	91.3%
Lukenda School of Business	70.4%
School of Computer Science and Mathematics	50.0%
School of Engineering and Technology	63.6%
School of Natural Resources and Environment	73.7%
School of Science and Medicine	81.8%
Overall	77.1%

Table 9: Employed in Michigan

Graduates were asked for their starting salary. The data below in **Table 10** is based upon those graduates who said that they were employed in a field related to their major and who provided salary data. The data excludes graduate teaching and research assistantship salaries.

School	Average Salary in Field	Median Salary in Field
School of Criminal Justice, Fire Science, and Emergency Services	\$30,364	\$30,000
School of Arts and Letters	No Response	No Response
School of Education	\$30,800	\$34,000
School of General Studies	\$31,864	\$32,000
School of Kinesiology and Behavioral Sciences	\$32,667	\$39,000
School of Nursing	\$48,706	\$49,000
Lukenda School of Business	\$36,000	\$33,500
School of Computer Science and Mathematics	\$53,500	\$49,500
School of Engineering and Technology	\$58,184	\$60,000
School of Natural Resources and Environment	\$34,850	\$34,000
School of Science and Medicine	\$31,400	\$30,000

Table 10: Average and Median Salaries in Field

In Figure 11, boxplots showing the spread of the salary data.

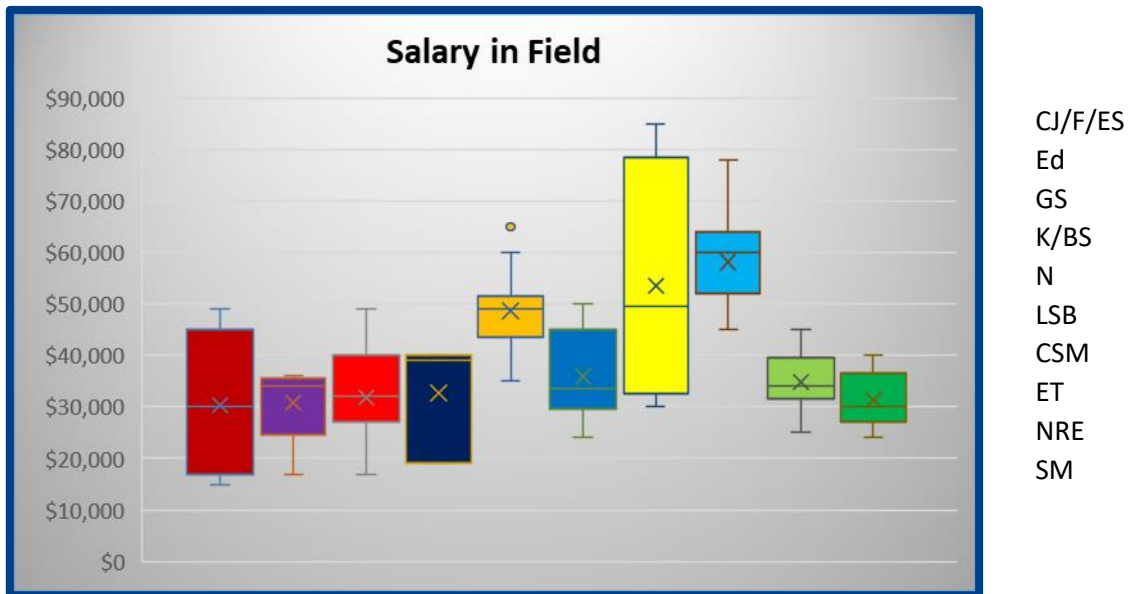


Figure 11: Spread of Salary Data

Continued Studies

The breakdown of the percentage of graduates who are continuing their studies is included in Table 12. A list of example graduate and professional schools is located in Appendix C.

School	Certificate	Bachelor's	Master's	Doctorate	Professional	Total
School of Criminal Justice, Fire Science, and Emergency Services	10.0%	6.7%	13.3%			30.0%
School of Arts and Letters			50.0%			50.0%
School of Education	11.1%		11.1%			22.2%
School of General Studies	4.5%	13.6%	13.6%	4.5%		36.4%
School of Kinesiology and Behavioral Sciences		4.5%	59.1%	13.6%	4.5%	81.8%
School of Nursing			4.3%			4.3%
Lukenda School of Business	5.6%		13.9%			19.4%
School of Computer Science and Mathematics	14.3%		14.3%	14.3%		42.9%
School of Engineering and Technology		3.6%	10.7%	7.1%		21.4%
School of Natural Resources and Environment		8.7%	17.4%			26.1%
School of Science and Medicine	6.7%		13.3%	33.3%	13.3%	66.7%
Overall	4.0%	4.0%	16.9%	5.0%	1.5%	31.4%

Table 12: Percentage of Graduates Continuing Studies by Level

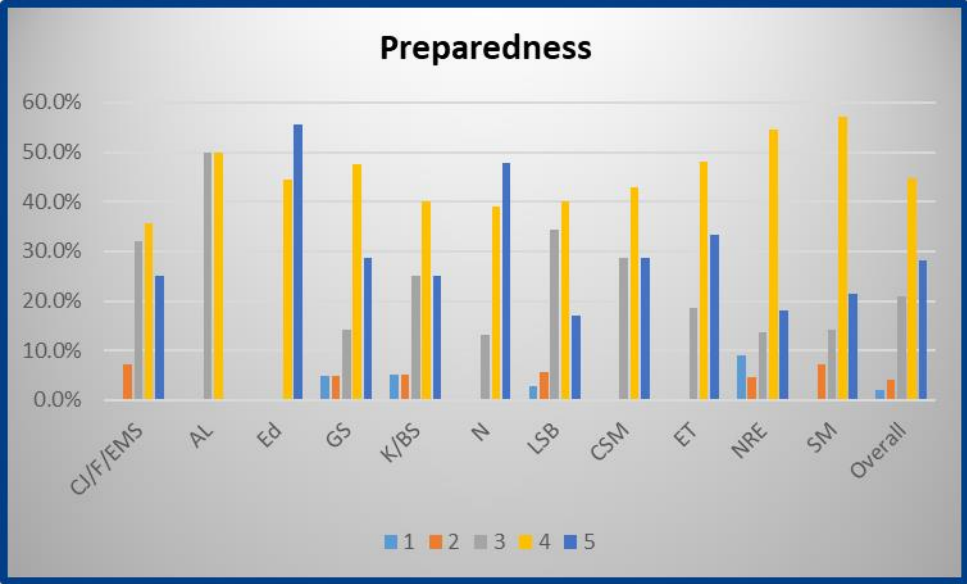
For those that are continuing in graduate and professional school, respondents further indicated whether or not they were admitted into one of their top three choices at the following rates. These data are summarized in **Table 13**.

School	Selected into Top 3
School of Criminal Justice, Fire Science, and Emergency Services	25.0%
School of Arts and Letters	No Response
School of Education	No Response
School of General Studies	50.0%
School of Kinesiology and Behavioral Sciences	64.7%
School of Nursing	100.0%
Lukenda School of Business	60.0%
School of Computer Science and Mathematics	100.0%
School of Engineering and Technology	40.0%
School of Natural Resources and Environment	50.0%
School of Science and Medicine	55.6%

Table 13: Percentage of Graduates in Graduate or Professional School Admitted to Top Three Choices

Preparedness

Graduates were asked to rate themselves on a scale from one to five in the area of preparedness. These data are shown in **Figure 14**. The question asked, **“How well do you feel your LSU degree prepared you for your work?”** A one on the scale reflected “not well prepared” and a five reflected “well prepared”. The figure contains data by School and the overall summary.



Appendix A

Programs by College and School

College of Criminal Justice and Emergency Responders

School of Criminal Justice, Fire Science, and Emergency Services

Program	Degrees Conferred
Criminal Justice Correction-A	2
Crim Jus Homeland Security-A	15
Criminal Justice Law Enforce-A	13
Paramedic Technology-AS	6
Criminal Justice Correction-BS	1
Criminal Justice Generalist-BS	3
Crim Jus Homeland Security-BS	2
Criminal Justice Law Enforcement-BS	5
Criminal Justice Public Safety-BS	1
Criminal Justice-BS	21
Fire Science Generalist with Certification-BS	6
Fire Science Generalist Non-Certification-BS	1

College of Education and Liberal Arts

School of Arts and Letters

Program	Degrees Conferred
English Language Literature Secondary Teaching-BA	1
Literature-Creative Writing-BA	1
Literature-BA	1

School of Education

Program	Degrees Conferred
Early Childhood Education-A	1
English Lang Lit Elem Ed-BA	1
Early Childhood Education-BS	5
Elementary Education-BS	4

School of General Studies

Program	Degrees Conferred
General Studies-A	14
Liberal Arts-AA	6
General Studies-BS	9

College of Health and Behavior

School of Kinesiology and Behavioral Sciences

Program	Degrees Conferred
Health Fitness Specialist-A	6
Social Work	2
Substance Abuse Prev/Trtmt	1
History-BA (PE)	6
Kinesiology-BS	8
Political Science-BS	4
Psychology-BS	9
Social Science-BS	1

School of Nursing

Program	Degrees Conferred
Nursing-Post Licensure-BS	1
Nursing-BS	24

College of Innovation and Solutions

Lukenda School of Business

Program	Degrees Conferred
Business Administration-A	4
Accounting-BS	8
Business Administration-Entrepreneurship-	3
Business Administration-Marketing-BS	4
Business Administration-Management-BS	7
Business Administration-BS	7
Finance and Economics-BS	8
E-Marketing-C	1

School of Computer Science and Mathematics

Program	Degrees Conferred
Internet/Network Specialist-A	1
Computer Networking-BS	1
Computer Science-BS	4
Mathematics-BS	1

School of Engineering and Technology

Program	Degrees Conferred
Electrical Engineering Technology-A	2
Manufacturing Engineering Technology-A	5
General Engineering-A	2
Computer Engineering-BS	7
Electrical Engineering-BS	3
Electrical Engineering Technology-BS	1
Mechanical Engineering-BS	10
Manufacturing Engineering Technology-BS	3

College of Science and the Environment

School of Natural Resources and Environment

Program	Degrees Conferred
Natural Resources Technology-A	5
Conservation Biology-BS	6
Environmental Science-BS	2
Fisheries Wildlife Management-BS	12
Fish Health-BS	1
Geology-BS	3
Parks and Recreation-BS	2
Geographic Information Systems-C	2

School of Science and Medicine

Program	Degrees Conferred
Cannabis Science-A	2
Chemistry-A	2
Biochemistry-BS	8
Biology-BS	2
Biology Pre-Medicine-BS	2
Biology Pre-Veterinary-BS	2
Chemistry-BS	2
Forensic Chemistry-BS	4

Appendix B

Example Employers and Job Titles

College of Criminal Justice and Emergency Responders

School of Criminal Justice, Fire Science, and Emergency Services

Employers

Big River Health
Chippewa County Central Dispatch
Clark Township EMS
Farmington Hills Fire Department
Farmington Hills Police Department
Grand Traverse Metro Fire
Department
Kinross EMS
Lake Superior State University
Maine State Police

Mecosta County EMS
Michigan Army National Guard
Pickford Fire & EMS
Presque Isle County Sheriff's Office
Rudyard Fire Department
Stratus Security Management
STT Security
The Gucciardo Family Law Firm
UP Kids

Job Titles

Adoption Specialist
Armed Security
CBRN Specialist
Clinical Administrator
Corrections Officer
Crew Director
File Clerk
Firefighter

Firefighter/EMT
Firefighter/Paramedic
Paramedic
Paramedic
PSA
Public Safety Officer
Security Officer

College of Education and Liberal Arts

School of Arts and Letters

Employer

EDU Staff

Job Title

Long-term Substitute Teacher

School of Education

Employers

Alanson Public Schools
Brimley Area Schools
ESS Midwest

Little Men Child Development
Center
Rudyard Schools
Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians

Job Titles

First Grade Teacher
Lead Teacher for Early Head Start
Program
Media Specialist and Child Care
Program Director

Paraprofessional
Substitute Teacher
Teacher

School of General Studies

Employers

JKL Bahweting
Mid Michigan Industries

Rick Warren Court Clerk
Sweetwater Sound

Job Titles

Deputy County Clerk
Product Support Specialist

Special Education Paraprofessional
Youth Specialist

College of Health and Behavior

School of Kinesiology and Behavioral Sciences

Employers

Besser Museum for Northeast Michigan
Village of Elk Grove Illinois
Sault Tribe

Job Titles

Community Development Intern
Scheduling/HR Specialist

School of Nursing

Employers

Ascension Borgess Hospital
Deaconess Health System Gateway
Hospital
McLaren Northern Michigan
MidMichigan BSN

Munson Medical Center
Sault Tribe Community Health
Spectrum Health
War Memorial Behavior Health
War Memorial Hospital

Job Titles

Emergency Department Nurse
Registered Nurse
Registered Nurse in Medical Surgery

College of Innovation and Solutions

Lukenda School of Business

Employers

Cloverland Electric
DG&N
Diesel Freak
Export Development Canada
Hantz Group
Lake Shore Systems, Inc.
RBC Wealth Management

Sault Tribe
Self-employed author and publisher
Self-employed business owner
Superior Insurance Agency
The Board Store Home
Improvements

Job Titles

Accounting Manager
Appraisal Operations Associate
Client Associate
Community Relations Manager and
Training Coordinator
Financial Planning Assistant

Front Desk Clerk
Office Assistant
Project Coordinator
Small Business Accountant
Social Media Associate

School of Computer Science and Mathematics

Employers

Auto-Owners Insurance
EquipmentShare
Haselkorn, Inc.
RJG

Job Titles

Associate Software Developer
IT Network Technician
Project Engineer
Senior Software Engineer

School of Engineering and Technology

Employers

4D Systems
Applied Manufacturing
Technologies
Arauco North America
Cadillac Casting, Inc.
Devcom GVSC at US Army Tank
Automotive Command
Fincantieri Marinette Marine
General Motors
Intricon
Mission Design and Automation

Nova Tron Controls
Pierce Manufacturing
R.M. Young Co.
SIS Group
Systems Control
Textron Aviation
Thumb Welding Supplies
Trident Manufacturing
Welltower
Williams International

Job Titles

Associate Piping Engineer
Automation & Robotics Engineer
Automation Engineer
CAD Designer
CAD Engineer/Shop hand
Controls Engineer
Controls Engineer
Electrical Engineering Tech
Engineer
Industrial Electrician

Maintenance Tech 1
Manager
Mechanical Engineer
Mechanical Engineer/Estimator
Project Engineer
Software Developer
Systems Engineer
Test and Development Engineer
Track Certification Engineer

College of Science and the Environment

School of Natural Resources and Environment

Employers

AECOM
Chippewa County Health
Department

Chippewa Luce Mackinac
Conservation District
Cook Inlet Aquaculture

Hickey Brothers Research
Ionia County Health Department
Mackinaw State Historic Parks

Northern Analytical Services
Pizzo and Associates
Predator Bird Services, Inc.

Job Titles

Ecological Restoration Tech
Environmental Hygienist
Environmental Sanitarian
Environmental Scientist
Naturalist Ranger

Sanitarian
Technician
Watershed Coordinator
Wildlife Control Technician

School of Science and Medicine

Employers

42 Degrees
Cambium Analytica
Kinross Veterinary Center
Mclaren Northern Michigan
Hospital

Neogen, QC
Spectrum Health Regional
Laboratory

Job Titles

Lab Assistant/Phlebotomist
Lab Tech
Lab technician
Lab/path assistant

SPD Specialist and Laboratory
Evaluator
Teacher Assistant
Vet Assistant

Appendix C

Example Graduate of Professional Schools Reported

College of Criminal Justice and Emergency Responders

School of Criminal Justice, Fire Science, and Emergency Services

Rutgers University
University of Delaware Law School
Wayne State Law School

College of Health and Behavior

School of Kinesiology and Behavioral Sciences

Andrews University
Central Michigan University
Central Michigan University
Michigan State College of Law
Northern Illinois University
Saginaw Valley State University
University of Lincoln
University of Michigan Dearborn
Wayne State University

School of Nursing

Michigan State University

College of Innovation and Solutions

Lukenda School of Business

Tiffin University

School of Computer Science and Mathematics

University of Prince Edward Island

School of Engineering and Technology

Michigan State University
Michigan Technological University

College of Science and the Environment

School of Natural Resources and Environment

Grand Valley State University
Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science
University of Missouri

School of Science and Medicine

Grand Valley State University
Iowa State University
Marquette University
Michigan State University
Michigan State University College of Human Medicine
Michigan State University College of Veterinary Medicine
University of Rochester