



DISCOVER YOUR FUTURE

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY
UNDERGRADUATE POST-GRADUATION SUCCESS
Featuring 2019 – 2020 First-Destination Survey Results



We all have been tested by the ongoing pandemic that has impacted our society during the past year. Oakland University students and supporting employers have remained determined, resourceful and driven to succeed throughout this difficult time. As we saw companies shift goals and students grapple with starting new positions remotely, we were reminded of the grit that exists in the Oakland University community.

Within this report, you will find stories of triumph and words of support for 2020 undergraduate students from each college who have positively impacted our region and beyond. This is also evident in the praises sung by employers dedicated to hiring our students and alumni. Ninety percent of the undergraduate class successfully landed a job or enrolled in graduate school, which is an incredible feat given the depressed job market. By utilizing our strong relationships with employers across diverse industries, we have opened doors for our graduates and allowed them to demonstrate high-quality skills and contribute immediately to real-world industry projects.

Oakland University Career Services is pushing boundaries and building a strong career-focused culture with our Career Community model. To foster this community culture, we empower students within school-specific career communities to engage in powerful career-related events and programming, identify and pursue relevant experiences, inside and outside of the classroom, and develop career competencies that aid in personal and professional success for a lifetime.

Thank you to our employer partners in Southeast Michigan, who have committed to providing meaningful experiences to Oakland University graduates, fulfilling career aspirations and impacting the workforce of tomorrow.

Wayne Thibodeau
Senior Director, Career Services

CAREER SERVICES METRICS

- **Over 47,000 employment opportunities**
in 2019 from 17,000+ employers available to connect with and engage students via the online recruitment platform, Handshake.
- **Over 390 on-campus interviews**
conducted both in-person and virtually.
- **5,500 student and alumni attendees**
engaged in recruitment and networking opportunities, such as:
 - Career fairs
 - Professional development and networking events
 - Employer meet and greets
 - And more!

HIGHLIGHTS FROM ALL PROGRAMS

\$52,942 Average salary for the graduates employed full-time	90% of graduates are employed, pursuing continuing education, serving in the military or pursuing other commitments such as volunteer or service programs or raising a family	22% of employed graduates reported that Career Services was the primary connection to their job lead
16% of graduates enrolled in continuing education		99% of employed graduates are employed in Michigan

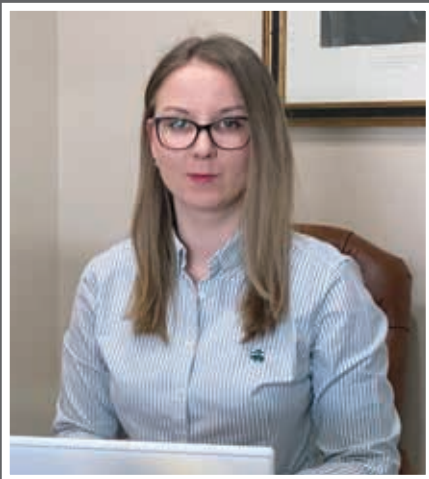
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES



Born with a disability, **Tia Falzarano** experienced a world plagued by poor communication and inadequate resources provided to minorities. These experiences drove her to choose a career in health education, where she split her time working at hospitals and learning from professors with careers dedicated to serving others.

Upon graduating with a major in Environmental Science, Tia landed a Macomb County Government position as a Disease Intervention Prevention Specialist. Soon Tia will begin a new journey towards receiving a master’s degree in public health at Saginaw Valley State University, where she hopes to expand on opportunities.

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION



An international business student, **Olga Simon** always found ways to translate her determination into academic and career success.

Utilizing the career-readiness skills she learned from the School of Business Administration, after graduation she wasted no time and immediately secured an exciting position at Deloitte in Detroit.

This year, she celebrates her one year work anniversary there and encourages students to pursue every opportunity they can to prepare for their future success.

DRIVEN

86%
of graduates are employed,
pursuing continuing education,
serving in the military or
pursuing other commitments,
such as volunteer or service
programs or raising a family

77%
had an internship or internship
like experience while at OU

21%
of graduates are enrolled in
continuing education

99%
of employed graduates are
employed in Michigan

- Select top employers
hiring graduates:
- Beaumont Health System
 - United Wholesale Mortgage (UWM)
 - Quicken Loans
 - Havenwyck Hospital
 - Gateway Pediatric Therapy

“We love how Oakland University students and alumni demonstrate the qualities we value in team members here at United Wholesale Mortgage. Their curiosity, drive and commitment to working hard play a key role in the impact we make in communities across the nation. Hiring Oakland University students and alumni also plays a large part in our commitment to hiring locally and supporting work in the Southeast Michigan area.”

– **Bri Paolucci**
United Wholesale Mortgage, Talent Acquisition Specialist - Campus

DETERMINED

95%
of graduates are employed,
pursuing continuing education,
serving in the military or
pursuing other commitments,
such as volunteer or service
programs or raising a family

78%
had an internship or internship
like experience while at OU

\$53,500
median full time starting salary
for graduates earning an
annual salary

99%
of employed graduates are
employed in Michigan

35%
of employed graduates
reported that Career
Services was the primary
connection to their job lead

- Select top employers
hiring graduates:
- Plante Moran
 - Quicken Loans
 - DTE
 - Blue Cross Blue Shield
 - Stellantis (formerly Fiat Chrysler Automobiles)

“Comerica admires the preparedness, professionalism and education that Oakland University provides to their students and alumni. As a proud alumnus, I know the type of preparation Oakland University provides their students for their step into a full-time career, which is a benefit to us.”

– **Wendy Holmes**
Diversity & Inclusion Market Consultant — Michigan, Comerica Bank

SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES



Justen Daniel's passion for nurturing communities in need led him to apply for admittance to the Master's of Public Health program at Oakland University. Being accepted into the program further solidified that his dream career would be possible.

While earning his undergraduate and master's degrees, Justen was exposed to a campus culture that promoted building a world of equity, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender identity and sexual orientation.

Firmly committed to these ideals, Justen relentlessly continues to work towards his goal of eliminating social and economic disparities, while embarking on an impactful career in public health.

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES



While studying elementary education at Oakland University, **Courtney Craig** found the confidence she needed to tackle unique situations while keeping her students' wellbeing at the forefront.

Her confidence pushed her to pursue every mentorship and networking opportunity she could, landing her a job as a kindergarten teacher at Warren Consolidated Schools.

When the pandemic hit and Courtney had to take her classroom online, she didn't panic, but instead used the skills she learned at OU to focus her energy on pouring love and joy into her students' lives.

RELENTLESS CONFIDENCE

87%
of graduates are employed,
pursuing continuing education,
serving in the military or
pursuing other commitments,
such as volunteer or service
programs or raising a family

67%
had an internship or
internship like experience
while at OU

35%
are enrolled in
continuing education

- Select top employers
hiring graduates:
- Beaumont Health System
 - Ascension
 - HealthQuest Physical Therapy
 - Henry Ford Health System
 - Oakland University

94%
of graduates are employed,
pursuing continuing education,
serving in the military or
pursuing other commitments,
such as volunteer or service
programs or raising a family

95%
had an internship or
internship like experience
while at OU

99%
of employed graduates are
employed in Michigan

- Select top employers
hiring graduates:
- Chippewa Valley Schools
 - United Wholesale Mortgage
 - Beaumont Health System
 - Rochester Community Schools
 - EDUStaff, LLC

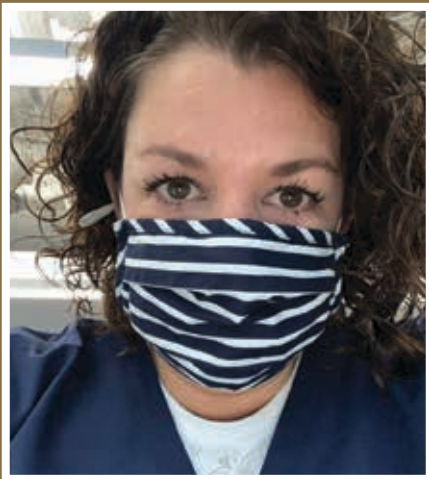
"Relationships are the building blocks that create a trusting partnership between academia and profession. We know that Oakland University is always striving to offer top programs and are continuing to challenge students in going above and beyond. When students come into our hospitals, we know they are prepared to build those relationships with patients and families."

– **Kristin Kelly**
Sourcing Specialist — Michigan, Ascension

"The School of Education and Human Services at Oakland University continues to evolve with the changing landscape of the instructional needs of our students. Graduates have been able to quickly adapt and apply their teaching pedagogies in a virtual environment. Additionally, graduates have demonstrated that they have the ability to foster a positive rapport with their students while engaging in distance learning."

– **Jeff Frankowiak**
Principal, Rochester Community Schools

SCHOOL OF NURSING

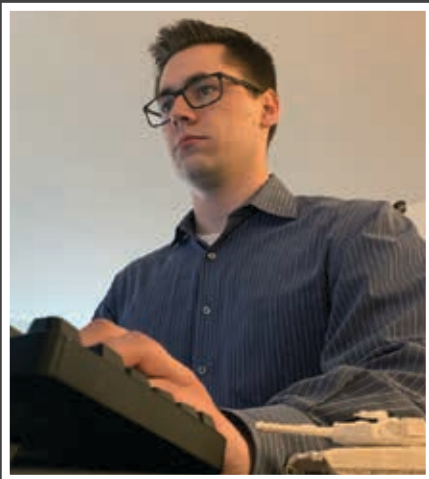


As a mother of five, **Angela Ball** knows that nothing is impossible. So when she decided to pursue her dream of helping others as a nurse, nothing could stand in her way.

While studying at Oakland University, Angela found not only the tools and resources she needed, but also was empowered with guidance from professors and tutors who encouraged her to take the next steps in her journey.

Now, Angela lives her dream, working as a full-time nurse at Troy Beaumont Hospital, where she encourages others to never quit.

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE



As an Electrical Engineering student, **Cody Wilson** was always focused on turning his passion for innovation into a career. While studying at Oakland University, he experienced engaging and challenging coursework and projects, while pursuing internship opportunities where he could gain hands-on industry experience.

Through persistence and hard work, Cody earned a spot in the SMART Scholarship for Service Program. This STEM initiative (funded by the Department of Defense) included a summer internship as a SMART Student Intern, where he participated in complex research and projects. Now, Cody works as an Electrical Engineer with the US Army Ground Vehicle Systems Center, and travels the country working on cutting edge technology.

DREAM

99%
of graduates are either employed or studying for a professional, graduate prep or certification exam such as the NCLEX

99%
of employed graduates are employed in Michigan

\$60,320
median annual earnings for graduates working full time earning an hourly wage

98%
of employed, full time graduates report that their job is related to their career plans and interests

- Select top employers hiring graduates:
- Beaumont Health System
 - Ascension
 - Henry Ford System
 - Detroit Medical Center
 - McLaren Health Center

“At St Joe’s, we value the quality education and training the students have been afforded while attending Oakland University. As we have made hiring OU grads a top priority for the health system, we have witnessed our core values of justice, stewardship and integrity exhibited by students and alumni during the hiring process and beyond.”

– **Lance Pittman**
Senior Talent Acquisition Partner, Saint Joseph Mercy Health System

EXPERIENCE

92%
of graduates are employed, pursuing continuing education, serving in the military or pursuing other commitments, such as volunteer or service programs or raising a family

\$70,000
median full time starting salary for graduates earning an annual salary

85%
of graduates completed an internship or internship like experience while at OU with a median hourly wage of \$18.50

99%
of employed graduates are employed in Michigan

- Select top employers hiring graduates:
- Stellantis (formerly Fiat Chrysler Automobiles)
 - General Motors
 - Ford Motor Company
 - Comerica Inc.
 - Brose

“We have a large number of Oakland University alumni working at GVSC and they have been amazing leaders and researchers. We continue to need engineers and scientists to tackle the ever increasing challenges to the warfighter. OU students and alumni are needed now more than ever.”

– **Dr. David Gorsich**
Chief Scientist, US Army Ground Systems at US Army Future Command



ABOUT THE DATA

The data presented in this report was compiled from the First-Destination Survey, which is administered annually by Oakland University Career Services. This survey captures post-graduation outcomes of Oakland University undergraduate degree recipients. The survey content, timeline and procedures align with guidelines published by the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE). The survey was completed by OU students who graduated between July 01, 2019 and June 30, 2020. Results were collected through December 31st, 2020 to conform with NACE standards.

The survey was created with Handshake, a Career Services platform for Higher Education with over 700 institutional partners, and was distributed electronically. Summer graduates were emailed the survey in late October. Winter and Spring graduates completed the survey at the commencement fair. Surveys were then emailed to non-respondents and those still seeking employment throughout the collection period. Career Services also queried the National Student Clearinghouse, OU student records, collected public social media profile data from LinkedIn and other platforms, and compiled records from other departments across campus for those students who indicated they were still seeking employment the last time we surveyed them.

This collection period was also heavily impacted by the global Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Our main source of data, the Winter 2020 in-person commencement fair, was cancelled and graduates faced heightened unemployment rates across the United States.

We took care to include only high integrity data in this report. Data was inspected for duplicate responses, frequent suspicious responses (e.g., "jkl;l" or "12345"), missing responses on more than five key questions and other validation measures. More specific details regarding data handling and interpretation are available upon request and can be directed to Oakland University Career Services.

**IN TODAY'S
COMPETITIVE
JOB MARKET,
YOU NEED
AN EDGE ...**

Find yours and secure
your future at
Oakland University's
Career Services

CAREER SERVICES

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY MISSION STATEMENT

Oakland University cultivates the full potential of a diverse and inclusive community. As a public doctoral institution, we impact Michigan and the world through education, research, scholarship, and creative activity.

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY VISION STATEMENT

Oakland University will unlock the potential of individuals and leave a lasting impact on the world through the transformative power of education and research.

OAKLAND
UNIVERSITY™

For more information, visit or contact Career Services

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