

2011 survey results on professional placement of USI graduates: all indicators remain very positive

The Career Service at Università della Svizzera italiana (USI) has announced the results of the annual survey conducted in April 2011 on the professional placement of their graduates. Those interviewed included graduates at intervals of 1 year after graduation and 5 years after graduation, aligning with the methodology used by the Swiss Federal Statistics Office. Of the 772 graduates contacted, 51% responded to the questionnaire, for a total of 397 graduates.

Occupation indicators good and stable

Concerning occupation, the data at one year after graduation paint a very positive picture, with 95.5% occupied, (and of those occupied, 68.5% work and 25.2% study, and of those who work, 13% carry out their professional activities while also studying). 10 graduates are currently seeking occupation, (and of these, 3 hold Bachelor's degrees, 4 Master's degrees, and 3 hold degrees in Architecture; 7 have at least one professional work experience for a median of 13 months).

At 5 years after graduation, the picture is even more positive, with 96.6% of graduates occupied (of whom 91% work – with concurrent studies and work at 6% - and 5% made other choices). 6 graduates are seeking a new position, already having attained a median of 4 years' professional experience.

Swiss graduates tend to work domestically, while international graduates make a progressive return to their place of origin

More than 70% of graduates from Ticino work in the Italian-speaking part of Switzerland, where they tend to stay even at 5 years post-graduation, aside from the 1 in 5 graduates who chooses to move to another Swiss Canton. Graduates from other Swiss Cantons also find their occupation in Switzerland (100% at the 1 year interval and 85% at the 5 year interval post-graduation), while those of international origin are more mobile and opt for international careers (about half of Italians and 70% of graduates from other nations).

Salaries highly differentiated between the Bachelor's and Master's degrees

Regarding salaries, key differences in professional placement emerge between graduates holding Bachelor's degrees versus Master's degrees. For both degrees, the time required to attain professional positions in the working world is very brief, reported around two months. However, significant differences emerge regarding remuneration: in Switzerland, one year after graduation with a Bachelor's degree, an annual median salary of 55.000 CHF is reported, which rises to 69.600 CHF for those holding a two-year Master's degree. Still reporting within Switzerland, salaries at 5 years post-graduation (4-year degree) amount to a median of 86.800 CHF annually.

Studies consistent with occupations and students satisfied

At 1 year and at 5 years after graduation, one figure is stable: 75% of graduates state that their professional activities are consistent with their course of study at USI, and more than 90% state that they are satisfied with their current occupation.

For more information

More detailed information, graphs, and the methodology for the 2011 survey are available at <http://www.careerservice.usi.ch/en/laureati/indagine.htm>

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