

Summary of 2012 Survey

2012 survey results on professional placement of USI graduates: regardless of the difficult economic situation, all indicators remain positive

The Career Service at the Università della Svizzera italiana (USI) has announced the results of the annual survey carried out between April and June 2012 on the professional placement of their graduates. Those interviewed included graduates at intervals of 1 year from graduation (2010-2011) and 5 years from graduation (2006), aligning with the method used by Swiss Federal Statistics Office. Of the 853 graduates contacted, 49% answered to the questionnaire, for a total of 418 graduates.

Good occupation indicators at 1 year from graduation, excellent indicators at 5 years from graduation

Concerning occupation, the data at one year from graduation paint a very positive picture with 91.7% occupied (74.2% of the occupied work and 15.2% study; of those who work 12.5% carry out their professional activity while studying). 22 graduates are currently seeking occupation (and of these 4 hold a Bachelor's degree, 11 a Master's degree, 5 a degree in Architecture and 2 a PhD; 70% had at least professional work experience for about 9 months).

At 5 years from graduation, the picture is even more positive with 98.1% of graduates occupied (of whom 93.5% work - 8.4% work and study- 3.2% made other choices). 3 graduates are seeking (new) occupation, after having already attained a median of 4 year's professional experience.

Swiss graduates tend to work domestically, while international students are more keen to mobility

87% of graduates from Ticino work in the Italian speaking part of Switzerland, where they tend to stay even at 5 years from graduation, aside from the 1 in 6 graduates who chooses to move to another Swiss Canton. The majority of graduates from other Swiss Cantons also find their occupation in Switzerland (83.3% 1 year after graduation and 87.5% 5 years from graduation), while those of international origin are more keen to mobility and opt for careers in other Swiss Cantons or abroad.

Highly differentiated salaries 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 still very brief regardless of the economic crisis, reported around 3.5 months. However, significant differences emerge regarding remuneration: in Switzerland, one year from graduation with a Bachelor's degree, an annual median salary of 46.750 CHF is reported, which rises to 60.800 CHF for those holding a two year Master's degree. Still within Swiss borders, salaries at 5 years from Bachelor's graduation amount to a median of 74.400 CHF annually, which rises to 84.850 CHF annually for those holding a Master's.

Studies consistent with occupations and satisfied students

At 1 year and 5 years from graduation, one figure is stable: over 72% of graduates state that their professional activities are consistent with their course of study at USI, and about 93% are satisfied with their current occupation.

For more information

- More detailed information, graphs, and the methodology for the 2012 survey are available at <http://www.careerservice.usi.ch/indagine.htm>
- USI Career Service, 058.666.46.06, careerservice@usi.ch
- Media and Communication Service, 058.666.47.92, press@usi.ch