



DISCOVER YOUR FUTURE

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY
UNDERGRADUATE POST-GRADUATION SUCCESS
Featuring 2021–2022 First-Destination Survey Results



As we begin to move beyond the pandemic, we are seeing a welcomed return to student activities and campus life this year. From large-scale events that bring the community together for some fun, to our full career fairs being entirely in person, there is an excitement on campus that has been empowering to witness.

With that increased activity, we

continue to see a strong labor market looking for college talent to fill needs across all industry sectors. We continue to see a strong commitment by our students to stay, work and play in Michigan. For the graduates who indicated they were employed, 99% are employed in Michigan. We saw an increase in average salaries to \$61,289 and 86% of the graduates who completed the survey indicated they participated in Experiential Learning while at OU.

Career Services moved to a more collaborative workspace model this year. Our new space creates great visibility and access to our Career Studio, where students are dropping in to get started on their career journey with a Career Ambassador. We also advanced our Career Development model, where students can begin designing the life they want to live by taking small steps to **EXPLORE, DISCOVER** and **CONNECT** using customized tools, programming and resources that meet them where they are on their journey.

At the State of the University Address this fall, delivered by President Ora Hirsch Pescovitz, she stated as our university becomes more of a talent pipeline, Oakland University will become a catalyst for the region's and the state's economic growth. This vision aims to establish OU as the university of choice for talent needs in the region.

Among the pillars of our success is becoming a leading university for internships and experiential learning opportunities. We feel that Career Services is an integral part of student success preparation and a place where students can explore internship and career opportunities, strengthen job search skills and build important connections for their futures.

This report shares the career outcomes of OU's 2021–22 undergraduate class and demonstrates their impact in our region and beyond by showcasing alumni success, employer recruitment testimonials and data by school and college. 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

Sample of institutions Oakland University Graduates admitted into:

- Michigan State University
- Oakland University
- University of Detroit Mercy– School of Law
- University of Michigan
- Wayne State University

Select top employers hiring Oakland University graduates:

- Ascension
- Corewell Health
(formerly Beaumont Health System)
- DTE Energy
- Ford Motor Company
- General Motors
- Henry Ford Health Systems
- McLaren Health Care
- Oakland University
- Stellantis
- Trinity Health
- UWM (United Wholesale Mortgage)



HIGHLIGHTS FROM ALL PROGRAMS

\$61,290

average full-time starting salary
for graduates employed full-time

83%

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

15%

of graduates enrolled in continuing education

99%

of employed graduates are employed
in Michigan

86%

had an internship or internship-like
experience while at OU

CAREER SERVICES METRICS

- **117,000 employment opportunities** in 2021 from more than 9,900 employers available via online recruitment platform, Handshake.

2023 Starting Salaries for Co-op Students and Recent College Graduates Survey by American Society of Employers

- **Over 4,900 student and alumni attendees** engaged in virtual recruitment and networking opportunities, such as:
 - Career fairs
 - Professional development and networking events
 - Employer meet and greets
 - And more!

COMMUNITY

Inspired by the ever-evolving list of opportunities he experiences in his role at Allied Global Marketing, **Sean Lobos** has channeled his passion for pop culture into a dynamic career.

Recalling his triumphs in the classroom as a Public Relations major and the memories made with peers on campus, Sean credits his confidence in the workplace to his time at Oakland University. In addition to these experiences, his participation in the internship program at Allied Global Marketing while a student propelled Sean into his full-time position. ➤

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

81%

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

86%

had an internship or
internship-like experience
while at OU

24%

are enrolled in continuing
education

100%

of employed graduates
are employed in Michigan



**Select top employers hiring
College of Arts and Sciences graduates:**

- Common Ground
- Corewell Health
(formerly Beaumont Health System)
- General Motors
- Hour Media
- Oakland County
- UWM (United Wholesale Mortgage)

“Oakland University Credit Union is proud of our long-standing partnership with Oakland University. OU students and graduates are resourceful, adaptable, determined and well-prepared for a variety of career paths, making Oakland University a great talent source for interns and full-time hires. Oakland University Career Services does an outstanding job preparing students for their next step. We have found great success in transitioning our Campus 2 Career interns to full-time roles at the Credit Union.”

– **Mariah Short**
Talent Acquisition Specialist – Oakland University Credit Union



**Select top employers
hiring School of Business
Administration graduates:**

- BorgWarner
- Comerica Inc.
- DTE
- Plante Moran LLP
- PricewaterhouseCoopers
- Stellantis

“The quality of the students the representatives from American Axle and Manufacturing talked to from the Oakland University School of Business exceeded our expectations. We met many young professionals as we recruited for summer interns, co-op and full-time positions. We look forward to our continued partnership with Oakland University.”

– **Scott Bittinger**
Director, Internal Audit, American Axle & Manufacturing

RESILIENCE

As a Human Resources Management professional, **Reece Chambers** understands the importance of finding the right person for the job. Recognizing that her interests lie within the people-side of business, Reece made sure to focus her studies on Human Resources while at Oakland University so that she could be the strong and compassionate figure behind the hiring operations at her future employer.

Now a Talent Acquisition Coordinator at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, Reece reflects on the importance of following your interests and passions when selecting a career path. Encouragement from Oakland University faculty and welcomed reminders from mentors to strive for greatness have instilled a resilience within Reece that has carried her well thus far. 🐾

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

88%

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

92%

had an internship or internship-like experience while at OU

\$58,300

median full-time starting salary for graduates earning an annual salary

99%

of employed graduates are employed in Michigan

30%

of students confirmed that Career Services was their primary connection to their job lead

**Select top employers hiring
School of Health Sciences graduates:**

- AbbVie
- Ascension
- Corewell Health
(Formerly Beaumont Health System)
- Henry Ford Health System
- McLaren Health Care
- Wallgreens

MENTORSHIP

Currently working towards her Ph.D. in Human Movement Science and a soon-to-be three-time Oakland University graduate, **Miranda Umbras** embodies Golden Grizzly dedication both inside and outside of the classroom. Mentorship has been a key component in Miranda's journey in academia at OU. She credits faculty and peers across departments within the School of Health Sciences for giving her the tools to succeed.

Miranda's dream to work in academia stems from the hope that she can empower others to seek knowledge as she has done. For current and future students attending OU, Miranda encourages them to make connections with faculty and graduate assistants as their guidance makes an outstanding difference. ➤

SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES

84%

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

\$54,000

median full-time starting salary for graduates earning an annual salary

99%

of employed graduates are employed in Michigan

35%

are enrolled in continuing education

"The relationship between Corewell Health (previously Beaumont Health) and Oakland University is longstanding. The Corewell Health East region supports many internship programs, as it is imperative to students' education to receive relevant, hands-on experience. The team at Corewell Health greatly admire the preparedness and professionalism the Oakland University students demonstrate. Each semester new students arrive at our locations eager and ready to learn. At Corewell Health, we have very high expectations and strive to offer some of the most advanced and challenging settings for students. OU students consistently meet and excel in these environments, demonstrating that OU successfully prepares them for the many dynamic situations health care can present. After graduation, we routinely hire many students to join our teams and continue to utilize their skills of taking care of our patients and our community."

– **Trevor J London**

Director, Imaging Services, Corewell Health (Formerly Beaumont Health)

**Select top employers hiring
School of Education and
Human Services graduates:**

- Allegis Global Solutions
- American Axle & Manufacturing
- Forvia
- Rochester Community Schools
- Troy School District
- Utica Community Schools



“Avondale School District admires Oakland University’s students and alumni for their commitment to student success and lifelong learning; their strong work ethic and creative approach to teaching and learning; and perhaps most importantly, their effectiveness in working with students and families from diverse backgrounds. OU alumni have a familiarity with the diversity of the population that makes up Oakland County and, therefore, the Avondale School District. An understanding of community needs as well as cultural norms, plays a role in reaching and teaching students and bringing out their best. We have been impressed by the strength of the educational preparation that we observe in our new hires from Oakland University, not only with sound preparation in content areas, but also equipped to navigate through lenses of cultural competencies.”

– **James Schwarz, Ph.D.**
Superintendent, Avondale School District

PERSEVERE

Elementary Education graduate, **Rachel Strong**, believes that one of the greatest gifts in education is seeing children learning and growing each day. Whether they be expanding academically or socially, Rachel strives to create an inclusive and empowering environment for her students to thrive.

While studying at Oakland University, Rachel immersed herself in building connections with peers and faculty, while diving headfirst into meaningful fieldwork. She recognizes that the guidance she received from these connections led her to a career that has been fulfilling and exciting, even during difficult times. 🐾

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES

\$52,500

median full-time starting
salary for graduates earning
an annual salary

100%

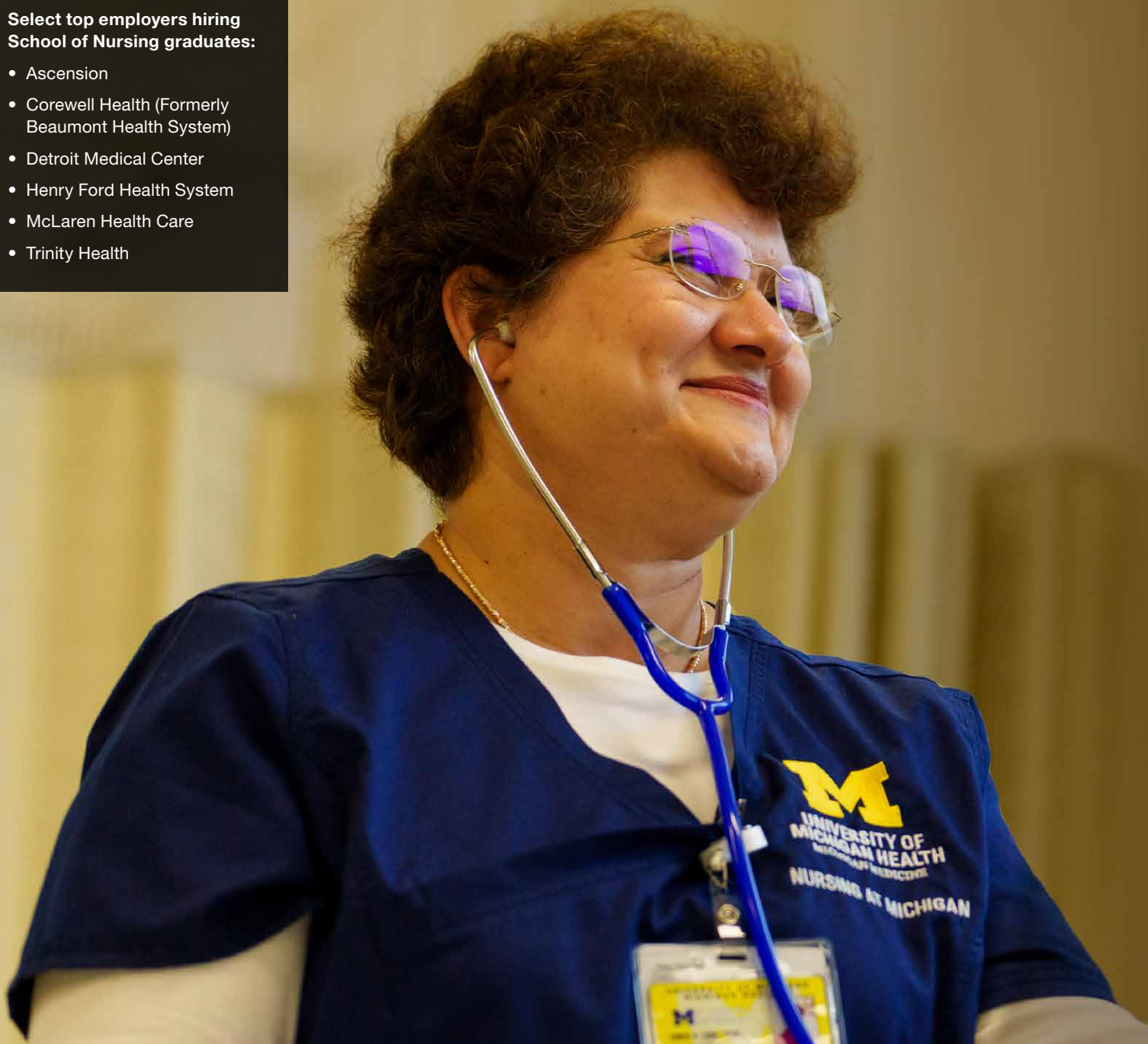
of employed graduates are
employed in Michigan

93%

had an internship or internship-like
experience while at OU

**Select top employers hiring
School of Nursing graduates:**

- Ascension
- Corewell Health (Formerly
Beaumont Health System)
- Detroit Medical Center
- Henry Ford Health System
- McLaren Health Care
- Trinity Health



“At the University of Michigan Health, we strive for nursing excellence, leading to exceptional patient care while transforming professional nursing practice for nurses. The Nurse Recruitment and Retention team at UM Health recruits locally and nationally, searching for the brightest and best candidates to join our extraordinary team. We are fortunate for the numerous opportunities to recruit Oakland University graduates and are excited to talk with their exceptional BSN students year after year. In FY22, Oakland University was in the top 10 list of schools with the most GN hires for Nursing at Michigan. One of the top priorities for the Nurse Recruitment Team is to recruit from strong nursing programs and we are honored to have hired 17 Graduate Nurses from Oakland University to join our team.”

– **Gayle York, RN BS**
CHCR Nurse Recruiter for University of Michigan Health at Michigan Medicine

POWERFUL

Sheema Khan's dream to achieve a career in nursing came true when the University of Michigan Health at Michigan Medicine hired her as a nurse caring for patients post-surgery. Finding inspiration in the care of patients and improving their quality of life inspires her every day.

Along the journey to a new career, Sheema discovered independence through her education at Oakland University. She honors her time at OU as a life turning point that empowered her to continue on her path, regardless of the time it took and the obstacles she encountered. ➤

SCHOOL OF NURSING

82%

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

\$69,843

average annual earnings for graduates working full-time earning an hourly wage

97%

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

OPEN-MINDED

Thinking innovatively about academics and potential career-paths gave **Megan Andreski** the competitive edge she needed to transform an internship at Par Pharmaceutical into a full-time opportunity after graduation.

Spending time with professors, career consultants and peers fostered the encouragement that Megan credits as the driving force behind her success. Her time in the School of Engineering and Computer Science also allowed her to explore a career in Bioengineering, which is a program within one of Oakland University's newest departments. ➤

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

89%

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

\$75,000

median full-time starting salary for
graduates earning an annual salary

94%

of graduates completed an
internship or internship-like
experience while at OU with a
median hourly wage of \$20

44%

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

"Par Pharmaceutical and Oakland University have been partnering together since 2018 to provide students with real-world work experience in a pharmaceutical manufacturing environment. The bioengineering and other engineering majors offered at Oakland University have been an excellent match for serving the needs of the pharmaceutical industry. This partnership has allowed Par to give back to the community by offering flexible, valuable work experience to students while they are pursuing their degree as well as full-time opportunities upon graduation. We look forward to continuing our partnership with Oakland University."

– **Joseph Delikat**
Senior Director of Human Resources, Par Pharmaceutical

**Select top employers hiring School of Engineering
and Computer Science graduates:**

- Bosch
- DTE Energy
- Ford Motor Company
- General Dynamics Land Systems
- General Motors
- Magna International Inc
- Stellantis
- UWM (United Wholesale Mortgage)



SUCCESS

Currently awaiting his bar results, **Muthu Veerappan** is a proud graduate of the Bachelor of Integrative Studies program at Oakland University and the Wayne State University Law School. Muthu's journey to becoming an attorney has been fueled by inspiration taken from his parents' work ethic, knowledge of his professors and the successes of his mentors.

Oakland University gave Muthu the tools he needed to succeed in a competitive field by teaching him communication, time management and the commitment to developing skills alongside his peers - some of those who he developed brotherhood with as a member of the Zeta Pi Chapter of Sigma Pi Fraternity. ➡

BACHELOR OF INTEGRATIVE STUDIES

82%

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

100%

of employed graduates are employed in Michigan

100%

of graduates rated their program of study from Fair to Excellent



Select top industries hiring Bachelor of Integrative Studies graduates:

- Healthcare
- Higher Education
- Human Resources
- Law Enforcement
- Legal
- Management
- Non-Profit
- Public Relations and Marketing

“Novara Law was founded in Oakland County 40+ years ago. We take pride in employing local, talented OU grads like associate Muthu Veerappan. As I look at our list of lawyers and paralegals who are OU alums, I see a common thread of hard work ethic, creativity and skill.”

– **Michael A. Novara**

CEO and Managing Member of Novara, Tesija, Catenacci, McDonald, & Baas PLLC

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, 2021 and June 30, 2022. Results were collected through December 31st, 2022 to conform with NACE standards.

The survey was created with Handshake, a Career Services platform for Higher Education with over 1,400 institutional partners, and was distributed electronically. Summer graduates were emailed the survey in late October. Winter and Spring graduates completed the survey on the virtual commencement fair platforms. Career Services called and emailed non-respondents and those still seeking employment throughout the collection period. Finally, we queried the National Student Clearinghouse and 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.

We took care to include only high integrity data in this report. Data was inspected for duplicate responses, frequent suspicious responses (e.g., “jkla;lj” 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.

POST-GRADUATION OUTCOMES DASHBOARD

Oakland University surveys all graduates, in the region and beyond, embarking on their first destination beyond college. Top employers, salaries, industry partners, among other factors, are displayed on the Post Graduation Outcomes Dashboard. Future Golden Grizzlies and their families can see a dynamic breakdown of prospective career outcomes by exploring the dashboard via the information listed below.*

For an even more customized view of current career outcomes, please get in touch with Career Services at (248) 370-3250.



**SCAN the QR Code
to visit the dashboard,**
or log on to
oakland.edu/app/post-grad-dsh/

**The First-Destination Survey is administered annually by Oakland University Career Services. The survey content, timeline, and procedures align with guidelines published by the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE). The survey was administered to OU students who graduated within the fiscal year and results were collected through December 31st the following year. Results are not displayed if there are less than ten records.*



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

North Foundation Hall, Room 103 | careers@oakland.edu
oakland.edu/careerservices | (248) 370-3250 | Social: @oucareers