# COE COLLEGE OFFICE OF CAREER SERVICES AND INTERNSHIPS

### CLASS OF 2011

A snapshot of what our alumni are doing one year after graduation



Our mission is to empower people to clarify their values as they discover and develop their skills, abilities and passions for life.



#### OFFICE OF CAREER SERVICES & INTERNSHIPS

## First Destination Report:

#### Class of 2011

Coe College's Office of Career Services and Internships compiled the following information about the "first destinations" of the class of 2011; that is, their activities up to one year after graduating from Coe College. These activities included (but were not limited to) employment, graduate or professional school, the military, or other endeavors.

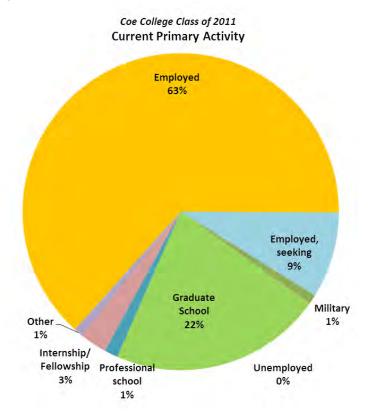
This report is an aggregate of information collected about the Class of 2011 through a First Destination Survey conducted one year after graduation, a Senior Survey administered prior to graduation, as well as other sources (such as social networking websites). It is intended to be a "snapshot" of what the members of the Class of 2011 were doing. Altogether, we were able to report on the post-graduation activities of 269 of these alumni, which represents 95% of the 284 graduates of the Class of 2011.

#### **Current Activity**

**Figure 1** illustrates the activities reported by the Class of 2011 survey respondents up to one year after graduation:



Figure 1

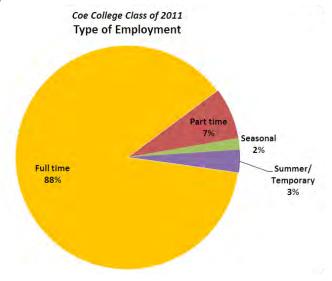


Sixty-three percent of the Class of 2011 survey participants reported being employed; this level of reported employment is 6 percentage points higher than reported by the Class of 2010 one year earlier. Twenty-two percent stated that they were attending graduate or professional school such as medicine or law. Nine percent reported being employed but seeking a different opportunity. Four percent had an internship or fellowship, were involved in travel or adventure, or engaged in another activity. None of the Class of 2011 responding to the survey said they were unemployed and still looking for a job\*.

\*Note: These figures are reported based on information provided by Class of 2011 alumni who responded to a follow-up survey, indicated their plans in the 2011 Senior Survey, or otherwise provided information to Career Services about their post-Coe activities. Class of 2011 alumni whose activities were unknown to us cannot be described; other activity – including unemployment – may be therefore underreported.

Of those recent alumni who reported gainful employment up to one year following their 2011 graduation, 88% stated that they were employed in full-time, permanent positions, as illustrated in **Figure 2**:

Figure 2



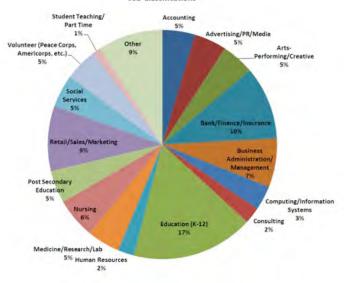
#### JOB CLASSIFICATIONS

The employment classifications of the jobs worked by the Class of 2011 survey participants are illustrated in **Figure 3**. Nearly 40% (38%) were in business-related occupations (Accounting, Advertising/Public Relations/Media, Bank/Finance/Insurance, Business Administration/Management, Retail/Sales/Marketing or Human Resources). Education (K-12, post-secondary, or student teaching) accounted for 23% of reporting graduates, and another 10% were in a science or healthcare-related field such as nursing, medicine, research or lab science.

None of the graduates self-reported the following categories: Graphic Arts, Government/Politics, Military, and Sports/Recreation/Hospitality. Nine percent reported "Other" categories of employment; these included college ministry, food service, nonprofit, regulatory affairs and quality assurance, organization/policy practice, and avionics engineering.



#### Coe College Class of 2011 Job Classifications



#### **EMPLOYERS REPORTED BY THE CLASS OF 2011:**

Adobe

AdTrack

Advanced Testing Laboratory

AEGON/Transamerica

African American Museum of Iowa

AmeriCorps VISTA

APAC Customer Services, Inc.

AT&T

Atlantic Theater Company

Aurora Fox Theater

Aurora University

Becker Tiling & Excavating

Benefit Solutions Incorporated

**BGM Community Schools** 

Biruwa Ventures, Pvt. Ltd.

Boulder's Dinner Theatre

Byers-Evans House Theatre

Company

Cedar Rapids Downtown District

Chick-fil-A

City of Cedar Rapids

City of Fresno

Coe College

Coleman Landscaping

Coleman Vision

Collins Community Credit Union

**CRST** 

Cub Creek Foundation

Daniel Arthur's

Durant Community School District

Ebay Keystone Apartments

Elmcrest Country Club KTVO-TV

Fairfield Community School Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity

District Laura Ingalls Designs
Finish Line Life to the

First Funding Inc.

Lifetouch
Limolink

Frew Nations Group

Linn Mar Community Schools

Genesis Medical Center

Genesis Medical Center Massachusetts Institute of
Goodwill Industries of Iowa Technology

Goodwill Industries of Iowa Technology

GreatAmerica Leasing Marion High School
Corporation Marion Physical Theren

Handicapped Development

Marion Physical Therapy

Mercer

Center

Heartland Center

Mercy Medical Center

Morgan Stanley Smith Barney

Hillesheim Construction

Mulligan's Irish Pub

Home Choice

Hy-Vee

NewLink Genetics

Next Generation Wireless (U.S. Illinois State University

Integrated DNA Technologies

Cellular)

Noel Levitz

International Institute of Nursing and Therapy Services of

Innesota Colorado

InterVarsity Christian Fellowship Organizing for America

Iowa Campus Compact/Coe Otter Creek
College

Iowa City Community School

PerBlue

District Petersen Motors

Iowa Health Home Care Pioneer HiBred International

Iowa Health System Pleasant Valley Schools

Iowa Laser Technology, Inc.

Positive Sports Training, Inc.

Jacobsen Johnson & Viner, PLC

Pricewaterhouse Coopers

Jefferson High School Principal Financial Group

IoAnn Fabrics OBE First

JoAnn Fabrics

Kemin Industries, Inc.

QBE First

Quincy Community Theatre

Regis Corporation

Reinsurance Group of America

Reutzel Pharmacy/Aim

Healthcare

Physician's Choice Sleep Center

Rockwell Collins

Rose Theatre

Shawnee Theatre

Sitting Bull School

Spanish Ministry of Education

Spee-Dee Delivery

Springville Community Schools

St. Luke's Child and Adolescent

Unit

St. Luke's Hospital

St. Mary's Hospital - Mayo Clinic

State Game Lodge

State of Iowa

Teach for America

Tektivity

Terry Lockridge & Dunn

Texas Road House

The Boeing Company

The Cleveland Clinic

The Fulbright Program

The University of Iowa

The University of Iowa Community Credit Union

Tricia Ballad

Trinity Church in the City of

Boston

**Trust Consultants** 

U of CA, Davis

U.S. Marine Corps

U.S. National Guard

U.S. Navy

University of Iowa Hospitals &

Clinics

University of Northern Iowa

Upward Bound - Coe College

US Army Nurse Corps

**US Xpress Enterprises** 

**VIADESIGN** 

Victoria's Secret

Walgreens

Waterloo Community School

District

Webster City Community Schools

Wells Fargo

Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare

Writer's House

Yellowbook

#### JOB TITLES REPORTED BY THE CLASS OF 2011:

2nd Lieutenant Buyer

Account Executive Camp Counselor

Account Manager Campus Staff Member

Accountant Carpenter

Accounts Payable Specialist Certified Teacher

Actor/Choreographer Chief Umpire

Actuarial Analyst Claims Processor

Administrative Assistant Clinical Research Associate

Admissions Counselor Computer Specialist

Ambassador Construction

Chronic Disease Outreach Credit Analyst

Coordinator Customer Services
AmeriCorps VISTA Derivative Analyst

Attendance Improvement Team Development Assistant

Art Specialist Director

Art Teacher (AK-5) Drama Instructor

Assistant Auditor Ebay Seller

Assistant Cross Country/Track & Elementary PE Teacher Field Coach

Elementary Teacher

Assistant Residence Life
Coordinator

Employment Opportunities

Coordinator

Asst Wrestling Coach/Director of Field Organizer

Assurance Associate Financial Advisor

Astronomy/Foundations of Science Financial Assistant I

Teacher Financial Services Representative

Athletic Trainer Food Industry

Auditor Founder, BuzzSessions Theatre

Band Director Press Blog

Baseball Coach Fulbright English Teaching

Assistant Assistant

Brand Strategist
Graphic Designer
Business Education Teacher

7

Graphic Designer & PR Consultant

Group Marketing Representative

High School Math Teacher

Home Care CAN

Housing First Project Coordinator

Human Resources

Individual Investment Specialist

IT Project Specialist

Law Clerk

Lead Teacher

Manager

Marketing and Communications

Specialist

Marketing and Sales Administrative

Assistant

Marketing Coordinator

Med/Surg Cardiothoracic RN/BSN

Music Administrator

Music Teacher

National Carrier Representative

Office Manager

Ophthalmic Assistant

Patient Care Technician

Payroll Management & Field

Coordinator

Pediatric Home Health Care Nurse

Photographer

Physical Education Teacher

Physician Extender/Athletic

Trainer

Platoon Leader, 2nd Lt.

Production Scientist I

Production Stage Manager

Professional Actor, Writer, and

Director

Program Assistant

Project Coordinator

Quantitative Biologist

Recreation Specialist

Recruiting Assistant

Registered Nurse

Registered Nurse - Birth Center

Registered Nurse - Pediatric ICU

Regulatory Affairs Specialist

Research Assistant

Researcher

Resident Artist in Ceramics

Retail Wireless Consultant

RN/BSN

Sales Associate

Sales Consultant

Sales Coordinator

Sales Manager

Senior Educational Leadership

Consultant

Server

Service Clerk

Software Engineer

Special Education Teacher

Specialist - Network Support

Staff Accountant

Staff Nurse

Stocker

Supervisor

Systems Engineer Third Grade Teacher

Tap Category Supervisor Vendor Relationship Manager

Teaching Assistant VP-Marketing

Team Member Waitress/Bartender

Technical Director Writing and Publishing Intern

Technical Support Youth Counselor

Theatre Company Board Member

#### **EMPLOYMENT SEARCH DETAIL**

One of Career Services' charges is to facilitate Coe students' understanding of effective job search strategies. Research shows that successful searches involve the use of multiple employment search resources, with personal networking and interaction generally regarded as the most effective. The Class of 2011 First Destination Survey reflects this.

Survey respondents were asked to report all of the sources they employed to ultimately land their current jobs. The most popular referral source, accounting for 21% of all successful job leads for the Class of 2011, was personal contact through friends or family. An additional 21% of job leads came through other personal referral methods, including a volunteer position, internship, summer job, or part-time job transitioning to full-time (12%), a referral from a Coe faculty or staff member (5%), or a referral from a Coe alumnus (4%). Altogether, **personal connections accounted for 42% of job leads.** 

The use of an internet job posting website was the second most cited strategy (19% of leads) and employer websites accounted for 18% of respondents' job leads.

Note: Responses to this question may be skewed because many employers require all job applicants to use an online application at some point in the recruiting process, regardless of how they were initially connected to the job in question.

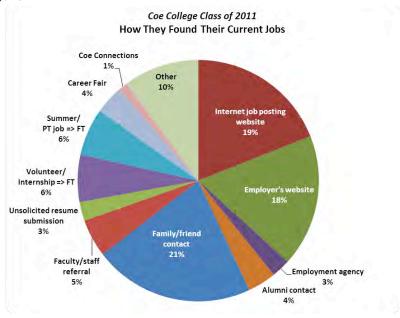


Ten percent of respondents cited other sources for their job leads. These included the following:

- "Reached out to the recruiter"
- "...part of my graduate student agreement"
- "LinkedIn. Recruiter [sought] me out"
- "Undergraduate involvement within the fraternity"

**Figure 4** illustrates the employment methods reported by the survey respondents.

Figure 4



Note: This information was collected from the Class of 2011 First Destination Survey only.

Coe students are encouraged to start their full-time job searches well before their graduation dates; more than one-half (52%) reported starting their job searches before graduation. Those who started their job searches after graduation accounted for 48% of respondents; nearly one-fifth admitted that they did not start their job searches until more than four months later.

Compared to the previous class, these graduates planned ahead; only 41% the

previous class started job searching before graduation day. This may reflect the current economy; the Class of 2011 may have responded to concerns about job prospects by initiating job searches earlier than previous graduates. **Figure 5** illustrates these percentages.

Figure 5

Coe College Classes of 2010 & 2011

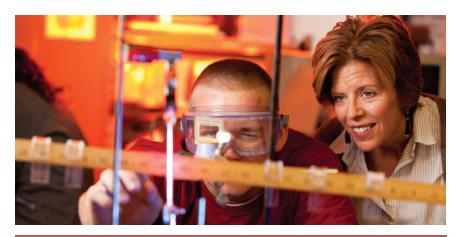
When They Started Their Job Searches



Note: Due to rounding, figures may not add up to 100%.

The Class of 2011 started their searches earlier than the previous class, and this is reflected in the proportion of students with a job offer by graduation day (35% of the Class of 2011, compared to 30% of the Class of 2010). The total percentage with job offers either by graduation day or within three months afterwards was relatively stable (63% of the Class of 2011, compared to 61% of the previous class).

Although 65% of the Class of 2011 survey respondents did not accept a job



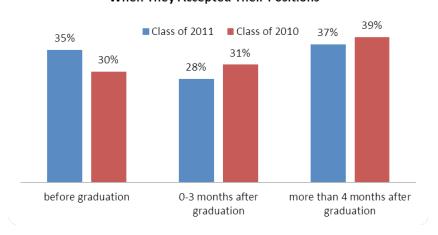


until after graduation, they fared marginally better than the previous class, securing their post-graduation jobs at a slightly faster pace than the Class of 2010. See **Figure 6**.

Figure 6

Coe College Classes of 2010 & 2011

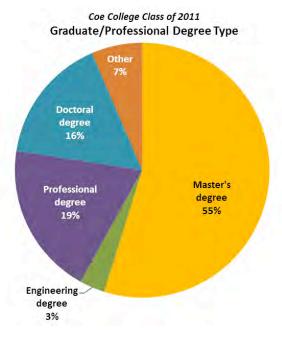
When They Accepted Their Positions



#### **GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL**

Much of the Class of 2011 reported working full-time during the year following graduation, but nearly one-quarter of survey respondents (22%) reported that they were continuing their education in graduate school, professional school, or in another area. Of those, 55% were pursuing Master's degrees, 16% were in doctoral (Ph.D.) programs, and 19% were in professional degree programs such as medicine or law school. Three percent were in engineering programs and 7% were pursuing another type of credential such as a teacher certification. This is illustrated in **Figure 7**:

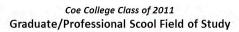
Figure 7

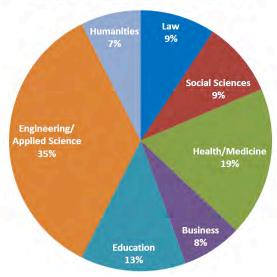


Of those responding class members who reported attending graduate school, over one-third (35%) were in graduate school for engineering or an applied science. Healthcare or a medical-related field accounted for 19% of the graduates reporting, 13% were in education, 9% were in social sciences, and 9% were in law school. Eight percent were in business, and the humanities (art, music, creative writing, or a related field) made up 7% of responding graduates. This is illustrated in **Figure 8**.



Figure 8





Coe's Class of 2011 was represented at the following graduate and professional institutions:

Allen College

Arizona State University

Aurora University

Clarkson University

Columbia University

Dominican University

Drake University

Emerson College

Florida International University

Georgia Institute of Technology

Hamline University

Illinois State University

Iowa State University

Marquette University

Mary Mount College

Mercy College of Health Sciences

Minnesota State University

Morningside

North Carolina State University

Penn State University

St. Ambrose University

The University of Iowa

The University of Iowa College of

Medicine

Tulane University

University of California, San Diego

University of Manchester

University of Maryland

University of Massachusetts

University of Minnesota

University of Missouri, St. Louis

University of Nebraska

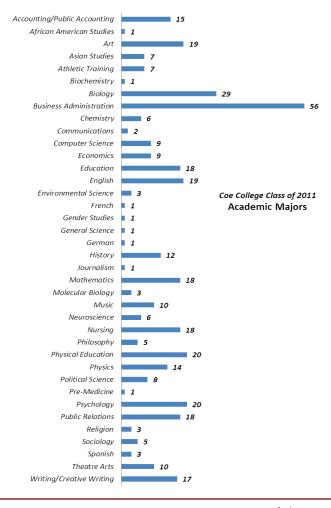
University of Northern Iowa

University of Oklahoma, Tulsa University of Oregon University of South Dakota University of Texas Washington University, St. Louis William Mitchell College

#### UNDERGRADUATE MAJOR

**Figure 9** depicts the wide range of liberal arts majors represented by the Class of 2011. This information was gathered from the Class of 2011 master list retained in the Coe College Alumni Office. The number represented is greater than the total number of Class of 2011 alumni because many had more than one major.

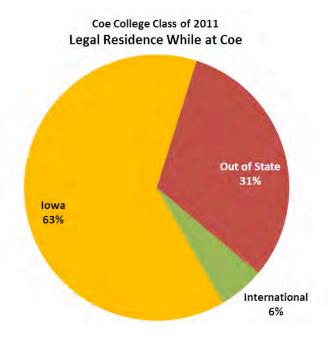
Figure 9



#### **GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION**

Of the Class of 2011 graduates who participated in these surveys, 63% originated from the state of Iowa, 31% came from other states, and 6% came from other countries. This is depicted in **Figure 10**:

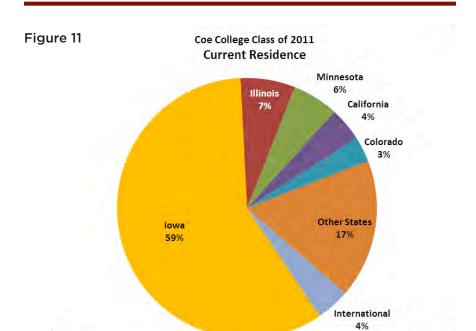
Figure 10



**Figure 11** illustrates the current location of the Class of 2011. Of those responding to the survey, 59% stayed in Iowa after graduating from Coe, 7% moved to Illinois, 6% went to Minnesota, 4% went to California, and 3% went to Colorado. 17% moved to other states within the U.S.

Four percent of the Class of 2011 survey respondents reported living outside of the United States; countries included Nepal, Spain, China, and Mongolia.

As a whole, the Class of 2011 went further afield than the Class of 2010. In total, there were 24 states represented by this class's survey respondents, compared to 16 states represented by the Class of 2010. The Class of 2010 did not report any alumni living outside the U.S. one year after graduation, whereas 4% of the Class of 2011 survey respondents reported doing so.

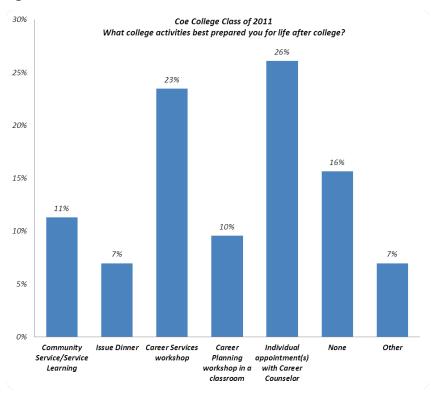


# HOW COE HELPED STUDENTS PREPARE FOR LIFE AFTER COLLEGE

Coe College is intentional about developing educational programs and engaging in individual career counseling to facilitate students' preparation for life after college. Practical support is offered by Career Services through workshops, events, and individual counseling, among other opportunities.

Alumni from the Class of 2011 were asked to offer their opinions about the most helpful aspects of their Coe College experience. Eighty-two percent of respondents said that they had used Career Services when they were students. The two most popular activities were the individual appointments with a career counselor, cited by 26% of respondents, and a workshop offered by Career Services (23%). **Figure 12** illustrates the responses.

Figure 12



#### HOW SURVEY RESULTS WERE GATHERED

The information for this report was gathered through the Senior Survey, administered just before graduation, and the First Destination Survey conducted one year later. The latter survey was developed in an electronic format using an online survey tool called *Survey Monkey*. The survey was distributed twice via email with an online link. We made other attempts through online social networking sites such as LinkedIn and Facebook to contact 2011 alumni to gather updated information. All survey and social networking information was then combined for this report.

A total of **269 alumni** from the Class of 2011 (out of 284 graduates) were represented in this report, accounting for 95% of the class.

Note: Not all questions were answered by all survey respondents.

#### CONCLUSION

This report provides a variety of information from different sources about the "first-destination" activities of the Coe College Class of 2011 up to one year after graduation. Questions related to this report may be directed to any of the Career Services staff listed below.

#### 2011 - 2012 Career Services Staff

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> Special thanks to community editors Denise Marie Mineck and Mike Benge.



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