The following is based on Career Services’ annual survey of graduating School of Design students. Between May 2011 and September 2011, Career Services surveyed students graduating in December 2010, May 2011 and August 2011. Of the 284 PennDesign graduates from this period who received the survey either online or in the mail, 130 students responded – a 46% response rate.

**Employment Status - All Respondents**

- **Full-time Employment - 46%**
- **Part-time Employment - 7%**
- **Continuing Current Employment - 3%**
- **Self-Employed - 1%**
- **Temporary Employment - 8%**
- **Full-time Graduate Studies - 3%**
- **Other - 5%**
- **Still Seeking Employment as of the date they completed the survey - 27%**

**Employment Status by Degree Program**

- **Architecture and Environmental Building Design**
  - 33% response rate

- **Landscape Architecture**
  - 46% response rate

- **City Planning**
  - 59% response rate
Positions Accepted and Average Salaries

Of the respondents who secured a new position and reported their career plans, 93% listed the date of their job offer. Of those, 75% received their offer within 2 months of their graduation date. 16% of respondents secured employment with the same company/organization in which they interned during either the first or second year of their program. 73% of respondents who secured employment provided salary information. We have provided an average salary and salary range for program degrees if 3 or more graduates indicated their full-time annual salary in their response.

KEY
* Dual-degree recipients
** Indicated “Continuing Current Employment”

Architecture, Master of Architecture (M.Arch)

Full-time Employment

Amanda Levete Architects, Design, Part II Architectural Assistant, London, United Kingdom
Anbau Enterprises, Design and Construction, Real Estate Development Associate, New York, NY
Archi-technics, Architecture, Intern Architect, New York, NY
Beyer Blinder Belle, Junior Architectural Designer, New York, NY*
CAP, Architect, New York, NY
EwingCole, Architecture, Philadelphia, PA
Experion Design Group, Architecture, Architectural Designer, New York, NY
Goettsch Partners, Architecture, Intern Architect, Chicago, IL
Hanbury Evans Wright + Vlatts + Company, Architecture, Designer I, Norfolk, VA
Herzog & de Meuron, Architecture, Architectural Assistant, Basel, Switzerland
Jakob + MacFarlane, Architecture, Designer, Paris, France
Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates, Architectural Assistant, Hong Kong
Leo A Daly, Architecture Design, Intern Architect, Washington, DC
Meadors, Inc., Project Manager Designer, Charleston, SC*
RD Rice Construction, Construction Management, Assistant Project Manager, New York, NY
Tait Towers, Design, Designer, Lititz, PA

Average Salary: $48,750
Salary Range: $30,000 - $80,000
Part-time Employment
Kruhly Architects, Junior Architect, Philadelphia, PA

Architecture, Master of Science (M.S.)

Full-time Employment
Ballinger Architects, Architecture, Junior Designer, Philadelphia, PA

Architecture, Post-Professional Program (M.Arch II)

Full-time Employment
Dianna Wong Architecture and Interior Design, Management, Project Manager, Los Angeles, CA
Lucas/Schwering Architects, Vice President, Business Development/Project Designer, Lexington, KY

Architecture, PhD

Full-time Employment
University of Pennsylvania, Undergraduate Admissions, Regional Director, Philadelphia, PA

City and Regional Planning, Master of City Planning (MCP)

Full-time Employment
AECOM, Design+Planning, Landscape Designer II, Alexandria, VA
Bank of America Merrill Lynch, Commercial Real Estate Banking, Tax Credit Equity Analyst, Washington, DC
Booz Allen Hamilton, Consultant, Washington, DC
Delaware River Waterfront Corporation, Planning, Planner/Project Manager, Philadelphia, PA
Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission, Office of Energy and Climate Change and Office of Environmental Planning, Research Analyst, Philadelphia, PA
Eastdil Secured, Debt Placement, Associate, Santa Monica, CA
Entertainment + Culture Advisors, Associate, Beverly Hills, CA
Environmental Resource Management, Air Quality, Sustainability and Climate Change, Pleasant Hill, CA
Foursquare Integrated Transportation Planning, Transportation Planner, Washington, DC
Jones Lang LaSalle, Capital Markets, Analyst, New York, NY
Meridiam Infrastructure, Analyst, New York, NY
National Development Council, Community Development Specialist, Cincinnati, OH
New York City Department of Design and Construction, Administrative Project Manager, New York, NY
Opportunity Finance Network, Financial Services, Senior Associate, Philadelphia, PA
Parsons Brinckerhoff, Strategic Consulting, Associate Consultant, San Francisco, CA
Progressive Housing Ventures, Assistant Project Manager, Malvern, PA
Sasaki, Urban Design, Intern, Boston, MA
Southern California Association of Governments, Environmental & Assessment Services, Assistant Regional Planner, Los Angeles, CA
The Pinnacle Companies, Development Manager and Head of Acquisitions, Montclair, NJ
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Program Specialist, Washington, DC
University of Illinois at Chicago College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs, Voorhees Center for Neighborhood and Community Improvement, Visiting Data Management Research Specialist, Chicago, IL

Average Salary: $64,813
Salary Range: $43,000 - $100,000

Part-time Employment
City of Philadelphia, Department of Commerce, Commerce, Intern/Grant Manager, Philadelphia, PA
Temporary Employment
Fehr & Peers, Intern, San Jose, CA
RW Ventures, Research Associate, Chicago, IL
The Assisi Foundation of Memphis, Intern, Memphis, TN

Environmental Building Design (MEBD)

Full-time Employment
Adrian Smith + Gordon Gill, Architecture, Architect + Environmental Consultant, Chicago, IL
Ballinger Architects, Architecture, Junior Architect, Philadelphia, PA**
Hellmuth, Obata + Kassabaum (HOK), Architecture + Planning, Architectural/Urban Designer, Beijing, PRC

Average Salary: $45,333
Salary Range: $40,000 - $50,000

Fine Arts, Master of Fine Arts (MFA)

Part-time Employment
Atlanta History Center, Kenan Research Center Archives, Manager of Reprographic Services, Atlanta, GA
Syracuse University, College of Visual and Performing Arts, Department of Foundations, Drawing Instructor, Syracuse, NY

Historic Preservation, Master of Science (MSHSPV)

Full-time Employment
National Park Service, Washington Rochambeau NHT, Historian and Preservation Planner, Philadelphia, PA
Smithsonian Conservation Institute, Fellow, Washington, DC
University of Pennsylvania, Historical Preservation, Research Associate, Philadelphia, PA

Part-time Employment
Right-Sized Homes, Sustainable Development Specialist, Philadelphia, PA
University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, Digital Media Center, Digitization Specialist, Philadelphia, PA

Temporary Employment
University of Pennsylvania, Graduate Program in Historic Preservation, Research Associate, Philadelphia, PA

Landscape Architecture, Master of Landscape Architecture (MLA)

Full-time Employment
AECOM, Senior Landscape Designer, Hong Kong
James Corner Field Operations, Designer, New York, NY*
OLIN, Landscape Designer, Philadelphia, PA
OLIN, Landscape Designer, Philadelphia, PA
PennPraxis, (Position Not Listed), Philadelphia, PA*
Philadelphia Water Department Consultant, CHPlanning, Office of Watersheds, City Planner and Landscape Designer, Philadelphia, PA
Reed Hilderbrand, Landscape Designer, Watertown, MA
Rogers Marvel Architects, Architect, New York, NY
SmithGroup JJR, Site Designer, Ann Arbor, MI
Thomas Balsley Associate, Landscape Architect, New York, NY

Average Salary: $49,778
Salary Range: $41,000 - $56,000
**Temporary Employment**

- Christopher Counts Studio, Landscape Designer, New York, NY
- Hargreaves Associates, Landscape Design Intern, San Francisco, CA
- Small Design Office, Design, Landscape Designer, New York, NY
- Morris Arboretum, Intern, Philadelphia, PA

**Urban Spatial Analytics (MUSA)**

**Full-time Employment**

- Oxford Economics, Tourism Economics, Senior Economist, Wayne, PA**
- Redevelopment Authority of the City of Philadelphia, Geospatial Services, Assistant Director, Philadelphia, PA
- University of Pennsylvania, Earth and Environmental Science, Information Manager, Philadelphia, PA**
- University of Pennsylvania, Psychiatry, Manager B, Philadelphia, PA**

**Average Salary**: $95,000

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**Advice from your Peers**

Below are selected comments from 2011 PennDesign graduates. More useful “Advice from your Peers” is available online: [http://www.vpul.upenn.edu/careerservices/design/careerplans/](http://www.vpul.upenn.edu/careerservices/design/careerplans/).

Be assertive and open to all possibilities. Use Career Services! It definitely helped me in getting my resume in shape for posting on online profiles. Start your portfolio early. Get feedback. Keep a contact list of people that include all past professors, employers and family friends. Even if you don’t feel comfortable at first, you'll feel like you're getting ahead by starting these contacts early on. Start creating relationships with professors during your first years at Penn. These contacts will be useful as references. Don't compare yourself to other people. Sometimes peers who have great work in school sometimes don't give good interviews or don't have a well prepared portfolio. (M.Arch 2011)

Get to networking with your professors and fellow students. Professor contacts were the biggest factor in my current employment. (M.Arch 2011)

The career fairs can be very helpful if you research the firms beforehand. Go prepared and ensure that you arrive the minute the fair starts so that you can visit your top firms first before the lines start forming. As time goes on you'll start to notice your, and even the firm representatives’, energy drop. Have multiple copies of your portfolio/resume to give to employers to take back with them. (M.Arch 2011)

My graduate advisor put me in contact with one of her friends from grad school. He, in turn, gave me a list of people who he thought would be helpful. I conducted several informational interviews and was offered an internship during one of them. (MCP 2011)

Internships are always the best way in to the field. It allows employers to get to know you and your capabilities before they hire you for a full-time position. It also allows you to make contacts in the field, helps you determine the direction of your career path, and gives you insight into how an organization is run before you commit to them full-time. Internships are always worth the few extra hours a week, even if they don't pay well. (MCP 2011)

Always send emails to specific people if you can and address your cover letter to them. Be persistent and patient and do not be afraid to follow up on your previous inquiries if you do not hear back from them in a reasonable time. Be yourself, and present yourself honestly. (MEBD 2011)

It's an uncertain economy, and many institutions are reluctant to act unless you know someone who is currently there. That said, one should not feel guilty asking for help. Most people want to help if they can. Asking someone to put in a good word for you can make all the difference. (MFA 2011)

The faculty at PennDesign are students' biggest asset while job hunting. Use them. (MLA 2011)