

Destinations of first degree graduates from the University of Cambridge using data from 2011/12 and 2012/13 DLHE returns: A comparison of bursary recipients and non-bursary recipients

Employment status (approximately 6 months after graduation)

Employment Status	Bursary recipients		Non-bursary recipients		% Difference
	Number	%	Number	%	
Further study (certificate/diploma)	15	2.27	127	2.66	-0.39
Further study (research)	83	12.58	631	13.21	-0.63
Further study (taught course)	58	8.79	585	12.25	-3.46
Further study (legal training)	19	2.88	247	5.17	-2.29
Further study (teacher training)	11	1.67	58	1.21	0.46
Independent study	3	0.45	63	1.32	-0.87
Permanent employment	284	43.03	2065	43.24	-0.21
Still seeking work/study	22	3.33	158	3.31	0.02
Temporary employment	114	17.27	509	10.66	6.61
Travelling/unavailable for work	38	5.76	253	5.30	0.46
Voluntary/unpaid work	13	1.97	80	1.68	0.29
Grand Total	660	100	4776	100	-

Table 1: The number and percentage of graduates in each employment status approximately 6 months after graduation, shown separately for bursary recipients and for all students (i.e. bursary recipients and non-bursary recipients). Data is from the 2011/12 and 2012/13 DLHE returns, combined.

We note that whilst a smaller proportion of bursary recipients continued to a taught course, this may well be explained by the fact that a correspondingly smaller proportion of this group were studying Medicine or Veterinary Medicine.

Whilst the proportion of bursary recipient graduates in temporary employment is 6.6% higher than amongst non-bursary recipients, it is worth noting that 80% of these temporary jobs were graduate level positions (see Table 2). Furthermore, 33% of bursary recipients that took a temporary job reported that they did so because it was exactly the type of work that they wanted, compared to less than a quarter of the non-bursary recipients.

Graduate level employment (approximately 6 months after graduation)

Employment type	Bursary Group	Graduate level %
All employment categories	Bursary recipients	83
	Non-bursary recipients	89
Temporary Employment	Bursary recipients	80
	Non-bursary recipients	77

Table 2: The percentage of graduates in each employment type and bursary group that were in “graduate level” employment (defined as Standard Occupation Classification major groups 1-3) approximately 6 months after graduation. Data is from the 2011/12 and 2012/13 DLHE returns, combined.

Salary (approximately 6 months after graduation)

Bursary Group	Average Salary (£)
Bursary recipients	25,295
Non-bursary recipients	26,366

Table 3: The average (mean) salaries of graduates in full-time employment who chose to disclose a salary, approximately 6 months after graduation, by bursary group. Data is from the 2011/12 and 2012/13 DLHE returns, combined.

The findings presented here are for students who left HE at the end of the 2011/12 and 2012/13 academic years, or in other words, for the Autumn 2009 and 2010 entry cohorts (for those that undertook 3 consecutive years of study only). These cohorts predate the current tuition fee regime, so naturally we intend to repeat this analysis again as soon as we are able, both to secure a broader sample and to examine how later and more recent cohorts have fared.