

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MBA/Masters Job Market Shows Initial Signs of Recovery

April 20, 2022 – The latest research released today by the MBA Career Services & Employer Alliance provides preliminary insight into the continued effects of the pandemic on the 2021-2022 job market for MBA and master’s in business students. Overall, signs are pointing to a return to pre-pandemic trends, with the survey showing a significant increase in both on and off-campus full-time job and internship postings for students across all programs compared to the previous year.

The *MBA CSEA Fall 2021 Recruiting Trends Survey*, published by the MBA Career Services & Employer Alliance, presents key information about the recruiting trends for full-time and part-time MBA students, as well as for specialty master’s program students. The report is based on confidential surveys completed in January 2022 by 77 [MBA Career Services & Employer Alliance](#) (MBA CSEA) member schools.

Overview of the Survey Results

Full-Time MBA Students

- Seventy-four percent of schools reported an increase in full-time job postings (off-campus opportunities) in Fall 2021 versus the previous year, when 21% reported an increase. On-campus opportunities (school-scheduled interviews) showed an increase as well, with 35% of schools reporting an increase in 2021 versus 21% in 2020.
- The Consulting industry saw the largest increase, with 84% of schools reporting an increase. This is significant difference from the previous year’s survey, where 7% of schools reported an increase. Technology also saw an increase in 2021 (82%), compared with 57% reporting an increase in 2020. Hospitality saw the largest number of schools reporting a decrease (33%), albeit a smaller percent than in 2020 (61%).
- For the second year, large-sized companies saw the largest increase by organization type, with 76% of schools reporting an increase. Small-sized companies saw the largest decrease (50% reporting a decrease).

Part-Time MBA Students

- Full-time job postings (off-campus opportunities) for Part-time MBAs were also up compared to last year’s survey, with 55% of schools reporting an increase compared with 26% in 2020. Similarly, on-campus opportunities (school-scheduled interviews) showed an increase with 31% of schools reporting as such, compared with six percent in 2020.
- Technology showed the largest increase for the second year in a row, with 77% of schools reporting an increase compared with 31% in 2020. Consulting and Financial Services also showed increases (68% and 53.8%, respectively).

Specialty Masters Students (Master’s in Finance, Data Analytics, Accounting, Marketing, etc.)

- 64% of schools reported an increase in full-time job postings (off-campus recruiting), compared with 28% last year. For on-campus recruiting (school-scheduled interviews), 37% experienced an increase, compared with 8% the previous year.
- Similar to Part-time MBA programs, the Technology industry experienced the largest increase in recruiting, with 77% of schools reporting an increase (compared with 53% seeing an increase last year).

In-person recruiting experiences such as career fairs continued to see a decrease in activity, while practically all virtual experiences and programs continued to increase. A majority of summer internships were virtual in 2021, although not as many as in 2020. This may indicate that virtual experiences are here to stay, while in-person activities are slowly returning in a smaller capacity.



More than an association. A community.

Most schools experienced an increase in demand for individual and/or group coaching, indicating a continued need for high-touch services.

Schools and employers continue to adjust to the ever-changing world of student engagement and recruitment, expanding existing programs and implementing new ones to meet students' needs. With lessons learned from the past two years, it's likely that a continued, better form of virtual recruiting will continue well into the post-pandemic world.

"Even as more schools and businesses resume in-person activities, many will continue to take advantage of the benefits of virtual recruiting," says John Helmers, Director of Graduate Career Management at the University of Colorado Boulder, Leeds School of Business and MBA CSEA President. "Career services teams and recruiting organizations continue to remain flexible and collaborative, adjusting to meet the ever-changing needs of students."

About the MBA Career Services & Employer Alliance

Founded in 1994, the MBA Career Services & Employer Alliance is a global association for individuals in the fields of graduate business career services and employers. There are more than 880 members representing a diverse group of more than 230 business schools and corporations. MBA CSEA provides a direct link between business school career services offices, graduate business recruiting professionals and the media. MBA CSEA sets employment data reporting standards for business schools and monitors media rankings surveys for survey interpretation and alignment. www.mbacsea.org

Contact:

Megan Hendricks, MBA CSEA Executive Director

excdirector@mbacsea.org

813-220-3191

###