2014 Master’s Program Placement Survey: 
Survey of MLIS’13 Graduates

The McGill University School of Information Studies (SIS) conducts an annual survey of master’s program graduates approximately a year after graduation to inform the School of career progress and employment patterns of recent graduates and assist future graduates to better understand employment climate and options.

Results of the survey of 2013 Master of Library & Information Studies (MLIS) graduates indicate that the majority of respondents obtained work in full-time, professional positions directly related to the MLIS degree. The approximate average salary for respondents with full-time professional positions was $54,000. The majority of MLIS’13 survey respondents work in public, academic, and government libraries, followed by corporations, museums, government, and international organizations. A number of respondents highlighted the experience gained in the Master’s Practicum program as an important contributor to securing a first job, with other graduates pointed to skills gained in the areas of management, marketing, and communications; subject-specific specializations; paid work experience; and internships as useful in finding employment.

RESPONSE RATE: 23%. Out of 88 graduates, 20 responded.*

1. **Employment Status**
   - Full-time 90%
   - Part-time 10%
   - Self-employed -
   - Not employed -

2. **Type of Appointment**
   - Permanent 60%
   - Temporary 5%
   - Contract 35%

3. **Type of Position**
   - Professional 85%
   - Non-professional 15%

4. **Employment is Related to the MLIS Degree**
   - Yes 100%
   - No -

5. **Gender**
   - Female 90%
   - Male 10%
6. Location of Employment

Montreal 30%
Province of Quebec 20%
Other Canadian prov. 20%
USA 20%
Other country:
  Switzerland 10%
  Germany

7. Type of Organization

Public Library 30%
University/College Library 20%
Government Library 15%
Corporation 10%
School Library 5%
Museum 5%
International Organization 5%
Government Agency 5%
Other:
  Academic Publisher 5%

8. Types of Primary Roles/Responsibilities

Reference/Information Services 15%
Collection Management 10%
Youth & Children’s Services 10%
Acquisition Management 5%
Administration/Management 5%
Archives 5%
Information Literacy Instruction 5%
Circulation 5%
Interlibrary Loans 5%
Knowledge Management 5%
Marketing, Outreach, Public Relations 5%
Indexing/Abstracting 3%
Information Specialist 3%
Cataloguing 3%
Taxonomies/Web Content Management 3%
Other:
  Records Management 13%
  Library Website & Digital User Experience
  Guest Services (Museum)
  Public Services/Programming (Library)
  University Press Acquisitions

9. Job Titles

Librarian (2), Research Services Librarian, Supervising Librarian, School Librarian, Manager of Public Services, Multilingual Services Coordinator, Children’s Librarian Intern, Teen Services Librarian, Digital User Experience Librarian, Special Project Officer (Archives), Guest Services Ambassador (Museum), Editorial Assistant, Sustainability Manager, Information & Knowledge Management Specialist, Records Management Coordinator, Special Collections Curator.
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Employment was Obtained

- Before entering MLIS program: 6%
- Before completing degree: 33%
- Less than 3 months after completing degree: 11%
- 3-6 months after completing degree: 28%
- 6+ months after completing degree: 22%

Area of Knowledge or Skill Acquired While in the MLIS Program Most Useful in Securing a First Job

- Practicum experience: 35%
- Subject specialization (cataloguing, reference, business, science, etc.): 12%
- Management, marketing, communication skills: 12%
- Technological skills: 6%
- Other: 35%
  - Work experience (2), including working as a Student Navigator at the McGill Library
  - Internship at current workplace
  - Bilingualism
  - Volunteer experience
  - Helpful, experienced classmates

Average Salary for Respondents with Full-Time Professional Positions: $53,913

*Methodology: In 2014, a survey questionnaire was sent to the official McGill University email addresses of 2013 graduates. Completed questionnaires were emailed back to the School.

Percentages are rounded to the nearest whole number.