



Introduction

During their final semester of undergraduate study, graduating seniors enrolled in a non-credit course, “University Graduation,” receive an e-mail with reminders of tasks to be completed before graduation. Included in this email is a link to a non-mandatory Graduating Senior Exit Survey. This survey, initiated by Auburn University’s Career Center, is designed to capture career plans along with measuring the influence of the Career Center in locating employment.

During the fall 2010 semester, 1,154 undergraduate students received the email, with 413 completing the survey. Spring 2011 semester, 2,256 students received the email, with 754 responding. In summer 2011 semester, 818 graduating seniors were emailed, with 291 responding. Reminder messages were sent two weeks out from each initial email. In total, the exit survey for the 2010 academic year resulted in responses from 1,458 students, for a response rate of 34.5%.

Response Rate by College

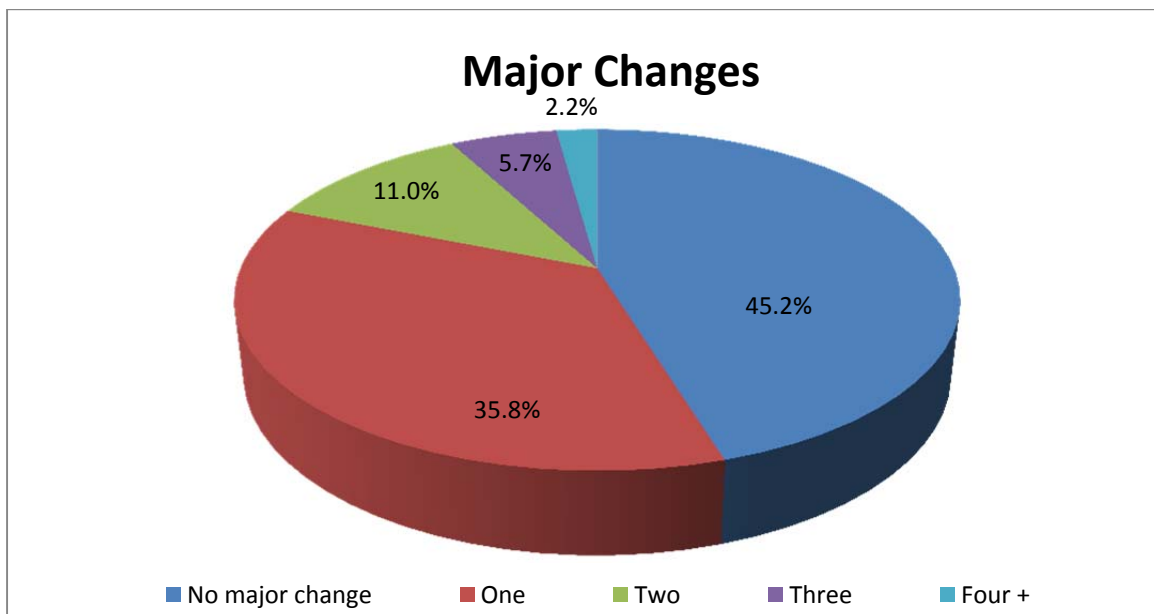
College	Respondents	Percentage of Respondents	Graduates	Percentage of Graduates
None Reported	30	2.1 %		
Agriculture	65	4.5 %	186	4.5 %
Architecture	73	5.0 %	275	6.6 %
Business	322	22.1 %	878	21.1 %
Education	248	17.0 %	420	10.1 %
Engineering	200	13.7 %	516	12.4 %
Forestry	15	1.0 %	60	1.4 %
Interdepartmental	0	0 %	9	0.2 %
Human Sciences	130	8.9 %	294	7.1 %
Liberal Arts	259	17.8 %	1,098	26.4 %
Nursing	22	1.5 %	79	1.9 %
Sciences & Mathematics	94	6.4 %	342	8.2 %
<i>Total</i>	<i>1,458</i>	<i>100.0%</i>	<i>4,157</i>	<i>100.0%</i>



Responses by college to the survey in comparison to the total graduating class of fall 2010 spring and summer 2011 are listed on page one. The group of students responding to the survey closely resembled the total college/school makeup of the graduating class. However, responses from students in the College of Education were slightly higher in comparison to the entire group of graduates. Additionally, responses from the College of Liberal Arts were slightly lower than the entire class.

Change of Major

Similar to results in earlier surveys, over half (54.7%) of the respondents indicated that they had changed majors while at Auburn University. It is somewhat surprising, however, that 81% of this group of students reported either never changing majors or changing majors only once during their career at Auburn. However, “change major” is self-reported and defined subjectively. This self-reported number of major changes seems to be lower than what is generally believed to be true across campus, calling for additional investigation. Results from this question are seen below.





Future Career Plans

When asked about future plans, 58% (790 students) of the responses received indicate plans to be employed full time or part time following graduation. An additional 30.2 % (412 students) indicated plans to enroll in graduate school either full time or part time. Students were given the opportunity to report “other” plans. Several students were embarking on an internship (16). While, others were planning their job search (16) with some taking time off to travel (3). Results are below:

Future Plans	Frequency	Percentage
Additional Undergraduate	28	2.1%
Employment Full Time	720	52.8%
Employment Part Time	71	5.2%
Family	72	5.3%
Grad School Full Time	333	24.4%
Grad School Part Time	79	5.8%
Military	35	2.6%
Volunteer	26	1.9%
Total	1,364	100.0%



Location of Employment

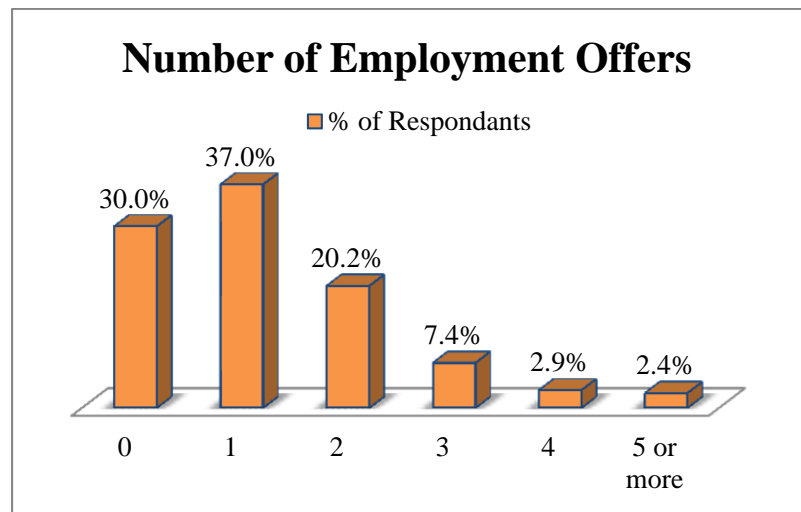
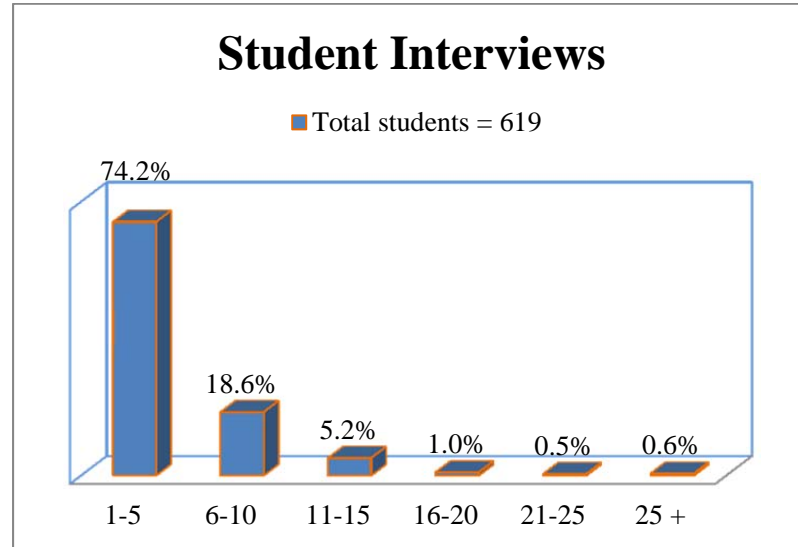
State/Country	Count	Percentage
Alabama	195	50.3%
Georgia	76	19.6%
Florida	18	4.6%
Texas	13	3.4%
Arizona	1	0.3%
Arkansas	1	0.3%
California	6	1.5%
Colorado	3	0.8%
Connecticut	1	0.3%
Illinois	2	0.5%
Kansas	1	0.3%
Louisiana	3	0.8%
Massachusetts	1	0.3%
Michigan	1	0.3%
Mississippi	4	1.0%
Missouri	2	0.5%
New Jersey	1	0.3%
New York	5	1.3%
North Carolina	2	0.5%
North Dakota	1	0.3%
Ohio	1	0.3%
Oklahoma	2	0.5%
Oregon	1	0.3%
Pennsylvania	4	1.0%
South Carolina	5	1.3%
Tennessee	5	1.3%
Virginia	7	1.8%
Washington	1	0.3%
Washington, D.C.	5	1.3%
Wisconsin	1	0.3%
Wyoming	2	0.5%
Military Assignment	15	3.9%
Philippines	1	0.3%
Rwanda	1	0.3%
Total	388	

Job Interviews, Resulting Offers and Employment

Students were asked a series of questions about obtaining employment. Approximately 27% (388) reported being employed at the time of graduation, with an additional 3% (45) having received offers of employment. Half (50.3%) of those locating employment are remaining in Alabama for their first job with an additional 19.6 % in Georgia, 4.6% in Florida, and 3.4% in Texas. Two students reported the Philippines and Rwanda as country of employment.

Salary information can be seen in Appendix A, on page nine.

List of employers is in Appendix B, page eleven.



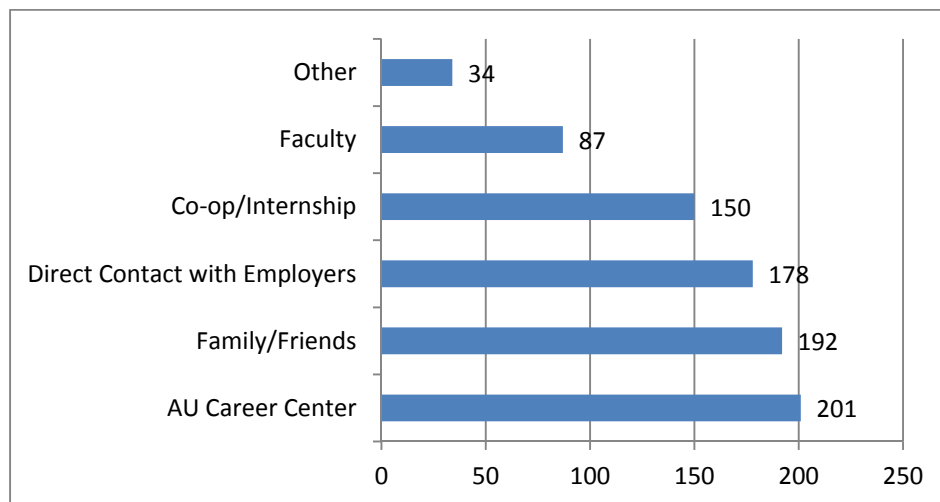
Students were also asked about the number of interviews they had during their job search prior to graduation. The question was worded to capture information about all interviews (beyond those offered through Career Development Services). Almost half (45.5%, 619 students) of the respondents reported actively interviewing prior to graduation. The majority of these students had between one and five interviews (74.2%).



The next question was “How many offers of employment did you receive as a result of the interviews?” Students who are actively seeking jobs (interviewing on or off-campus) are finding success. Seventy percent (433 out of 619) of the students who reported interviewing for a job received at least one job offer. Tables of interviews and offers are listed on page five.

Resources Helpful in Job Search

Respondents were asked to identify resources most helpful to them in their job search. Checking multiple resources was allowed with the option to list other resources. A total of 513 students listed one or more resources as being helpful in their job search. This year, the resource listed the greatest number of times as being helpful was Career Development Services (201), followed by family/friends (192), direct contact with employers (178), and faculty (87). Other resources listed included: military assignments (7), job search engines (6), Auburn Alumni Club (1), and specific career fairs (Minority Engineering Event, PLANET Student Career Days, Poultry Science Club Career Workshop). Results are below.



The former Career Development Services is referred to as the AU Career Center beginning in the academic year 2011-12. Services include on-campus interviews through Tiger Recruiting Link, Career Expos/Fairs, Counselors, etc.



For a final question about job search resources, students were asked “While attending AU, did you utilize or participate in any of the following activities sponsored by Career Development Services (CDS)?” Seventy-one percent the respondents acknowledged using the services of the CDS (AU Career Center). The most noted services were those which provided opportunities to interact with employers such as job fairs (56%) and Tiger Recruiting Link (50.5%). On-line resources were utilized by 36.3% of the respondents, followed by career counseling/assessment (32.2%) and finally workshops/seminars (19.9%). See responses below.

Career Development Services

Career Development Services	Yes	No	Unsure	Responses
Career Expo, Interview Days, Job Fairs, etc.	56.0%	42.3%	1.6%	1,299
Tiger Recruiting Link	50.5%	46.9%	2.6%	1,291
CDS online resources	36.3%	61.3%	2.3%	1,552
Career Counseling/Assessment	32.2%	65.2%	2.6%	1,269
Workshops/seminars	19.9%	78.0%	2.1%	1,251

Summary

Students who are interviewing for jobs on or off-campus continue to be successful at receiving offers of employment (70%). However, the percentage of students who are interviewing prior to graduation has remained below 50% during the last two years (47.8% in 2009, 45.5% in 2010). This proportion has declined since the 2008-09 exit survey which showed that 63% of students were interviewing on or off campus. The proportion of the graduating class planning to attend graduate school has increased from 26.7% in the 2008-09 exit survey to 30.2% for this graduating class. Perhaps in the downturn of the economy, more students are electing to apply for graduate school rather than interview for jobs.

Links to Previous Graduating Senior Exit Surveys

https://oira.auburn.edu/factbook/survey/seniorexit/Exit_Survey0809_final.pdf

https://oira.auburn.edu/factbook/survey/seniorexit/Exit_Survey0910_final.pdf



While participation in interview opportunities may be declining over the last three years, 71% of the respondents acknowledged using services offered by Career Development Services (currently referred to as AU Career Center). Utilization of CDS services has remained above 70% over the last three years, (77% in 2008-09, 78% in 2009-10). It is possible that students are using the Tiger Recruiting Link to apply directly to employers without interviewing prior to graduation. Additionally, students may be posting resumes on the Tiger Recruiting Link, allowing employers to contact them directly.

The decline in interviewing activities has not resulted in a reduction of students finding employment prior to graduating. Almost 27% of this group of students reported information about a job at graduation, which is a notable increase from 19% in the 2009-10 exit survey. So there has been an increase in the proportion of students locating employment at graduation and continued success at receiving offers from interviews. The reduction in the number of students interviewing prior to graduation calls for further investigation. An increase in plans for further education, and possible electronic job application processes may be decreasing face to face interviewing.



Appendix A: Salaries by College/Major*

Major	Average Salary
College of Agriculture	
Ag Econ, Bus, & Comm.	\$31,000
Agronomy & Soils/Horticulture	\$31,950
Animal Science/Poultry Sc.	\$34,000
Landscape Horticulture	\$33,275
All Agriculture Majors Combined	\$32,778
College of Architecture, Design and Construction	
Architecture	\$41,566
Building Science	\$49,694
Industrial Design/Graphic Design	\$49,333
College of Business	
Accounting (all jobs combined)	\$46,686
Accounting (accounting firms only)	\$49,900
Aviation Management	\$36,440
Business Administration	\$39,737
Economics	\$46,750
Entrepreneurship & Family Business	\$45,000
Finance	\$45,676
Human Resource Mgt.	\$41,200
International Business	\$38,166
Information Systems Mgt.	\$49,833
Management	\$33,300
Marketing	\$41,666
Supply Chain Management	\$43,983
College of Education	
Teacher Education	\$28,738
Exercise Science	\$28,200
Health Promotion	\$29,000



Samuel Ginn College of Engineering

Aerospace	\$47,375
Biosystems	\$57,000
Chemical	\$69,223
Civil	\$49,631
Computer Science	\$53,525
Electrical & Computer	\$55,395
Industrial & Systems	\$59,000
Materials	\$53,200
Mechanical	\$56,473
Software	\$56,666
Wireless	\$58,000

School of Forestry & Wildlife Sciences

All majors combined	\$36,666
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College of Human Sciences

Apparel Merchandising, Design & Prod.	\$35,000
Hotel & Restaurant Management	\$30,970
Interior Design	\$34,000
Human Dev & Family Studies	\$29,750

College of Liberal Arts

All Majors Combined	\$30,385
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School of Nursing

Nursing	\$41,040
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College of Science & Math

All Majors Combined	\$34,166
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*All data self-reported by graduates and only include base salary.

Salary report prepared by Auburn University Career Center from survey data.



Appendix B: List of Employers by College

College of Agriculture

Alabama Farmer's Cooperative
Alexander City Veterinary Clinic
American Proteins
Animal Health Center
Auburn University Large Animal Clinic
Buck Jones and Associates
Cobb-Vantress
Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
Eden Landscape Design
Emergency and Specialty Animal Medical Center
Findley's Eatery
Greenwood Group
JA Dawson and Company
Landscape Workshop
McDonald Oil Company
Opelika Animal Hospital
Russell Landscape Group
Sandy's Stables
Stuckey Consulting Services
The Garden District
US Army Reserves
Valley Crest Landscape
Vision Landscapes Inc.

College of Architecture

Andrew Schmidt
B.L. Harbert International
Bechtel
Brasfield & Gorrie General Contractors
Cheyenne Steel
DOD
Holland Homes LLC

Howard Painting, Inc.
Marathon Electric
Motion Industries
Paramount Contractors Inc
Sherlock, Smith, & Adams
Southern Living
StageDoor Manor
Turner Universal
William Electric Company

College of Business

Aaron's Computer Services
Air Force
Air Wisconsin Airlines
Alabama Farmers Co-op
Alabama Society of CPAs
Alley Bar Montgomery LLC
APR, LLC
AT&T Mobility
Auburn University
Auburn University Bookstore
AuburnBank
Aurora Group Inc.
Capegemini
CGI
Cheyenne Regional Airport
CoachComm, LLC
Cofield Timber
Davis Development Inc.
Deloitte & Touche, LLP
Dick's Sporting Goods
Diversified Services, Inc.
DMC Atlanta



Dothan Warehouse
East Alabama Medical Center
Elite Transit Solutions
Enon Plantation
Enterprise
Ernst & Young, LLP
Exel Logistics
Faucett, Taylor, and Associates
Fawn D Turner
FCI
Fellowship of Catholic University Students
Ferguson
Frito-Lay
Fulton Communications
GH&I
Golden Donuts LLC
GOPAC
Habif, Arogeti, and Wynne
Harris, Cotheman, Jones, Price & Associates
Heritage Bank of the South
Initial Outfitters
International Mission Board
Jemison Demsey
JH Williams Oil Company
Jostens
Katrenah Wilson
Keller Williams
Kohls
KPMG, LLP
Lanigan & Associates, P.C.
Lovoy, Summerville, and Shelton, PC
Managed Market Resources
Mauldin & Jenkins
McCollum, Crutchfield, & Wilson, P.C.
Meyer Real Estate
Motion Industries
Norfolk Southern
Oakland University
Page International
Payment Alliance International

Penske Truck Leasing
Pittman Financial partners
Pool Corp
PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Regions Financial
Sellers Richardson Holman & West
Sherwin-Williams
Sogeti USA
Southeastern Freight Lines
Stanley-Black and Decker
STI
SunTrust Robinson Humphrey
Svply.com
Teach For America - Alabama
Teradyne
The Campus Special
The Home Depot
The Onin Group
ThyssenKrupp Steel USA
Topsail Bar & Grill
Transfreight
U.S. Government
Verizon
Waddell and Reed
Waite's Cleaners
Walmart
Wayne Gentry Builders, Inc.
Wells Fargo

College of Education

Auburn University
Auburn Gymnastics Academy
Auburn University
Auburn University Bookstore
Auburn University Hotel and Conference Center
Baylor University Football Team
Broad Bay Manor School
Capitol Business Equipment (CBE)
Cherokee County School System
City of San Diego Lifeguards



Creative Discovery
Dunwoody Academy
East Alabama Medical Center
Farmville Baptist Church
Gibraltar Ministries, Inc. /High School
Glenwook
Haney Equipment
Hayes Martial Arts
Healthplus
Madison Academy
Mel-O-Da Farms
Moore's Mill Club
Mulberry Properties
Northside High School
Opelika City Schools
Saint Joe's Hospital
Tiger Stripes
TodayCare Children Center
United States Marine Corps
Wee School
Winn Dixie

Samuel Ginn College of Engineering

ADTRAN
AirWatch
Alabama Department of Transportation
Alabama Power
ATAP Inc.
Brasfield & Gorrie, LLC
CDG Engineers and Associates
Chevron
CoachComm
Commerce Networks
CSC
Deangelis Diamond Construction, Inc. Healthcare
Group
Delta Air Lines, Inc.
DWG Consulting Engineers Inc.
Eglin Airforce Base Air Armament Command
Enercon Services

ExxonMobil
ExxonMobile Production
Five Stones Research Corporation
Fortna
Georgia Pacific
Georgia Tech Research Institute
GKN Aerospace
Gulf Power
Halla Climate Systems Alabama
Harris Corporation
Henry M Jackson Foundation for Advancement of
Military Medicine
Home Depot
Honda Manufacturing of Alabama
Hyundai America Technical Center Inc.
Independence Construction Materials
Intel Corporations
International Paper
Kiewit
Kimley-Horn
Krebs Architecture
L3 Communications
Lockheed Martin
Mainstream Engineering Corporation
Michelin
Milliken & Company
Momentive Specialty Chemicals
National Instruments
Naval Surface Warfare Center (NAVSEA)
Norfolk Southern
North Carolina State University
PCS Nitrogen
Pratt & Whitney
Puget Sound Naval Shipyard
RaceTrac
RainWave
Redstone Test Center
Rockwell Automation
Schlumberger
Southern Company, Mississippi Power



Trane
United State Air Force
United States Steel Corporation
United Technologies Corporation
US Navy
Volkert & Associates
Zazu

School of Forestry & Wildlife Sciences

Academy Sports and Outdoors
MeadWestvaco Corp
Turner Beverage Company
USDA Wildlife Services

College of Human Sciences

Amangani Resort
Ashley Gilbreath Interior Design
Auburn University
Cagle's Inc
Callaway Gardens
Cornerstone Building Company
Design Directions International
Dillard's
Family Child Care Partnerships, Auburn University
Goddard School
Head Over Heels Gymnastics
j.d.bell inc.
Judith March LLC
Longhorn Steak House
Momma Goldberg's Deli
Nautica
Pesce with Landry's Restaurant Group
Storybook Farm
The Alabama Community Healthy Marriage Initiative
The Cancer Treatment Centers of America
The Hotel at Auburn University
The Johnson Studio
Trincherro Family Estates
West Paces Hotel Group

College of Liberal Arts

Afni, Inc
American Cancer Society
American Heart Association
Applied Behavioral Consulting, LLC
Ash Grove Packaging
Auburn University
Bridge 2 Rwanda
Central Alabama Veterans Health System
Chadwick's
Clay County Automotive
Community Health Systems
Congressman Mac Thornberry D.C. Office
Daily Local News
David Hochstrasser
Dayspring Nature Shop
DeKalb County Department of Human Resources
Disney
Dolce Group
Douglas County Schools
EAMC
East Alabama Mental Health
Edelman Public Relations
Ellis Harper Advertising
Enterprise Holdings
Entertainment Tonight
Fellowship of Catholic University Students
Hutchison School
IBBI
Johnathan Fail
Liberty National Life Insurance
Marsh & McLennan
MedxSYS
Merrill Lynch
Price Publications Inc.
Reformed University Fellowship
Restore Therapy
Santa Fe Cattle Company
St. James School
Stephen DeVries Photography



Student Affairs

Teach For America

Tech Marketing

The Aurora Group

The HR Department

Uline

United States Air Force

United States Congressman Robert Aderholt

United States Marine Corps

United States Navy

University of South Alabama

Walt Disney World College Program

Whitestone Production

Winn Dixie Stores Inc.

Wolfskin Productions

YMCA Montgomery

Young Life

School of Nursing

U.S. Army

Bay Medical Center

D.W. McMillan Memorial Hospital

EAMC

East Alabama Medical Center

Ochsner Health System

UAB Hospital

College of Science & Mathematics

Auburn University

Auburn University Graduate School

Birmingham Zoo

Campus Crusade for Christ

Deloitte Consulting

Hyundai Motor Manufacturing Alabama

Redstone Test Center

Student Conservation Association

Sylvan Learning Center

USMC

Walgreen's Company