

Alumni Survey Overview

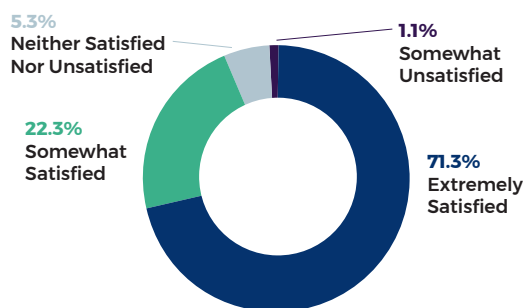
Anchal Malh '24
Kessler Scholars Alum

Highlighting Four Years of Survey Data

Each spring since 2023, the Kessler Scholars Collaborative has distributed a survey to all program alumni who graduated in the previous academic year. The survey is distributed via email, utilizing each alum's personal email address if known and otherwise defaulting to their .edu email address. Four years of one-year-after-graduation surveys have yielded 104 responses, with the survey response rate steadily increasing each year.

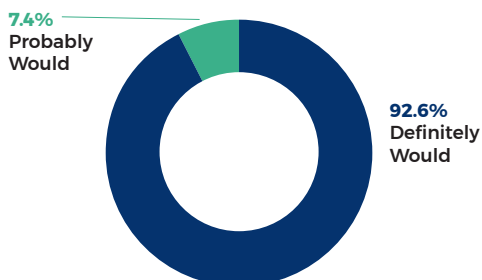
Program Satisfaction

Overall, how satisfied were you with your experience in the Kessler Scholars Program at [Institution]?



93.6%
were
somewhat
or extremely
satisfied.

Would you encourage a high school senior who resembles you when you were a high school senior (similar background, ability, interests) to be a Kessler Scholar at [Institution]?



100%
probably or
definitely would
recommend
being a Kessler
Scholar at their
alma mater.



With absolute confidence, I can say **this program changed my life for the better.**
Thank you for everything you do for first-generation students like myself!"



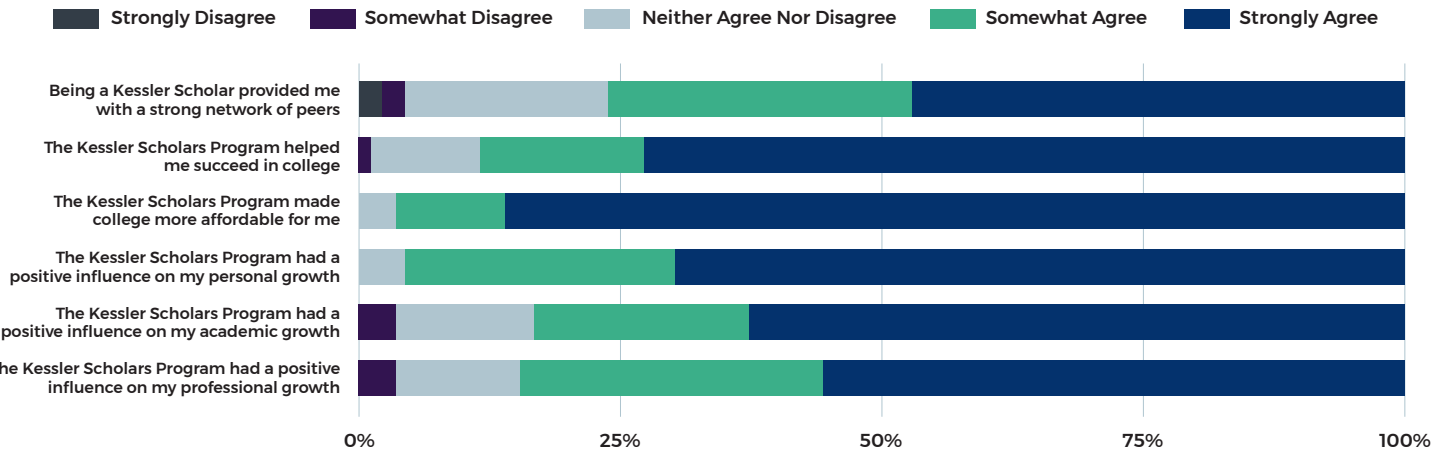
Scholarships and opportunities like Kessler Scholars relieved a large financial burden . . . **I have much more peace and focus on my professional life.**"



I am incredibly grateful for the opportunity to be part of the Kessler Scholars Program. Especially at [my university] where the divide between demographics feels large. Thank you!"

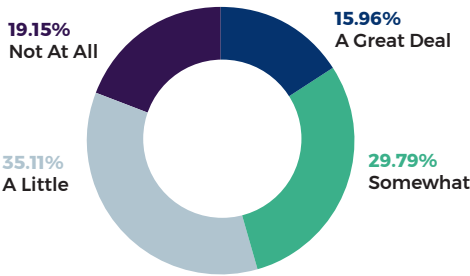
Reflections on Program Influence

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

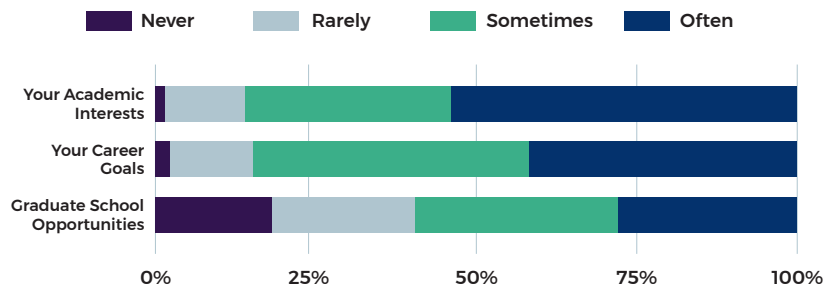


Surfacing an Area for Support: The Transition to Life After College

To what extent did your involvement in the Kessler Scholars Program prepare you for life after college?



How often did you discuss the following with a Kessler Scholars Program staff member?



I think **more support for students finding post-grad jobs and internship opportunities** would be great! As first-gen students oftentimes we don't have strong personal networks to get us the opportunities we may want."

The 2026 Alumni Survey

In 2026, the survey was distributed to 107 alumni who graduated in the 2024-25 academic year from:

Cornell University
Johns Hopkins University
Queens College
St. Francis College

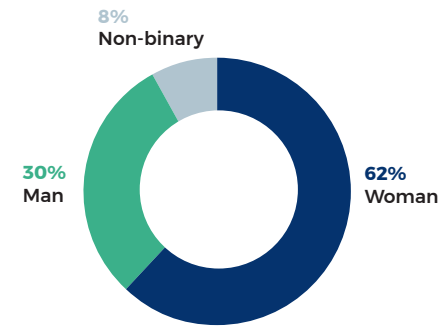
Syracuse University
University of Michigan
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

37 alumni (34.6%) completed the survey, exceeding industry averages for alumni survey responses.

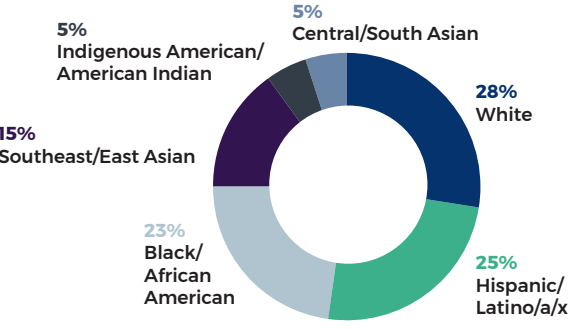
All alumni who completed the survey received a **\$20 e-gift card**.

2026 Respondent Demographics

Gender Identity

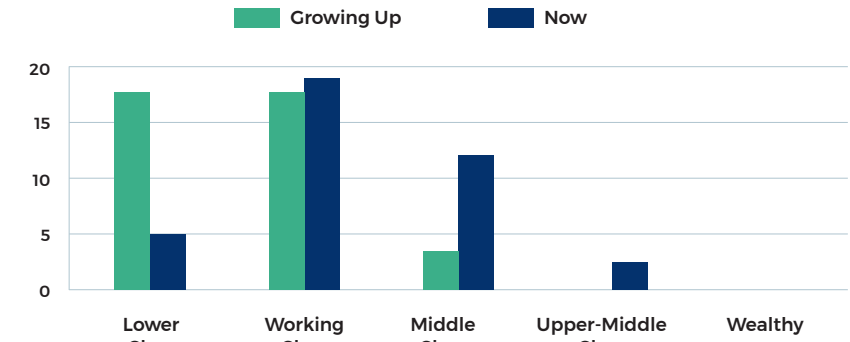


Racial and/or Ethnic Identity



Socioeconomic Mobility

How would you describe your socioeconomic status most of the time when you were growing up? How would you describe your socioeconomic status now?

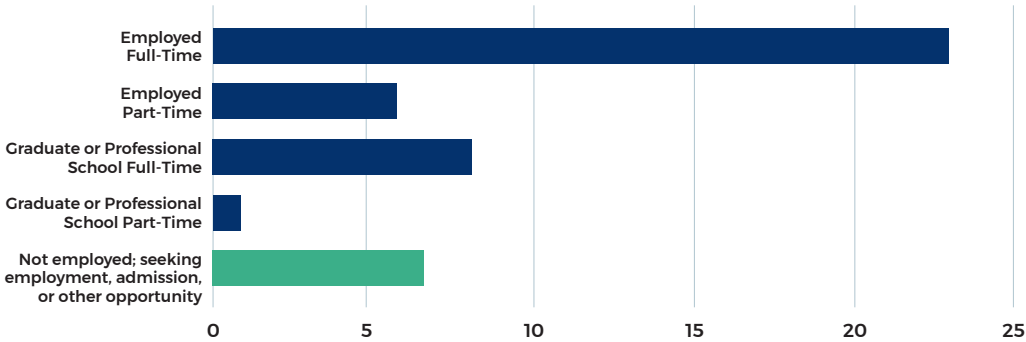


8% described their socioeconomic status as middle or upper-middle class while growing up.

38% described their socioeconomic status as middle or upper-middle class now.

Post-College Experiences

Current Professional Status

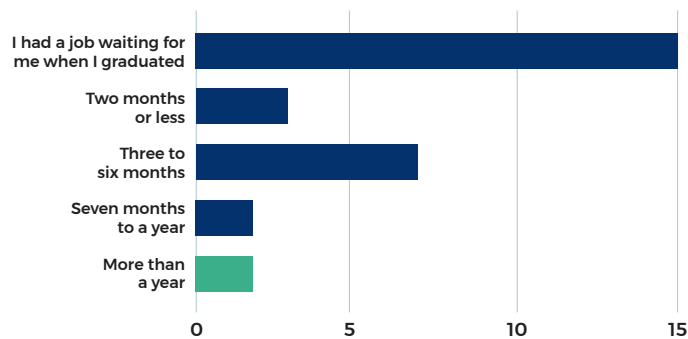


92% of respondents were employed or enrolled in graduate school within one year of graduation.

Respondents attend graduate schools like: **Brown University**, St. Francis College, **Syracuse University**, and the University of Michigan. Most respondents in graduate school are enrolled at their undergraduate alma mater.

Respondents work for employers like: Accenture, Amazon, Angel Animal Hospital, Great Lakes Water Authority, JPMorgan Chase, KIPP Academy, Microsoft, Ohio Health, Sidley Austin, SW Detroit Environmental Vision, Tetra Tech, and Wells Fargo.

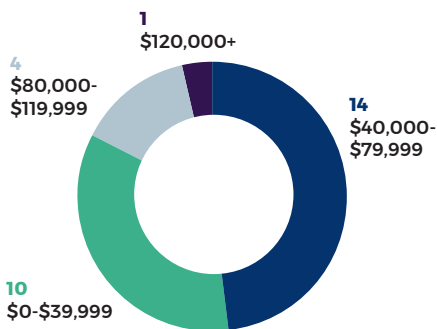
Length of Time to Employment After Completion of Undergraduate Degree



The percentage of employed respondents for whom it took **three months or more to land a job after graduation** fluctuates year over year, but has **more than doubled since 2024.**

Most Popular Career Fields (Current or Intended)
Healthcare; Social and Human Services; Research; Science – Life and Physical; Non-Profit, NGO, Philanthropy

Annual Salary One Year After Graduation



Respondents earning below \$39,000 tend to be working in entry-level healthcare roles and/or concurrently enrolled in graduate school. A small subset (2) are underemployed – employed in roles that do not require a postsecondary degree. For reference: According to the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE), the average projected starting salary for the Class of 2025 was \$76,251.

Opportunities for Engagement

89%

of respondents are interested in serving as a mentor to a current Kessler Scholar.

86%

of respondents are interested in serving as a speaker or panelist.

67%

of respondents are interested in hosting or joining an in-person gathering of local Kessler Scholars and/or alumni.

46%

of respondents feel connected to the Kessler Scholars community as alumni.

Continuing the Conversation

Campus program staff with alumni who completed the 2026 Alumni Survey will receive a campus-specific report via email in the weeks following the Summer Convening. Any campus program staff who would like to dig deeper into Alumni Survey findings and their implications for alumni tracking/engagement are encouraged to reach out to Sabrina Wise at swise@kessler scholars.org.