Forestry Placement and Careers

ISU Forestry graduates continue to have strong job placement prospects, with placement of recent graduates at 95%.* Employers of our recent graduates include:

- AmeriCorps
- Des Moines Parks and Recreation
- Iowa Department of Natural Resources
- Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation
- Kimball International
- Michigan Tech University
- North Central Regional Plant Introduction Station
- South Dakota Association of Conservation Districts
- The Forestland Group

Recent graduates are pursuing further education at the following institutions:

- Iowa State University
- University of Minnesota
- University of Western Australia
- University of Wisconsin

Recent graduates are working in job titles that include Conservation Officer/Park Ranger, Firefighter, Forest Ranger, Government/Private Forestry Technician, Timber Procurement Specialist, Urban Forester, and Wood Products Specialist. The average starting salaries for these positions are between $25,140 and $30,773, depending on job title. The salary range reported in the most recent complete survey is from $9,100 to $43,500 per year.† Starting salaries for ISU foresters for 2013-2014 range from $12,000 to $64,500 per year, with an average of $35,500 per year.‡

---

* The ISU College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Career Services Office surveys all students six months following graduation to determine placement status. The most recent survey, for fall semester 2012 through summer session 2013, shows 20 forestry graduates with 19 in full- or part-time employment and/or graduate school and/or military service, with the remaining student seeking work. This survey is in line with our experience of 95% to 100% placement over the past several years. The source document for current data may be found here:

http://www.career.cals.iastate.edu/cals-career-services-0

† Entry-level Salary Information for Recent Graduates in Agriculture and Related Disciplines is based on an annual survey of participating Universities. The most recent survey (2013/2014) and prior years’ surveys to 2006/2007 may be viewed here:

http://www.career.cals.iastate.edu/salary-housing-and-internship-information

‡ 2013-2014 Academic Year, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Bachelor of Science Degree Recipients:

http://www.career.cals.iastate.edu/sites/default/files/Salary%20data%20ISU%201314.pdf