

MARCH 5, 2024

GRADUATE SCHOOL OVERVIEW

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- Ask questions in Q&A – responses are visible to everyone, review responses before asking question
- Program information:
https://gograd.ku.edu/portal/prog_website
- If unable to find information or have additional questions, email: graduateadm@ku.edu

PRESENTATION FORMAT & PROGRAM INFORMATION

Please note that this session is being recorded.

Recording and slides will be available to all registrants shortly.

- Deciding whether to go to graduate school
- What graduate school looks like
- Resources

Please note that this session is being recorded.

A graduate degree may be required for your desired professional field

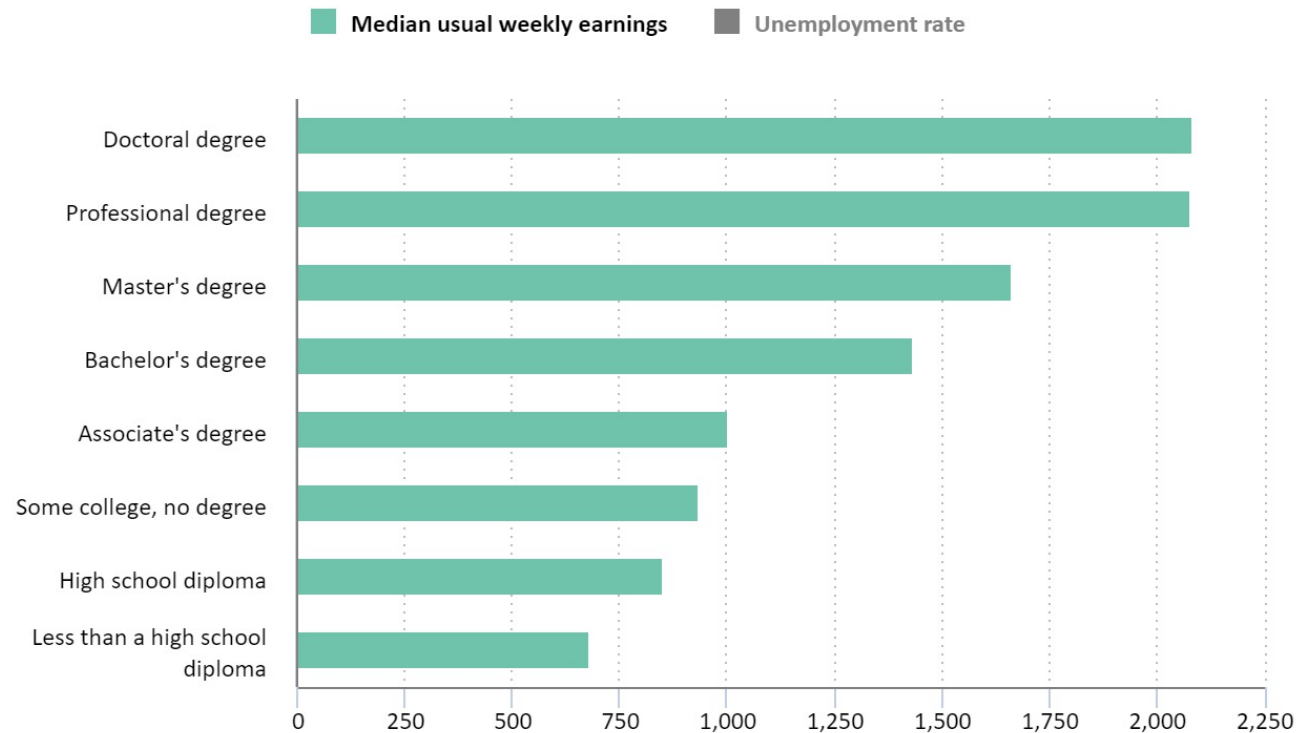
- Graduate degree often required in the fields of:
 - Business
 - Education
 - Healthcare and social service
 - Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics
- For more information on specific occupations, visit:
 - <https://www.bls.gov/careeroutlook/2024/article/education-level-and-projected-openings.htm>
 - <https://www.bls.gov/careeroutlook/2018/article/graduate-degree-outlook.htm>

DECIDING
WHETHER
TO GO TO
GRADUATE
SCHOOL

WHY
ATTEND?

A graduate degree may improve your career and potential earnings

Earnings and unemployment rates by educational attainment, 2022



Click legend items to change data display. Hover over chart to view data.
Note: Data are for persons age 25 and over. Earnings are for full-time wage and salary workers.
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey.

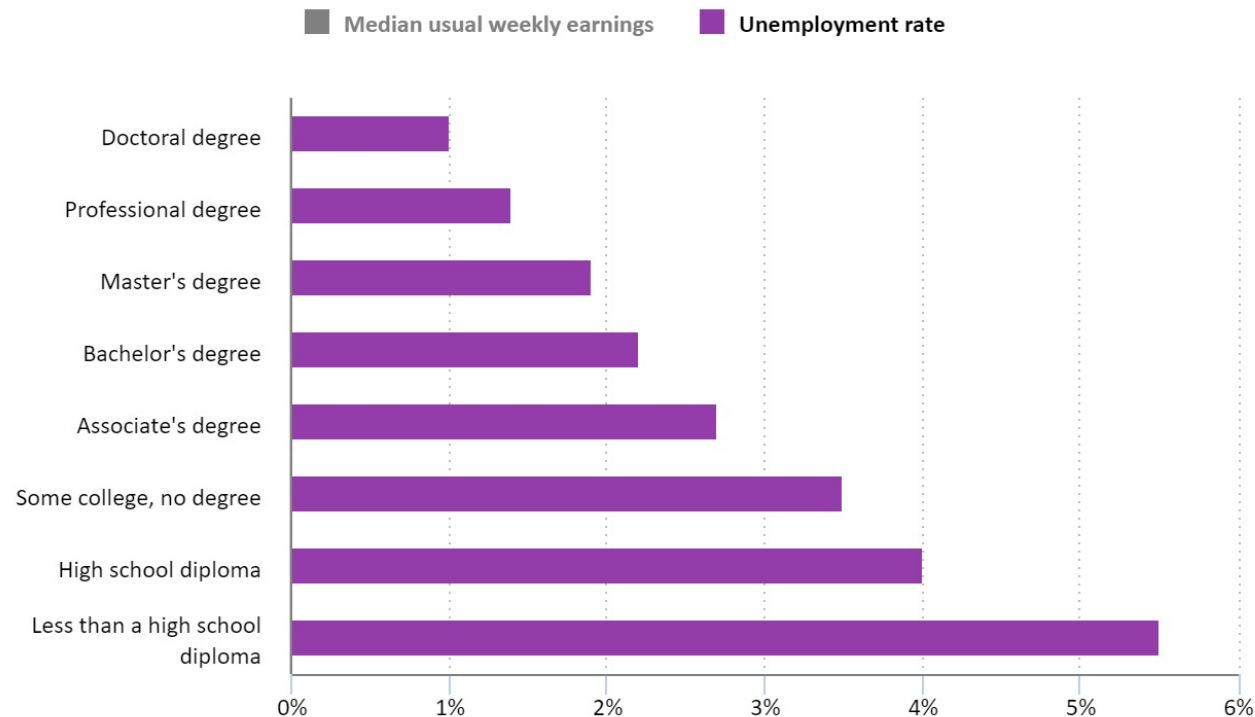


DECIDING
WHETHER
TO GO TO
GRADUATE
SCHOOL

WHY
ATTEND?

A graduate degree may improve your employment stability

Earnings and unemployment rates by educational attainment, 2022



Click legend items to change data display. Hover over chart to view data.

Note: Data are for persons age 25 and over. Earnings are for full-time wage and salary workers.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey.



DECIDING
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SCHOOL

WHY
ATTEND?

A graduate degree may increase your professional options and networking opportunities

- Opportunities for networking through:
 - Classmates
 - Faculty
 - Assistantship
 - Research
 - Internships/practicums
 - Professional organizations

DECIDING
WHETHER
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GRADUATE
SCHOOL

WHY
ATTEND?

A graduate degree may nurture your intellectual curiosity and spark passion for you to impact social change

- Opportunity to:
 - Immerse yourself in specific area of interest
 - Contribute to ideas and conversations that influence society
- Opportunity to participate in and share research, often with funding; examples at KU:
 - [PhD student in Economics studying birth outcomes for Physicians](#)
 - [KU graduate student research highlights](#)
 - [Capitol Graduate Research Summit](#)
 - [3-Minute Thesis Competition](#)
- More broadly, check out Council of Graduate Schools (CGS) Grad Impact Stories: <https://cgsnet.org/news/gradimpact/>

DECIDING
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WHY
ATTEND?

Should you work first or immediately enroll in graduate school?

- Career goals
 - Will you need work experience? What kind (full-time, assistantship, internship, etc.)?
 - Do you need work experience to get the most out of your graduate program?
- Program and degree-level
 - Are you interested in a master's or doctoral degree?
 - Are you interested in research or a professional degree?

DECIDING
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GRADUATE
SCHOOL

OTHER
CONSIDERATIONS

What kind of financial and time investments are involved?

- Funding and costs
 - How will you fund your program?
 - How much are you willing to invest?
- Time commitment
 - How long should you estimate it will take to complete your program?

DECIDING
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OTHER
CONSIDERATIONS

Graduate School is Discipline Focused

- Participate in hands-on training
- Small class sizes
- Gain expert knowledge in a subject area and develop specialized skills
 - Masters
 - Doctoral



WHAT
GRADUATE
SCHOOL
LOOKS
LIKE?

DISCIPLINE-
FOCUSED

Graduate School is Student-Centered

- Original Research, Creative Work, Practice
 - Investigate original research question
 - Create original art, music, literature, etc.
 - Deepen knowledge and innovate applications of knowledge
- Supervisors, advisors, and committee
 - Professional programs may have dedicated advisors (staff and faculty)
 - Common research interests
 - One-on-one interactions—do your personal work styles mesh?
 - Research group dynamics

[7 Steps to Finding the Right Advisor – APA.org 2017](#)

WHAT
GRADUATE
SCHOOL
LOOKS
LIKE?

STUDENT –
CENTERED

Milestone Exams and Theses/Dissertations

- Milestone exams
 - Qualifying exams
 - Comprehensive exams
 - ❖ Oral
 - ❖ Written
 - Final Defense
 - ❖ Public presentation, performance, installation
 - ❖ Oral exam with committee
- Written
 - Thesis vs non-thesis
 - Dissertation, capstone project, performance, or other culminating effort
 - May include original materials (e.g. maps, works of art, musical scores, etc.) in addition to data.

WHAT
GRADUATE
SCHOOL
LOOKS
LIKE?

MILESTONE
EXAMS AND
THESES/
DISSERTATIONS

Time Investment

Unlike undergraduate courses, research and creativity do not necessarily run on a semester time-scale, nor are there clear grades associated with progress.

- Full-time (MS ~1-2yrs; PhD ~4-5 yrs)
 - 6-9 hours of coursework per semester
 - May include 20 hrs per week in Assistantship
 - Plus time for research, writing, practicing, etc.
 - May or may not include travel
- Part-time (extended time to degree)
 - 3-6 hours coursework per semester
 - Plus time for research, etc.
 - Often while working full-time job.
- Work-life balance is key to success!

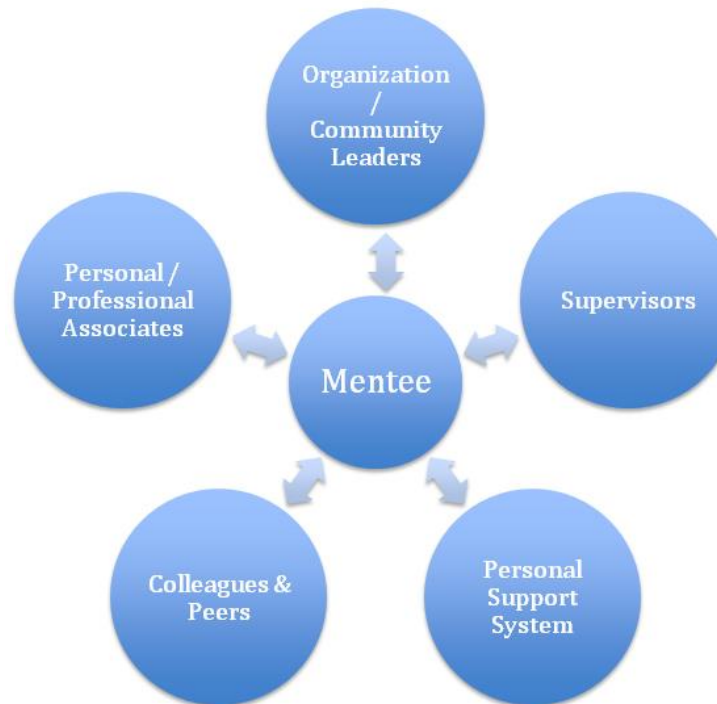
WHAT
GRADUATE
SCHOOL
LOOKS
LIKE?

TIME
INVESTMENT



Mentorship Networks

- Multi-mentor systems
 - Personalized
 - Well-rounded feedback
 - Opens doors to additional connections and opportunities
 - Availability
- Types of Mentors
 - Peers
 - Professionals
 - Alumni
 - Friends and family
 - Community Leaders



WHAT
GRADUATE
SCHOOL
LOOKS
LIKE?

MENTORSHIP

The **Jayhawk Career and Student Alumni Networks** give students and alumni access to career resources, jobs, programming, events and connections at every stage of their career.

Continuing Education Curate existing learning opportunities from KU campus partners including KU Edwards Campus and professional schools

Career Networking

Online and in person events for students and alumni geared towards career networking and outcomes

KU Mentoring Plus

Mentor matching program for students and alumni to create connections, provide professional insight and opportunities

Industry Engagement

"One KU" approach to industry partnerships with KU Endowment, Research, Career Centers

Career Success & Outcomes

Highlight success stories of Jayhawks across varied industries and professions

Professional Development

Career content for all KU Alumni including webinars, hands on workshops and housed in a content library

NETWORKING
AND
CAREER
OPPORTUNITIES

ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION
CONNECTIONS
AND SERVICES



Student Alumni Network connects students to:

- ✓ More than 350,000 alumni
- ✓ Opportunities on and off campus, and
- ✓ Virtually
- ✓ KU traditions
- ✓ Classmates

INVOLVEMENT AND LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

To enjoy all the benefits of your FREE SAN membership, follow these five steps:

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AND ENGAGEMENT



Keep KU in the palm of
your hand with the KU
Alumni app!

- Join, renew or upgrade your membership
- Read *Kansas Alumni* magazine
- Activate Student Alumni Network
- Access the Free Food Finder for students
- Find events in your area
- Get the latest KU and alumni news
- Access members-only discounts

The KU Alumni app, powered by Kansas Lottery,
is for all students, alumni, friends and fans of the
University of Kansas. Rock Chalk!



- 1) Download the KU alumni app
- 2) Click the “Log in” tile and activate your membership
- 3) Use the app all year to access free resources and check into SAN events
- 4) Attend our SAN events throughout the semester
- 5) Visit kualumni.org for all the latest campus news and information

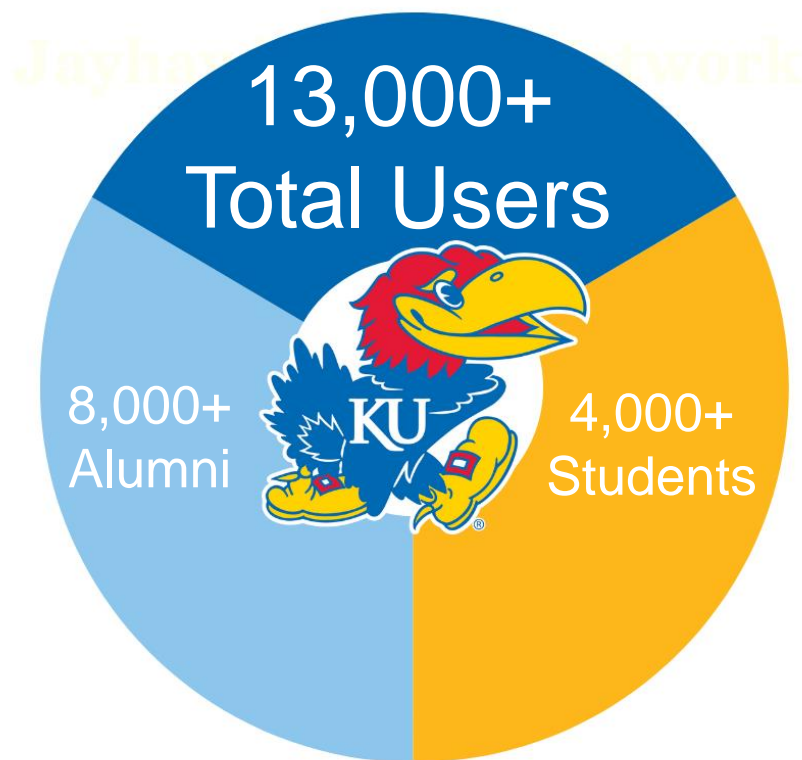
KU

**KU MENTORING: CONNECTING KU
STUDENTS, ALUMNI, FACULTY,
STAFF, AND FRIENDS**

One Jayhawk connection can change your
world.

[JOIN OUR COMMUNITY](#)

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**NETWORKING
AND
CAREER
OPPORTUNITIES**

**ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION
CONNECTIONS
AND SERVICES**


Help Topics:

- Applying & Navigating Graduate School
- Career Industry Trends
- Internships & Job Search Strategies
- Mock Interviews
- Parenting & Career
- Work-Life Balance
- Job Shadowing
- Diversity & Inclusion
- Racial, Gender, and Sexual Identity in the Workplace
- Multi-Generational Workplaces

Additional Benefits:

- Job Board for Experienced Job Seekers
- Affinity Groups
- Discussion Board


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Managing Director
Denver, CO, USA

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NETWORKING
AND
CAREER
OPPORTUNITIES

ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION
CONNECTIONS
AND SERVICES

Learn more at Explore Graduate School Week:

<https://gograd.ku.edu/portal/gradschoolweek-March2024>

- Program-specific sessions
- 12 pm CDT, Wednesday, March 6: Application and Admission Process

EXPLORE
GRADUATE
SCHOOL WEEK
SESSIONS

- KU Alumni Association: <https://kualumni.org/>
 - Jayhawk Career Network:
<https://kualumni.org/programs/jayhawk-career-network/>
 - Student Alumni Network:
<https://kualumni.org/programs/student-alumni-network/>
- KU Career Center: <https://career.ku.edu/graduate-school>
- KU Engineering Career Center:
<https://ecc.ku.edu/students/pursue-grad-school>
- Program costs: <http://affordability.ku.edu/>
- Graduate program profiles: <https://ogs.ku.edu/program-profiles>
- Graduate Admissions: <https://gradapply.ku.edu/>

- Bureau of Labor Statistics
<https://www.bls.gov/careeroutlook/2023/data-on-display/education-pays.htm>
- Idealist.org: <https://www.idealism.org/grad-schools/blog/5-good-reasons-grad-school>
- Peterson's Guide to Graduate School:
<https://www.petersons.com/blog/a-guide-for-potential-grad-students-should-you-go-to-graduate-school/>

QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION

E-MAIL:

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