INVESTED IN PEOPLE. INSPIRED BY THE GREATER GOOD.

PEABODY CAREER SERVICES
2020–21 ANNUAL REPORT

VANDERBILT PEABODY COLLEGE
Message From the Director

Career Success in the Virtual Environment

During the pandemic, adapting to working from home and a virtual environment was challenging and our students’ ability to achieve career success through Zoom was inspirational. They achieved the highest employment rate (97%) over the past decade. While PCS consistently receives positive feedback from students, this year students were significantly more satisfied with the process due to increased access to career advisers and employers. In addition, our office had more appointments and higher participation in key events in the virtual environment.

Necessity is the mother of invention and it was exciting to reinvent how we do career services over the past year. Our commitment to student success, building relationships, and enriching experiences remains foundational to what we do. However, the access and equity afforded by Zoom will forever change how we provide services.

We are fortunate to partner with a phenomenal group of alumni and employers who provided specific coaching and employment opportunities while demonstrating exceptional flexibility. Alumni and employers adapted to a virtual model for interview relays where they expressed more satisfaction with the process. The virtual model also allowed PCS to exponentially increase our geographic diversity and ability to match student interests.

Faculty program directors were wonderful about creatively partnering and allowing us to Zoom into classes. Administrative leadership once again encouraged innovative interactions and provided the support to achieve results from our home offices. Leadership allowed PCS to hire career coaches to help welcome students in August 2021 and welcome our new Associate Director Danielle Lewis. Finally, I am appreciative of the significant contributions of my former colleague Kathleen Rall. Her innovations made a positive difference for PCS and Peabody students. I sincerely appreciate the support colleagues, alumni and employers provide for our students and enjoy our collaboration.

With gratitude,

Jeff Henley
Director, Peabody Career Services
Vanderbilt University’s Peabody College
How We Achieve Results

The Peabody Career Services (PCS) team meets individually with every incoming student for a 30-45-minute career strategy session so that students are able to identify their career path, build their pitch, and connect with employers. Additionally, mock interview relays and other career preparation events are held throughout the year to connect students and employers/alumni for meaningful interactions and ensure that students are adequately prepared for success in the job market. Finally, PCS conducts extensive tracking on all graduating students until they have successfully landed in their first destination after program completion.

I am very grateful to my career director who introduced me to a lot of useful alumni and career resources, patiently guided me in preliminary career planning, and taught me a lot of useful interview skills. I think these will be of great help to my future job search.”

—Peabody student

97% EMPLOYED SUCCESSFULLY by Sept. 30, 2021

95% KNOWLEDGE RATE*

303 GRADUATES Aug. ’20, Dec. ’20, May ’21

*The term knowledge rate defines the percent of graduates for whom we have reasonable and verifiable information concerning the graduates’ post-graduation career activities and is compliant with the National Association of Colleges and Employers standards.
Getting to connect with such a variety of eager, informed, and prepared students is always a highlight. Peabody never disappoints! Additionally, the PCS team did a beautiful job organizing such a large scale virtual event in the face of a lot of hurdles. They did so with grace, and their efforts should be commended!

—Employer
Geographic Distribution

- Midwest: 20%
- Northeast: 14%
- Southeast: 26%
- Southwest: 4%
- West: 16%
- Remote: 4%
- International: 16%

I am so grateful for the personalized nature of our session. I see the career services branch of Peabody as a great conduit between my program and the real world. —Peabody student

48% of graduates launched their careers in Tennessee.

Others launched careers in these regions.
First Destinations

SAMPLE OF ORGANIZATIONS HIRING PEABODY M.ED. AND M.P.P. GRADUATES IN 2020-21

AIM Clinics
Alabama Autism Assistance Program
American Institutes for Research
Asurion
Colorado Department of Education
Deloitte

Education First
Education for Change Public Schools
Fulbright
Georgia State University
Huron
KIPP Academy

KIPP Delta Public Schools
Metro Nashville Public Schools
National Network of Public Health Institutes
Project Play Therapy
Savannah Country Day School

Tennessee Department of Education
The University of Chicago
University of California Los Angeles
University of Notre Dame
US Army
Virginia College Advising Corps

Vu.edu/peabodycareerservices • pcs@vanderbilt.edu • 615-430-3178

Jeff Henley, Director | Danielle Lewis, Associate Director