

# AMU Student Employment Post-Graduation Survey

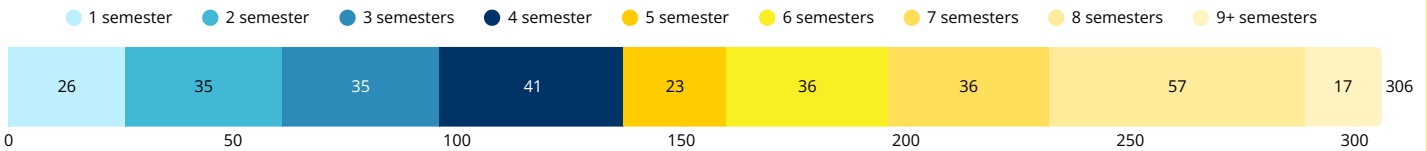
2026 Spring

## Survey Overview

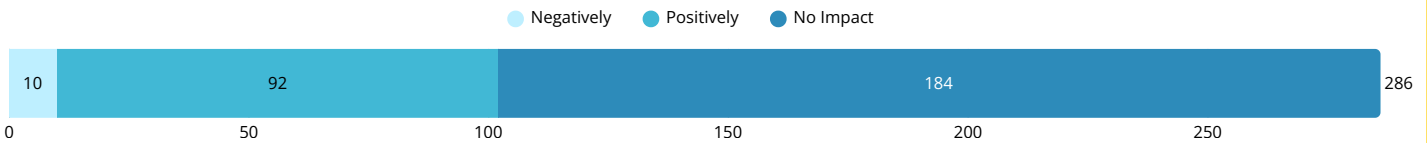
In January 2026, former student employees of the Alumni Memorial Union and Dining Services were emailed a survey to understand how working as an AMU or Dining Services student employee impacted career readiness, professional development, and overall experience at Marquette. 308 former student employees responded and 109 of them indicated willingness to be contacted in the future and remain engaged with the AMU.

## Key Findings

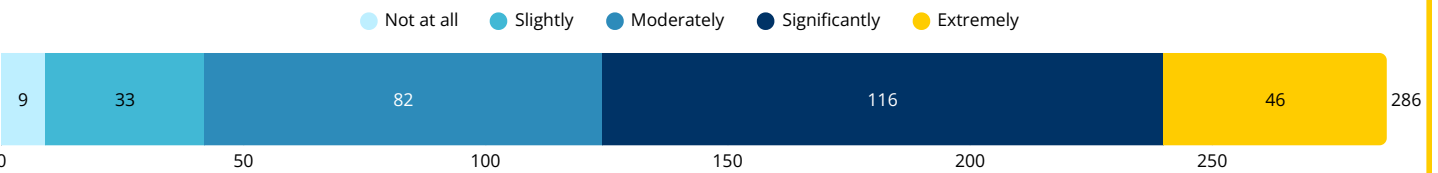
### How many semesters did you work as a student employee?



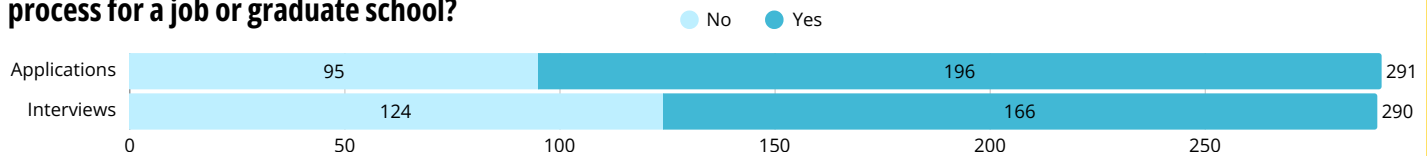
### How did working affect your academic performance?



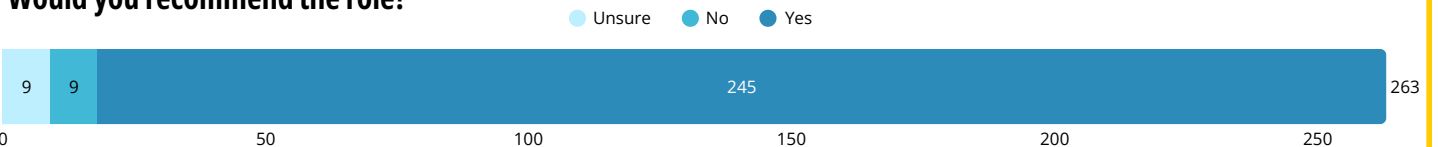
### Did the role help you balance multiple responsibilities (work, academics, personal life)?



### Did you reference your role in job or graduate school applications? Did you reference your role in the interview process for a job or graduate school?



### Would you recommend the role?



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## Quotes

### What is the most valuable lesson you learned in your role?

- “I learned that every person handles situations differently and that not everyone can be managed using the same techniques. Being a manager is about getting to know your team and figuring out the best way to make each team member thrive.”
- “The most important lesson I learned was how to get along with people that were different from me.”

### What advice would you give on leveraging the role for the future?

- “Being a student employee is a great way to demonstrate time management and build skills that relate to future careers as well as learning communication with coworkers and supervisors. I am currently a physical therapist and I utilize examples of customer care and conflict resolution.”
- “It’s not the task that you are doing that matters. It’s the organic time that you spend with the people that you work with that will make a difference later in your career. You’re getting the reps in, learning how to foster relationships, and leading.”
- “It may seem like ‘just setting up chairs’ in the moment, but when an interviewer asks you about organization and team skills, you have an opportunity to reframe your responsibility as coordinating complex, multi-faceted events.”
- “Don’t sell yourself short – being a student manager is real-life experience in management, finances, communication, and leadership. It’s rare to have that wide array of experience before you graduate – all without having to leave campus!”

### What was the most memorable part of being a Student Manager or student employee?

- “Having a greater sense of community and pride in being at Marquette.”
- “Sitting in my bed trying to manually schedule 62 cafe workers for shifts I just KNEW they were going to ask to change as soon as schedules came out. But, it was work that needed to be done, it gave me a chance to think about each person I was scheduling...what were their strengths, their preferences. Who would they work well with, and who might not be conducive to getting things done. It gave me a deep appreciation for thinking about employees as people who I had a real responsibility to.”

### Overall, what impact did the role have on you?

- “I always brought up my manager role for future jobs and applications, graduate school, residency, working as a doctor. I currently manage residents and medical students daily. You never know when you’ll need leadership/managerial experience and I’m happy I had the opportunity to have well developed leadership training through the AMU.”
- “It helped me learn time management and prioritization. I noticed that my grades went way UP once I started working, which was a surprise!”
- “Such a positive impact. My time as a student employee was completely integrated into my Marquette experience.”

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## Discussion

### Cheers

- **Tenure:** The average length of time that student employees stayed in their roles is 5 semesters. This suggests longevity and commitment to and from the AMU and Dining Services teams.
- **Academic Performance:** 97% of students reported that working at the AMU or Dining Services either had a positive impact or no impact on their academic performance. This suggests the high amount of dedication from the professional staff working with the students to ensure academics are a priority.
- **Post-Graduation Application of Skills:** 63% of students mentioned how the roles had real world application and that the skills learned on the job should not be underestimated. This suggests that the skills are transferable.
- **Relationships:** 75% of students mentioned that relationships, friends, and sense of community was the most memorable part of being a part of the AMU and Dining Services team. This suggests that students find belonging in their on campus employment and they find life-long friends and mentors.
- **Positive Marquette Experience:** 76% of students mentioned that the role was more than a job and it contributed to a positive Marquette experience, which includes preparing them for their careers and life journey after graduation. This also suggests that students find belonging and career preparation in their on campus employment.
- **Recommendation:** 93% of students reported that they would recommend working for the AMU or Dining Services.

### Concerns

- **References of Role in Applications and Interview Process:** 33% of students did not reference the role in applications for graduate school or prospective jobs, while 43% of students did not reference the role during the interview process for graduate school or a job.
- **Ability to Balance Multiple Responsibilities:** 47% of students reported the role did not significantly or extremely help to balance a healthy lifestyle between work, academics, and personal life.
- **Career Readiness of Students Not in Leadership Roles:** 30% of non-Student Manager students mentioned that the role impacted their professional and career readiness, compared to 50% of Student Managers.

## Action Steps

- **Growing the Professional Formation Competencies:** For all student employees, we will be intentionally incorporating the MU Professional Formation Competencies into their every day work. Including semesterly workshops and performance reviews to provide a uniquely Marquette on campus job experience.
- **Provide Clear Connection of On-The-Job Skills to Post-Graduation:** For all student employees, we will provide more context of the skills learned on-the-job and how to articulate these skills on resumes, applications, and in interviews.