

# Careers: African American Studies

The University of Maryland African American Studies graduates have been successful in many different fields post-graduation. AASD majors work in many different areas including *advocacy, human services, government, policy, and entertainment.*

Using information from the University of Maryland graduation survey, we have compiled information about AASD majors, such as where they work or go to graduate school post-graduation. Review additional resources at the [University Career Center @ BSOS](#) Your Career webpage.

## Related Titles/Industry *(Sample)*

Explore career paths of AASD majors with LinkedIn's [Alumni tool](#).

*Note: Must have a LinkedIn account to access.*

### Data | Research

#### Job Titles:

Archaeology Researcher  
Archive Specialist  
Assistant Program Analyst  
Data Analyst  
Director, International Trade and Statistics  
Education, Research, and Programming Assistant  
Executive Research Assistant  
Faculty Research Assistant  
Program Analyst  
Research Analyst  
Research Associate  
Research and Outreach Assistant

#### Organizations:

American Institutes for Research  
CASA de Maryland  
Center for International Development and Conflict Management  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
CoStar  
Deloitte  
Howard University  
Pew Research Center  
Society of the Plastics Industry, The  
Smithsonian Institution  
Universal Service Administrative Co.  
U.S. African Development Foundation

#### Entry tips:

*Important qualities/skills generally include:* analytic, problem-solving, and math/statistics skills.

There are many [research opportunities](#) on campus.

Add to your hard skills by completing video series in data analysis with [LinkedIn Learning](#).

### Non-Profits | Education | Helping Professions

#### Job Titles:

Academic Advisor  
Associate Director of Equity and Inclusion  
Citizenship Program Coordinator  
Community Manager  
Instructor  
Mental Health Worker  
Non-Profit Program Director  
Peace Corps Member  
Service Learning Coordinator  
Student Affairs Coordinator  
Substitute Teacher  
Teacher  
Victim Services Specialist  
Youth Advocate

#### Organizations:

Baltimore Youth Arts  
CASA de Maryland  
D.C. Public Schools  
George Washington University  
Human Rights Campaign  
Indian Creek School  
KIPP DC  
Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders  
Montgomery County Public Schools  
Peace Corps  
Prince George's County Public Schools  
Sheppard Pratt Health System  
University of Maryland

#### Entry tips:

*Important qualities/skills generally include:* communication, organizational, and creativity skills.

Apply for experiences working with youth or populations of interest while in school to demonstrate and test your interest.

For detailed tips, visit [Vault's Guide](#) to Education.

## Business

### Job Titles:

Account Associate  
Business Manager  
Consultant  
Digital Marketing Consultant  
Founder  
Fundraising Manager  
HR Assistant  
Independent Buyer  
Insurance Agent  
Permit Agent  
Program Management Specialist  
Public Relations Analyst  
Real Estate Agent  
Reporter  
Quality & Compliance Coordinator

### Organizations:

Accenture  
ADP  
Black Sports Online  
Booz Allen Hamilton  
Buffalo Exchange  
Capital Sports Ventures  
Cypress Benefits Group, Inc.  
Federal Trade Commission  
Glasgow Group, The  
Innovative Clinical Associates  
Shopify  
U.A.F. Consulting  
University of Maryland

### Entry tips:

*Important qualities/skills generally include:* critical thinking, innovation, and problem-solving skills.

Conduct [informational interviews](#) with alumni to learn more about your field(s) of interest.

Check out Vault's [Guide to Entrepreneurial Jobs](#).

## Government | Policy | Law

### Job Titles:

Associate Director of Member Engagement  
Business Immigration Paralegal  
Deputy Executive Director  
Event Coordinator  
Executive Research Associate  
Legislative Aide  
Legislative Director, PG County's House Delegation  
Lobbyist  
Policy Associate  
Political Director  
Public Policy Advocate  
Public Policy Specialist  
Research and Policy Analyst

### Organizations:

ATF  
ACLU of Maryland  
CASA de Maryland  
Congressional Black Caucus Institute  
DCCC  
Erickson Immigration Group  
Prince George's County Council, District 9  
Maryland General Assembly  
NAACP  
University of Maryland  
U.S. Department of Defense  
U.S. Department of State  
U.S. House of Representatives

### Entry tips:

*Important qualities/skills generally include:* varies based on job function. Most professional apply out of a passion for service or the mission of the agency speaks to them.

Federal opportunities:

- [USAJobs](#)
- [Application tips](#)



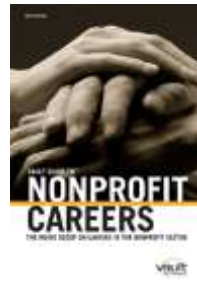
## Explore Career Paths: Resources

Use the sample job titles listed in this document to start exploring career paths.

The links below provide search boxes for you to locate more information on the titles as well as search for other options.

- [Occupational Outlook Handbook](#), a career title dictionary
- [O\\*NET Online](#), the nation's primary source of occupational information
- [FOCUS2](#), explore career paths using self-assessment questionnaires
- [Terrapins Connect](#), talk with professionals working in the field through UMD's alumni network
- [Federal positions by major](#), research career titles with the federal government related to your major

[Vault Guides](#) - browse 100's of industry guides to gain inside tips (*see examples below*).



*Note- Access Vault through your [Careers4Terps](#) account for FREE.*

## Explore career options: Gain Experience

The links below will be a helpful starting point in locating opportunities. [Identify the type of experience](#) that meets your needs.

*Sample list of opportunities:*

- [BSOS Engagement Opportunities](#) - browse links on out of the classroom experiences
- [Careers4Terps](#) - check out job and internship openings for off-campus positions for UMD students
- [UMD National Scholarships Office](#) - review a listing of opportunities for UMD
- [Federal government internships - links to openings and application tips](#)
- [Start your search with these tips](#) - provided by the University Career Center @ BSOS
- [Browse positions](#) - featured in Careers4Terps

*The UMD Department of African American Studies offers:*

- [Internships](#)
- [Study Abroad](#)
- [Teaching Assistantships](#)
- [Research](#)

## Where are AASD Majors Interning?

Internships are a great way to try out an interest, regardless if they are directly related to your major. Employers tend to favor job seekers who have had an internship in the field they are hiring for.

### *Sample internship titles/sites*

- Campaign Inter, *Fair Sentencing of Youth*
- Community Impact Intern, *United Way of Frederick County*
- Congressional Intern, *U.S. House of Representatives*
- Counselor Intern, *Parks & People Foundation*
- Digital Intern, *U.S. House of Representatives*
- Family and Community Engagement Intern, *Institute for Educational Leadership*
- Intern, *Black Child Development Institute*
- Intern, *National Council for Negro Women*
- Intern, *Superior Court of the District of Columbia*
- Intern, *WUSA 9 News*
- Major Investigations Unit Intern, *State's Attorney for Baltimore City*
- Marketing Intern, *Live Nation Entertainment*
- Politics Marketing Intern, *Blavity*
- Public Service Aide Intern, *Prince George's County Council*
- Research Assistant, *Center for Substance Abuse Research*
- Research Assistant Intern, *American Institutes for Research*
- Research Intern, *The Judge Alexander Williams, Jr. Center for Education, Justice and Ethics*
- U.S.-Africa Business Center Intern, *U.S. Chamber of Commerce*

### **Did you know?**

“Whether or not one has an internship impacts short-term and longer-term career success. Survey takers who completed at least one internship received a job offer more quickly and had a higher first position salary than those who did not.”

[-NACE](#)

## Skills Developed

*Skills lead to jobs. Which skills do you possess?*

- [Assess your](#) skills, abilities, interests, and values and explore how they relate to career options.
- Complete this [skills inventory](#) to get started.

*African American Studies majors have skills in...*

- Accumulating and interpreting information
- Analysis
- Contending analytical and theoretical approaches
- Oral and written communication
- Proactivity and initiative
- Quantitative and qualitative methods
- Research
- Understanding of multidisciplinary work



Add to your skill set with [these learning videos](#)/courses.

## Graduate School Programs

Start researching your career path of interest to identify the educational requirements. The list below offers a brief overview of some of the more popular graduate degree programs and institutions our AASD undergraduates have attended.

- African American Studies, Ph.D.
- Law, J.D.
- Medicine, M.D.
- Psychology, M.S.
- Psychology, Ph.D.
- Public Health, M.P.H.
- Public Policy, M.P.P.
- Social Work, M.S.W.
- Student Affairs, M.A.
- Urban Planning, M.S.

### Graduate School Resources

- [Peterson's Graduate School](#), research programs
- [Questions to consider](#) before applying
- [Application timeline](#): stay on track with your graduate school application
- [Tips](#) for completing the application
- [Financing](#) ideas for graduate school



Need help starting your career exploration or job search? Schedule a [career consultation appointment](#) with the University Career Center. Get started mapping your [career action](#) plan today!

*College of Behavioral and Social Sciences*

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