MIT system design & management

employment report

self-funded 2016 graduates
The MIT System Design and Management (SDM) program educates future technical leaders in architecting, engineering, and designing complex products and systems, providing them with the leadership and management skills necessary to work successfully across organizations.

Jointly offered by the MIT School of Engineering and the MIT Sloan School of Management, SDM enables students to gain both technical/engineering depth and management breadth. The program leads to an SM degree in engineering and management.

Graduates leave SDM prepared to manage effectively and creatively by using systems thinking to solve large-scale, complex challenges in product design, development, and innovation. Their unique and powerful combination of technical and managerial skills equips them to effectively lead in positions throughout a wide range of industries, across all levels and functions.

SDM annually surveys members of its most recent graduating class about their career paths. This report displays employment and compensation statistics gathered from self-funded students who graduated in February, June, and September 2016.

**SDM Fellows’ Employment Profile 2016**  
(February, June, and September graduation dates)

- **53%** US citizens/permanent residents
- **47%** Non-US citizens
- **21** Countries
- **4** Continents
- **23%** Women
- **82** Number of SDM fellows graduating in 2016
- **36** Number of company-funded fellows
- **46** Number of self-funded fellows
- **42** Self-funded fellows seeking employment
- **4** Self-funded fellows who remained at, or returned to, their current employers
- **6** Self-funded fellows starting own business
- **1** Self-funded fellows continuing education
- **8** Average years of full-time work experience prior to SDM
- **$86,965** Average annual salary in last position (without bonus)

**Sample of Undergraduate Degrees**

- 22% Electrical Engineering
- 12% Computer Science
- 12% Mechanical Engineering
- 6% Computer Engineering
- 6% Chemical Engineering
- 6% Industrial Engineering
- 6% Engineering Science
- 4% Physics
- 26% Other

**Prior Industry Experience**

- 14% Consulting
- 12% Aerospace
- 12% Software
- 10% Finance
- 8% Defense
- 8% Medical Devices
- 8% Semiconductors
- 6% Energy
- 4% Biotechnology
- 4% Government
- 4% Machinery
- 10% Other
97% employed SDM graduates who responded to the 2016 survey

$132,550 average base salary of surveyed SDM fellows

53% increase from base salary prior to entering SDM

$22,291 average signing bonus

65% surveyed graduates receiving a signing bonus

1.6 average job offers, 2016 SDM surveyed graduates

Highest degree obtained prior to SDM:
- 51% BS/BA/BEng
- 46% MS/MA/MBA
- 3% PhD

Partial List of Companies that Recruited 2016 SDM Graduates
- Amazon Robotics
- Apple
- Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- Bose
- Boston Consulting Group
- C3 IoT
- Dell EMC
- Deloitte
- E & J Gallo Winery
- Ericsson
- Google
- Intel – New Devices Group
- McKinsey & Co
- nuTonomy
- Oracle
- PA Consulting Group
- Shell TechWorks
- Technology Strategy Partners
- Tesla
- Verizon Labs
- Visa Innovation Lab
- Yelp

Job Functions Held by 2016 Graduates

Sample Job Titles after Graduation
- CEO / Founder
- Consultant
- Director of Research & Development
- Head of Operations – New Ventures
- Market Research Analyst
- Senior Product Manager
- Senior UX Designer
- Solutions Analytics
- Systems Architect
- Systems Engineer
- Technical Business Developer
- Technical Lead
MIT System Design & Management
77 Massachusetts Avenue, E40-315
Cambridge, MA 02139-4307

For further information, please contact:

Jonathan Pratt
SDM Director of Career Development and Recruiting
phone: 617.324.7106
email: jonpratt@mit.edu

Joan S. Rubin
SDM Executive Director
phone: 617.253.2081
email: jsrubin@mit.edu