

# Colorado Career Outlook

## Higher Education



**COLORADO**  
Office of Labor  
Market Information  
Department of Labor and Employment

Based on occupational projections through 2033

**Boulder**

### Are you searching for a new career path or looking for that perfect job?

You can use the information in this flyer to help you plan and make informed decisions based on your interests and lifestyle. This overview provides information based on wages and projected demand for occupations within the next 10 years, along with the level of education or training needed for entry-level employment in these fields.



### Education Pays

Further education and training may be a great benefit to your career. Typically, more education results in higher weekly earnings and lower unemployment rates.

#### Median Annual Earnings in Colorado

- Graduate or Professional degree - - \$83,202
- Bachelor's degree - - - - - \$67,578
- Associate degree or some college - - \$46,270
- High school graduate or GED - - - - \$41,596
- Less than a high school diploma - - \$35,024

##### Source

U.S. Census Bureau, 2022 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

##### Note

Data includes individuals 25 years and over with earnings.

#### Colorado Unemployment Rates by Educational Attainment

- Less than a high school diploma - - - - 6.9%
- High school graduate, no college - - - - 3.0%
- Some college or associate degree - - - - 2.4%
- Bachelor's degree and higher - - - - - 1.7%

##### Source

Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey.

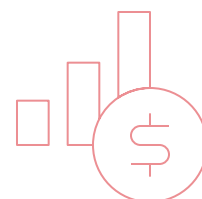
##### Note

Data is based on a 12-month average from January 2023 to December 2023 and includes individuals 25 years and over.

### Colorado Labor Market Information

The Office of Labor Market Information (LMI) within the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment collects and analyzes information about labor market trends throughout Colorado.

- For more labor market information, visit [cdle.colorado.gov/lmi](https://cdle.colorado.gov/lmi)
- For more career and education planning, visit [mycoloradojourney.com](https://mycoloradojourney.com)
- For job opportunities, visit [connectingcolorado.com](https://connectingcolorado.com)



### Colorado Workforce Centers

Visit [cdle.colorado.gov/wfc](https://cdle.colorado.gov/wfc) to find your local workforce center.

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The median wage is the middle salary for each occupation. A percentile wage estimate shows what percentage of workers in an occupation earn less than or more than that amount. For more information, visit [www.bls.gov/oes/oes\\_perc.htm](http://www.bls.gov/oes/oes_perc.htm).

#### Certificate/Associates

Occupation Title	25th Percentile Annual	Median Annual	75th Percentile Annual
Veterinary Technologists and Technicians	\$38,780	\$48,851	\$55,885
Computer Network Support Specialists	\$71,821	\$83,703	\$103,627
Medical Assistants	\$43,337	\$46,659	\$51,486
Massage Therapists	\$57,440	\$58,576	\$69,317
Chemical Technicians	\$53,257	\$63,575	\$78,163
Paralegals and Legal Assistants	\$50,349	\$50,349	\$70,646
Firefighters	\$65,797	\$71,796	\$97,552
Nursing Assistants	\$41,755	\$45,680	\$50,078
Dental Assistants	\$42,302	\$48,616	\$58,153
Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	\$65,061	\$67,568	\$74,810

#### Bachelor's Degree

Occupation Title	25th Percentile Annual	Median Annual	75th Percentile Annual
Software Developers	\$119,036	\$151,475	\$205,964
Web Developers	\$60,268	\$77,733	\$109,419
Software Quality Assurance Analysts and Testers	\$96,362	\$111,672	\$134,290
Substance Abuse, Behavioral Disorder, and Mental Health Counselors	\$60,840	\$80,873	\$104,389
Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists	\$61,156	\$81,614	\$124,362
Computer Systems Analysts	\$109,020	\$130,283	\$181,074
Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Technical and Scientific Products	\$82,072	\$104,462	\$168,491
Environmental Scientists and Specialists, Including Health	\$64,675	\$85,439	\$99,615
Management Analysts	\$59,710	\$102,722	\$131,461
Mechanical Engineers	\$87,914	\$106,018	\$138,823

#### Master's/Professional Degree

Occupation Title	25th Percentile Annual	Median Annual	75th Percentile Annual
Nurse Practitioners	\$116,006	\$131,039	\$142,060
Physician Assistants	\$120,178	\$133,257	\$168,830
Health Specialties Teachers, Postsecondary	\$50,919	\$63,572	\$66,935
Veterinarians	\$83,926	\$104,756	\$134,098
Speech-Language Pathologists	\$89,841	\$111,762	\$136,775
Physical Therapists	\$84,013	\$97,113	\$104,401
Biochemists and Biophysicists	\$84,701	\$106,958	\$137,798
Medical Scientists, Except Epidemiologists	\$83,727	\$105,601	\$152,089
Business Teachers, Postsecondary	\$52,321	\$64,753	\$82,028
Astronomers	\$86,114	\$135,144	\$173,432