



COLORADO CAREER OUTLOOK

HIGHER EDUCATION *Fort Collins*

Based on Occupational projections through 2030



COLORADO
Department of
Labor and Employment
Office of Labor Market Information

In this overview, you'll find information on careers that are expected to be the fastest growing occupations within the next 10 years, along with the level of education or training needed for entry-level employment in these fields, and wage ranges for each. Wage information comes directly from Colorado businesses statewide.

If you are trying to decide on the type of job or career you would like to pursue, are considering a change in your current career path, or are interested in exploring further education or training, this information can help you plan and make informed decisions based on your lifestyle.

Education Pays

Education and training can be a great benefit to workers in their careers. Typically, more education results in higher weekly earnings and lower unemployment rates.

2019 Median Annual Earnings in Colorado

Graduate or Professional degree	\$71,616
Bachelor's degree	\$58,229
Associate degree or some college	\$40,819
High school graduate or GED	\$35,537
Less than a high school diploma	\$30,968

Based on population 25 years and older with earnings. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates

Colorado Unemployment Rates by Educational Attainment

Less than a high school diploma	8.7%
High school graduate, no college	7.8%
Some college or associate degree	5.5%
Bachelor's degree and higher	4.4%

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics Current Population Survey

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. Data are presented in a variety of ways: industry and occupational employment and wages, current and projected industry and occupation levels, occupation wages, and labor force statistics. LMI conducts various research projects and assists workforce centers and others with information requests.

- For more labor market information, visit colmgateway.com
- For more career and education planning, visit mycoloradojourney.com
- For job opportunities, visit connectingcolorado.com

Colorado Workforce Centers

Visit cdle.colorado.gov/wfc to find your local workforce center.

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Certificate / Associate Degree

Occupational Title	Wage Range
Nursing Assistants	\$29,074 - \$36,003
Medical Assistants	\$32,172 - \$42,754
Hairdressers, Hairstylists, and Cosmetologists	\$25,343 - \$37,434
Massage Therapists	\$26,419 - \$52,925
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	\$29,675 - \$54,125
Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education	\$27,827 - \$37,873
Veterinary Technologists and Technicians	\$28,053 - \$41,782
Dental Assistants	\$35,565 - \$48,330
Medical Dosimetrists, Medical Records Specialists, and Health Technologists and Technicians, All Other	\$34,409 - \$50,297
Dental Hygienists	\$73,912 - \$89,361
Radiologic Technologists	\$44,343 - \$70,779
Respiratory Therapists	\$56,762 - \$71,991
Phlebotomists	\$29,133 - \$39,569
Paralegals and Legal Assistants	\$43,040 - \$66,247
Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics	\$30,425 - \$59,748

Bachelor's Degree

Occupational Title	Wage Range
Registered Nurses	\$61,777 - \$84,556
Project Management Specialists and Business Operations Specialists, All Other	\$48,440 - \$100,495
General and Operations Managers	\$57,435 - \$154,950
Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists	\$36,844 - \$81,056
Software Developers and Software Quality Assurance Analysts and Testers	\$72,148 - \$122,413
Accountants and Auditors	\$46,466 - \$88,895
Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	\$41,430 - \$62,145
Substance Abuse, Behavioral Disorder, and Mental Health Counselors	\$33,867 - \$68,151
Mechanical Engineers	\$57,590 - \$104,222
Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Education	N/A
Civil Engineers	\$52,195 - \$124,447
Medical and Health Services Managers	\$68,949 - \$134,549
Middle School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Education	\$41,246 - \$61,304
Management Analysts	\$67,632 - \$130,780
Conservation Scientists	\$50,244 - \$88,615

Master's / Professional Degree

Occupational Title	Wage Range
Health Specialties Teachers, Postsecondary	\$57,920 - \$126,961
Physical Therapists	\$62,746 - \$88,333
Educational, Guidance, School, and Vocational Counselors	\$40,812 - \$60,598
Lawyers	\$65,772 - \$184,693
Occupational Therapists	\$64,436 - \$90,490
Veterinarians	\$48,167 - \$119,557
Physician Assistants	\$87,975 - \$126,731
Nurse Practitioners	\$80,990 - \$125,780
Clinical, Counseling, and School Psychologists	\$71,215 - \$110,786
Speech-Language Pathologists	\$66,605 - \$96,065
Pharmacists	\$95,611 - \$141,559
Medical Scientists, Except Epidemiologists	\$37,113 - \$63,101
Healthcare Social Workers	\$47,749 - \$69,008
Dentists, General	\$67,908 - \$230,275
Education Administrators, Postsecondary	\$79,826 - \$175,347