

Colorado Career Outlook

Higher Education



COLORADO
Office of Labor
Market Information
Department of Labor and Employment

Based on occupational projections through 2033

Fort Collins

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.

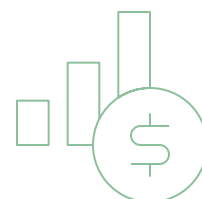
Note

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
- 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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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.

Certificate/Associates	25th Percentile Annual	Median Annual	75th Percentile Annual
Occupation Title			
Medical Assistants	\$40,415	\$44,325	\$49,734
Veterinary Technologists and Technicians	\$37,440	\$48,001	\$49,310
Emergency Medical Technicians	\$41,695	\$46,546	\$46,546
Phlebotomists	\$40,458	\$45,006	\$45,006
Massage Therapists	\$51,274	\$55,875	\$61,037
Dental Assistants	\$39,537	\$47,274	\$56,520
Paralegals and Legal Assistants	\$52,770	\$68,829	\$68,928
Nursing Assistants	\$39,480	\$41,548	\$45,365
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	\$48,325	\$56,097	\$60,942
Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	\$58,629	\$62,559	\$67,012

Bachelor's Degree	25th Percentile Annual	Median Annual	75th Percentile Annual
Occupation Title			
Software Developers	\$94,776	\$129,444	\$158,781
Substance Abuse, Behavioral Disorder, and Mental Health Counselors	\$47,979	\$59,369	\$77,067
Registered Nurses	\$81,099	\$86,791	\$100,467
Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists	\$48,698	\$65,176	\$94,244
Civil Engineers	\$76,484	\$104,138	\$148,420
Project Management Specialists	\$75,061	\$99,080	\$127,246
Human Resources Specialists	\$51,022	\$68,254	\$97,864
Accountants and Auditors	\$62,747	\$80,626	\$100,877
Computer Hardware Engineers	\$113,048	\$136,807	\$173,950
Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Education	\$54,189	\$63,893	\$80,361

Master's/Professional Degree	25th Percentile Annual	Median Annual	75th Percentile Annual
Occupation Title			
Nurse Practitioners	\$106,369	\$124,801	\$133,787
Physician Assistants	\$113,845	\$130,630	\$149,974
Veterinarians	\$74,391	\$100,689	\$128,501
Physical Therapists	\$77,520	\$92,417	\$106,519
Health Specialties Teachers, Postsecondary	\$81,920	\$101,711	\$142,010
Occupational Therapists	\$87,425	\$101,094	\$104,209
Mental Health and Substance Abuse Social Workers	\$50,167	\$60,965	\$65,345
Medical Scientists, Except Epidemiologists	\$47,360	\$62,773	\$62,773
Healthcare Social Workers	\$40,730	\$53,831	\$72,442
Pharmacists	\$136,042	\$146,049	\$165,581