

# Colorado Career Outlook

## Higher Education



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

Based on occupational projections through 2033

**Statewide**

### 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.

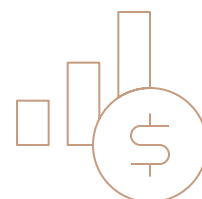
##### Note

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).

<b>Certificate/Associates</b>	25th Percentile Annual	Median Annual	75th Percentile Annual
Occupation Title			
Veterinary Technologists and Technicians	\$38,049	\$47,178	\$50,590
Physical Therapist Assistants	\$57,546	\$64,182	\$74,655
Massage Therapists	\$51,497	\$56,106	\$63,511
Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers	\$48,080	\$61,310	\$74,975
Medical Assistants	\$41,123	\$45,774	\$49,308
Paralegals and Legal Assistants	\$51,851	\$68,859	\$82,966
Radiologic Technologists and Technicians	\$65,028	\$80,510	\$96,132
Manicurists and Pedicurists	\$35,505	\$57,659	\$68,940
Nursing Assistants	\$38,752	\$42,524	\$46,271
Skincare Specialists	\$41,905	\$50,737	\$64,756

<b>Bachelor's Degree</b>	25th Percentile Annual	Median Annual	75th Percentile Annual
Occupation Title			
Information Security Analysts	\$99,124	\$123,594	\$152,238
Data Scientists	\$84,320	\$111,974	\$136,517
Software Developers	\$105,510	\$134,964	\$167,321
Substance Abuse, Behavioral Disorder, and Mental Health Counselors	\$44,944	\$58,114	\$76,280
Software Quality Assurance Analysts and Testers	\$90,730	\$115,936	\$129,542
Logisticians	\$71,017	\$91,393	\$109,295
Airline Pilots, Copilots, and Flight Engineers	\$114,855	\$166,174	\$237,146
Database Architects	\$108,945	\$134,775	\$171,163
Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists	\$58,256	\$77,252	\$103,764
Management Analysts	\$74,308	\$94,750	\$125,318

<b>Master's/Professional Degree</b>	25th Percentile Annual	Median Annual	75th Percentile Annual
Occupation Title			
Nurse Practitioners	\$104,000	\$124,283	\$137,092
Physician Assistants	\$112,017	\$128,798	\$141,823
Health Specialties Teachers, Postsecondary	\$52,295	\$67,449	\$82,852
Speech-Language Pathologists	\$86,688	\$105,044	\$131,929
Physical Therapists	\$81,745	\$97,615	\$108,261
Occupational Therapists	\$86,174	\$101,943	\$114,103
Lawyers	\$103,662	\$166,569	\$231,979
Healthcare Social Workers	\$47,417	\$62,657	\$77,192
Educational, Guidance, and Career Counselors and Advisors	\$50,545	\$60,661	\$68,665
Pharmacists	\$131,317	\$144,240	\$161,516