

Colorado Career Outlook

Higher Education



COLORADO
Office of Labor
Market Information
Department of Labor and Employment

Based on occupational projections through 2033

Eastern and Southern

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.

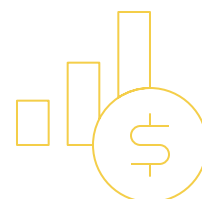
Note

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

Occupation Title	25th Percentile Annual	Median Annual	75th Percentile Annual
Wind Turbine Service Technicians	\$61,034	\$72,140	\$72,488
Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers	\$36,631	\$38,061	\$54,694
Physical Therapist Assistants	\$56,467	\$64,456	\$80,252
Medical Assistants	\$37,992	\$40,016	\$43,857
Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education	\$35,341	\$41,566	\$67,170
Emergency Medical Technicians	\$30,702	\$35,780	\$40,119
Firefighters	\$46,621	\$49,453	\$59,132
Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	\$51,174	\$61,834	\$64,976
Nursing Assistants	\$35,870	\$38,752	\$42,042
Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics	\$36,887	\$44,667	\$57,648

Bachelor's Degree

Occupation Title	25th Percentile Annual	Median Annual	75th Percentile Annual
Coaches and Scouts	\$38,831	\$48,234	\$51,124
Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists	\$42,608	\$60,691	\$90,148
Clinical Laboratory Technologists and Technicians	\$54,106	\$65,786	\$81,328
Substance Abuse, Behavioral Disorder, and Mental Health Counselors	\$41,669	\$53,714	\$72,183
Middle School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Education	\$40,763	\$47,950	\$58,799
Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Education	\$40,624	\$47,766	\$52,180
Project Management Specialists	\$68,473	\$78,162	\$103,201
Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	\$39,791	\$46,943	\$50,777
Registered Nurses	\$68,412	\$81,889	\$89,699
Kindergarten Teachers, Except Special Education	\$40,457	\$45,537	\$48,328

Master's/Professional Degree

Occupation Title	25th Percentile Annual	Median Annual	75th Percentile Annual
Nurse Practitioners	\$97,760	\$126,406	\$139,134
Nursing Instructors and Teachers, Postsecondary	\$64,882	\$76,535	\$103,137
Physician Assistants	\$112,017	\$133,027	\$147,116
Veterinarians	\$61,020	\$74,684	\$96,337
Speech-Language Pathologists	\$81,773	\$100,282	\$117,425
Biological Science Teachers, Postsecondary	\$52,226	\$66,865	\$77,335
Business Teachers, Postsecondary	\$50,811	\$65,382	\$81,769
Psychology Teachers, Postsecondary	\$64,746	\$83,751	\$83,751
Educational, Guidance, and Career Counselors and Advisors	\$47,506	\$49,517	\$57,685
Art, Drama, and Music Teachers, Postsecondary	\$48,004	\$67,646	\$98,107