



COLORADO CAREER OUTLOOK

HIGHER EDUCATION *Grand Junction*

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	\$27,756 - \$36,994
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	\$36,513 - \$54,894
Massage Therapists	N/A
Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers	\$36,337 - \$55,402
Medical Assistants	\$28,916 - \$38,133
Medical Dosimetrists, Medical Records Specialists, and Health Technologists and Technicians, All Other	\$32,108 - \$54,034
Dental Assistants	\$34,010 - \$47,339
Radiologic Technologists	\$48,871 - \$73,684
Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	\$39,069 - \$51,809
Veterinary Technologists and Technicians	\$28,047 - \$34,457
Respiratory Therapists	\$55,038 - \$74,719
Surgical Technologists	\$43,850 - \$65,795
Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics	\$36,698 - \$57,764
Paralegals and Legal Assistants	\$36,584 - \$54,078
Architectural and Civil Drafters	\$37,908 - \$59,655

Bachelor's Degree

Occupational Title	Wage Range
Registered Nurses	\$57,691 - \$85,390
General and Operations Managers	\$56,414 - \$139,098
Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	\$38,274 - \$55,830
Project Management Specialists and Business Operations Specialists, All Other	\$45,170 - \$84,217
Accountants and Auditors	\$41,052 - \$77,520
Substance Abuse, Behavioral Disorder, and Mental Health Counselors	\$34,042 - \$53,073
Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Education	\$39,255 - \$59,989
Middle School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Education	\$37,965 - \$57,714
Medical and Health Services Managers	\$73,439 - \$155,540
Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists	\$29,594 - \$60,238
Construction Managers	\$59,126 - \$116,728
Cost Estimators	\$42,386 - \$81,026
Coaches and Scouts	\$28,345 - \$52,352
Network and Computer Systems Administrators	\$53,802 - \$92,902
Management Analysts	\$44,118 - \$85,256

Master's / Professional Degree

Occupational Title	Wage Range
Physical Therapists	\$63,651 - \$95,825
Lawyers	\$54,102 - \$119,862
Nurse Practitioners	\$93,547 - \$115,533
Family Medicine Physicians	\$84,619 - \$252,043
Healthcare Social Workers	\$35,373 - \$72,433
Physicians, All Other; and Ophthalmologists, Except Pediatric	N/A
Speech-Language Pathologists	\$77,492 - \$120,802
Physician Assistants	\$90,278 - \$117,510
Occupational Therapists	\$70,628 - \$99,392
Educational, Guidance, School, and Vocational Counselors	\$41,993 - \$59,265
Veterinarians	\$75,841 - \$118,415
Education Administrators, Elementary and Secondary School	\$74,219 - \$103,990
Pharmacists	\$117,718 - \$141,424
Chiropractors	\$36,450 - \$72,105
Clinical, Counseling, and School Psychologists	\$69,172 - \$110,909