



Colorado Career Outlook

HIGHER EDUCATION

Based on occupational projections through 2032

Grand Junction



COLORADO
Office of Labor
Market Information
Department of Labor and Employment

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 . . . \$76,458
- Bachelor's degree . . . \$60,941
- Associate degree or some college . . . \$42,408
- High school graduate or GED . . . \$37,928
- Less than a high school diploma . . . \$31,706

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2021 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 . . . 3.2%
- High school graduate, no college . . . 1.9%
- Some college or associate degree . . . 3.8%
- Bachelor's degree and higher . . . 1.9%

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey. Note: Data is based on a 12-month average from January 2022 to December 2022 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 www.colmigateway.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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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.

Higher Education - Certificate / Associate Degree

Occupation Title	25th Percentile Annual	Median Annual	75th Percentile Annual
Medical Assistants	\$35,100	\$39,340	\$44,110
Phlebotomists	\$32,410	\$38,330	\$43,690
Radiologic Technologists and Technicians	\$53,350	\$66,670	\$77,690
Paralegals and Legal Assistants	\$39,370	\$49,000	\$57,540
Veterinary Technologists and Technicians	\$33,220	\$35,640	\$37,940
Massage Therapists	\$52,000	\$59,970	\$71,160
Nursing Assistants	\$32,770	\$35,220	\$38,720
Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	\$49,760	\$57,630	\$60,860
Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers	\$44,180	\$48,240	\$59,960
Dental Assistants	\$37,050	\$38,590	\$46,620

Higher Education - Bachelor's Degree

Occupation Title	25th Percentile Annual	Median Annual	75th Percentile Annual
Software Developers	\$72,220	\$106,930	\$133,160
Coaches and Scouts	\$41,850	\$53,290	\$65,590
Registered Nurses	\$68,130	\$81,480	\$97,630
Civil Engineers	\$64,710	\$76,510	\$96,930
Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Education	\$50,830	\$51,630	\$65,020
Middle School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Education	\$43,510	\$49,960	\$65,050
Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	\$45,700	\$51,490	\$65,250
Special Education Teachers, Secondary School	\$41,310	\$49,750	\$68,750
Special Education Teachers, Middle School	\$52,130	\$52,130	\$61,810
Substance Abuse, Behavioral Disorder, and Mental Health Counselors	\$36,300	\$46,700	\$59,160

Higher Education - Master's / Professional Degree

"\$-" = Data not available

Occupation Title	25th Percentile Annual	Median Annual	75th Percentile Annual
Nurse Practitioners	\$97,410	\$111,440	\$124,190
Health Specialties Teachers, Postsecondary	\$38,540	\$45,950	\$66,530
Physician Assistants	\$106,100	\$112,910	\$131,010
Speech-Language Pathologists	\$83,960	\$103,540	\$116,380
Physical Therapists	\$82,120	\$88,040	\$104,270
Occupational Therapists	\$79,250	\$95,980	\$102,640
Lawyers	\$80,990	\$98,560	\$157,960
Educational, Guidance, and Career Counselors and Advisors	\$45,470	\$51,230	\$64,860
Family Medicine Physicians	\$158,900	\$-	\$-
Marriage and Family Therapists	\$45,240	\$50,480	\$61,950
Mental Health and Substance Abuse Social Workers	\$36,900	\$48,270	\$66,700