



COLORADO CAREER OUTLOOK

HIGHER EDUCATION *Southwest*

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
Medical Assistants	\$29,301 - \$38,400
Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers	\$39,327 - \$54,279
Medical Dosimetrists, Medical Records Specialists, and Health Technologists and Technicians, All Other	\$29,012 - \$45,938
Massage Therapists	\$45,185 - \$70,468
Dental Assistants	\$30,374 - \$42,545
Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	\$37,827 - \$53,568
Radiologic Technologists	N/A
Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education	\$26,402 - \$37,391
Respiratory Therapists	N/A
Life, Physical, and Social Science Technicians, All Other	\$33,734 - \$40,912
Paralegals and Legal Assistants	\$41,956 - \$54,023
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	\$36,573 - \$51,284
Phlebotomists	\$29,473 - \$37,723
Surgical Technologists	N/A
Physical Therapist Assistants	\$34,309 - \$56,570

Bachelor's Degree

Occupational Title	Wage Range
Registered Nurses	\$47,106 - \$79,917
General and Operations Managers	\$50,760 - \$134,259
Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	\$37,467 - \$52,509
Accountants and Auditors	\$45,197 - \$84,181
Substance Abuse, Behavioral Disorder, and Mental Health Counselors	\$36,830 - \$60,758
Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Education	\$37,534 - \$53,516
Project Management Specialists and Business Operations Specialists, All Other	\$42,883 - \$85,662
Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists	\$38,614 - \$67,071
Medical and Health Services Managers	\$63,256 - \$133,020
Middle School Teachers, Except Special and Career/Technical Education	\$37,888 - \$52,078
Management Analysts	\$50,011 - \$110,044
Coaches and Scouts	\$25,350 - \$52,526
Construction Managers	\$73,765 - \$120,289
Meeting, Convention, and Event Planners	\$28,102 - \$54,224
Civil Engineers	\$47,144 - \$105,460

Master's / Professional Degree

Occupational Title	Wage Range
Physical Therapists	\$58,482 - \$92,189
Nurse Practitioners	\$86,801 - \$119,509
Family Medicine Physicians	\$72,162 - \$250,436
Lawyers	\$48,796 - \$109,480
Physician Assistants	\$84,467 - \$125,028
Educational, Guidance, School, and Vocational Counselors	\$42,622 - \$54,564
Education Administrators, Elementary and Secondary School	\$64,192 - \$85,607
Veterinarians	\$56,543 - \$95,501
Healthcare Social Workers	\$35,717 - \$65,881
Anthropologists and Archeologists	\$33,422 - \$61,464
Speech-Language Pathologists	\$67,999 - \$103,264
Occupational Therapists	\$71,649 - \$93,124
Physicians, All Other; and Ophthalmologists, Except Pediatric	N/A
Dentists, General	\$66,336 - \$149,262
Clinical, Counseling, and School Psychologists	\$76,794 - \$99,064