

Tools for Career Exploration

A Quick Resource Guide Connecting
You to the World of Work



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Interests

Would I like this type of work enough to make it a career?

California Occupational Guides Provide both summary and detailed descriptions of over 300 occupations or groups of related occupations with local and Statewide wage and trend information. www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/occguides

California Career Planning Guide Introduces career planning steps of self-assessment, research the world of work, identify education and training needs, and create a Career Action Plan. www.californiacareers.info/ccpg

California Career Resource Network (CalCRN) Develops and distributes career information resources: Real Game, School Guides, California Career Zone, The Reality Check, and Who Do U Want 2B? www.californiacareers.info

CareerOneStop Tools include Job Banks for every State, resume writing, interviewing, and military transition. www.careeronestop.org

Industry Reports Describe occupations in specific California industries: Biotechnology Careers, Construction Careers, Health Care Careers and Posters, Logistics Careers, Manufacturing Careers, and Understanding the Green Economy. www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/?pageid=183

Occupation Profile Data includes wages, outlook, job openings by ZIP code, 15 top industries, skills, tasks, training sources, and comparison with another occupation. <http://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/cgi/databrowsing/occExplorerOSSelection.asp?menuChoice=occExplorer>

O*NET OnLine Describes knowledge, skills, abilities, tasks, and work activities necessary for each occupation. Also includes values, work styles, and interests for each occupation. <http://online.onetcenter.org>

Values

Is this work compatible with my values? Will this kind of work help me reach my long-range goals?

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Reality Check Use this tool to explore how much money you will need to earn to support your preferred lifestyle and discover which occupations pay that salary. www.californiarealitycheck.com/start.htm

Specific Work Performed

What tasks are performed in the job? Would I be primarily working with people, information, or things? Is that what I want to do? Are these the kind of people I like to help or serve?

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Skills, Knowledge, and Abilities

Do I possess the skills, knowledge, and abilities needed to enter the occupation?

Do I have the potential to develop them? Do I enjoy using these skills? Am I physically able to do this work?

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Related Occupations

What other occupations use these skills?

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Work Setting

Where would I work? Is this a setting I would like? What are the conditions?

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Employment Opportunity

What are my chances for finding work in this field? Are there job openings now? In the future? Where are they? Will I be competitive?

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Projections of Employment by Occupation Future outlook of employment for jobs. www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/?pageid=1011

Staffing Patterns by Industry and Occupation Explore what industries employ an occupation or the staffing pattern for an industry. www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/?pageid=1012

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Wages

What salary could I expect at the entry-level? What do experienced workers earn? Are there opportunities for overtime, bonuses, or commissions?

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Wages for Occupations Current State and regional wages for 700 occupations, organized by geographical area. www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/?pageid=1009

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Preparation (education and training)

Am I willing to get the training required? Do I have the time and money needed for training? Are there different ways to enter the occupation?

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Find Apprenticeship Programs A searchable database of formal apprenticeship programs in California. Information available by county and occupation. www.dir.ca.gov/databases/das/aigstart.asp

Find Training Providers Search by field of study or training provider name.
www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/?pageid=1013

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Licenses and Certification

Are certificates or licenses required? Can I qualify for them?

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Certification Finder Search for occupational certifications by name or by the name of the organization that issues the certification. www.acinet.org/acinet/certifications_new/default.aspx

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Licensed Occupations Search for occupational licensing requirements by State, occupation, or agency. www.acinet.org/acinet/licensedoccupations/lois_keyword.asp?nodeid=16&by=keyword

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Opportunity for Advancement

What is the typical way to advance? Am I willing and able to do what it takes?

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Industry View

Which industries employ this occupation?

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Job Search Tips

What can I do to find a job?

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Job Search Tips Expanded list of Job Banks.

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