

Manufacturing Cluster



Planning, managing and performing the processing of materials into intermediate or final products and related professional and technical support activities such as production planning and control, maintenance and manufacturing/process engineering.

Data Sources
Bureau of Labor Statistics
CareerInfoNet
CareerClusters
The College Board
Tracer

Purchasing Agents

Purchasers buy supplies and services for use by the organizations they work for. Working for organizations as different as private corporations and the U.S. military, purchasers order everything from paper clips to tanks.

If you are interested in scouring the market for the best deals on quality products, a career as a **purchasing agent** may be for you.

Purchasing agents look for the highest-quality products at the lowest cost.

Are You Ready To...?

- Study sales records and inventory
- Research products and prices
- Find suppliers in and out of the country
- Conduct Internet research
- Review catalogs and journals
- Award contracts to suppliers
- Negotiate prices

It Helps To Be...

A competitive risk taker with good problem solving and research skills. It also helps to be a clear communicator who is able to work both as a leader and as part of a team.

A Day In The Life...

- Analyze financial data
- Analyze sales activities or trends
- Compute financial data
- Confer with sales or purchasing personnel
- Confer with vendors
- Determine reasonable prices

Salary and Opportunity in the Austin-area

Median Hourly Wage: \$28.74

That comes out to more than \$59,776 a year.

In 2016, we had 1,844 Purchasing Agents. By 2026, we'll need 1,873.

Could you be one of the 29?

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Purchasing Agents

After High School...

In addition to a high school diploma, many employers look for purchasing agents with a bachelor's degree.



Top 5 Industries for Purchasing Agents

1. Federal Government
2. Professional and Commercial Equipment and Supplies Merchant Wholesalers
3. Aerospace Product and Parts Manufacturing
4. Local Government
5. Management of Companies and Enterprises

For more Career Profiles, visit our website:

[http://www.wfscapitalarea.com/YouthServices/
CareerPlanning.aspx](http://www.wfscapitalarea.com/YouthServices/CareerPlanning.aspx).

Related College Majors

- Advertising
- Business Administration and Management
- Business, General
- Fashion Design
- Fashion Merchandising
- Marketing

Related Industry Certifications

- Certified Fellow in Production and Inventory Management
- Certified Professional Public Buyer
- Certified in Integrated Resource Management

Related Careers

- Advertising, Marketing and Public Relations Managers
- Food Service Managers
- Lodging Managers
- Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing
- Sales Worker Supervisors

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