

HIGH-SKILL, HIGH-GROWTH JOBS

In the Capital Area







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Introduction...

The Austin Metro Area Master Community Workforce Plan seeks to bring career awareness of high-skill, high-growth jobs in the Capital area. By gathering information about these opportunities, you can find out which skills and certifications local employers need. This will give you the best chance to find a good job!

We have provided five-year employment growth projections, which takes into account new job creation, as well as job openings due to retirements and people transferring out of a job to take a position in another field. We also included entry-level, median and experienced salaries for these occupations, which shows you how much you can earn throughout your career.

Workforce Solutions Capital Area regularly provides a list of careers currently in high demand along with careers that will be in demand in the future throughout the Capital area. Below is the latest update describing some of the high-skill, high-growth jobs available in our area, and what you must do to qualify for those jobs. If you see an asterisk by a job title, that job is one designated as high need in the Master Community Workforce Plan. Employers are actively searching for people in these positions, but they are having trouble finding qualified workers. Data from the E3 Alliance show that students who enter the workforce directly after graduating high school, but who also never complete a post-secondary degree of any kind, are not likely to be earning a living wage more than 10 years after graduating high school. The occupations listed below generally require more than a high school diploma but less than a four-year degree. Thus, these occupations present a great opportunity for you to explore a career!

Data Sources: Texas Workforce Commission TexasLMI.com Wage Estimates; JobsEQ. Data are specific to the Austin MSA.

ARCHITECTURE & CONSTRUCTION



ELECTRICIANS*

Electricians install and replace wiring, and must be licensed by the state. Those who earn a master electrician's license have the highest earning potential.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$34,599 / \$49,579 / \$58,436

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 2.6%

MINIMUM EDUCATION: High School Diploma/GED & Apprenticeship

ANNUAL AVERAGE JOB OPENINGS: 652



ELECTRICIANS HELPERS*

Electricians helpers assist supervisors or more experienced workers with their duties.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$20,874 / \$33,162 / \$38,280

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 2.6%

MINIMUM EDUCATION: High School Diploma/GED & Short-term On-The-Job Training

ANNUAL AVERAGE JOB OPENINGS: 134



HEATING, AIR CONDITIONING & REFRIGERATION MECHANICS & INSTALLERS*

HVAC mechanics and installers apply high-tech tools to diagnose and fix a wide variety of heating and cooling appliances and equipment.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$31,164 / \$42,318 / \$47,233

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 3.0%

MINIMUM EDUCATION: Postsecondary non-degree award, such as a certificate, &

on-the-job training

ANNUAL AVERAGE JOB OPENINGS: 362

PLUMBERS*

Plumbers, pipefitters and steamfitters are needed everywhere to install, maintain and repair gas and water pipe systems. Earning a dual certification as a welder-pipefitter maximizes career opportunities.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$32,713 / \$51,023 / \$57,674

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 3.1%

MINIMUM EDUCATION: High School Diploma/GED & Apprenticeship

ANNUAL AVERAGE JOB OPENINGS: 631

PLUMBERS HELPERS*

Plumbers helpers assist supervisors or more experienced workers with their duties.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$22,001 / \$28,184 / \$31,982

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 3.2%

MINIMUM EDUCATION: High School Diploma/GED & Short-term On-The-Job Training

ANNUAL AVERAGE JOB OPENINGS: 190

WELDERS*

Advanced welders with specialty skills are in short supply across various industries. Individuals with some postsecondary training and work experience achieve the highest success in this field.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$30,275 / \$38,496 / \$48,976

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 2.3%

MINIMUM EDUCATION: High School Diploma/GED & Apprenticeship

ANNUAL AVERAGE JOB OPENINGS: 270

ARTS, A/V TECHNOLOGY & COMMUNICATION

GRAPHIC DESIGNERS*

Graphic designers create visual concepts, using computer software or by hand, to communicate ideas that inspire, inform, and captivate consumers. They develop the overall layout and production design for various applications such as advertisements, brochures, magazines, and corporate reports.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$38,904 / \$52,650 / \$67,370

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 2.2%

MINIMUM EDUCATION: Bachelor's Degree ANNUAL AVERAGE JOB OPENINGS: 270

MULTI-MEDIA ARTISTS & ANIMATORS*

Multimedia artists and animators create animation and visual effects for television, movies, video games, and other forms of media.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$54,793 / \$91,381 / \$119,657

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 2.4%



BUSINESS MANAGEMENT & ADMINISTRATION



BOOKKEEPING, ACCOUNTING & AUDITING CLERKS*

These clerks compute, classify and record numerical data to keep financial records complete. They may also check the accuracy of calculations pertaining to business transactions recorded by other workers.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$30,030 / \$42,080 / \$48,475

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 1.5%

MINIMUM EDUCATION: High School Diploma/GED & On-The-Job Training

ANNUAL AVERAGE JOB OPENINGS: 1,522



SECRETARIES & ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS*

Secretaries and administrative assistants draft correspondence, schedule appointments, and provide customer service to callers.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$24,279 / \$34,947 / \$41,195

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 0.9%

MINIMUM EDUCATION: High School Diploma/GED & On-The-Job Training

ANNUAL AVERAGE JOB OPENINGS: 2,357

EDUCATION & TRAINING



TEACHERS (ELEMENTARY/MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL)

Teachers teach students basic academic, social and other formative skills in public and private schools at the elementary, middle and high school level.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$42,663 / \$53,761 / \$61,466

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 2.3%

MINIMUM EDUCATION: Bachelor's Degree ANNUAL AVERAGE JOB OPENINGS: 2,115



SCHOOL COUNSELORS

Counselors help students by encouraging academics and providing career and personal/social development guidance to help maximize academic achievements.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$37,789 / \$57,683 / \$68,077

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 2.6%

MINIMUM EDUCATION: Master's Degree ANNUAL AVERAGE JOB OPENINGS: 284



PRESCHOOL TEACHERS*

Preschool teachers educate and care for children younger than age 5 who have not yet entered kindergarten. They teach language, motor, and social skills to young children.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$21,427 / \$30,603 / \$44,702

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 2.7%



HEALTH SCIENCE



Dental hygienists clean teeth and examine oral areas, head and neck for signs of oral disease. Dental hygienists advise dentists of their observations.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$67,227 / \$80,647 / \$89,732

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 3.3%

MINIMUM EDUCATION: Associate's Degree ANNUAL AVERAGE JOB OPENINGS: 131

EMTs & PARAMEDICS*

Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics assess injuries, administering emergency medical care and extricating trapped individuals. They also transport injured people in ambulances to medical facilities.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$29,210 / \$41,397 / \$52,777

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 3.1%

MINIMUM EDUCATION: Postsecondary non-degree award, such as a certificate, &

On-The-Job Training
ANNUAL AVERAGE JOB OPENINGS: 126

LICENSED VOCATIONAL NURSES*

LVNs care for ill, injured or recovering patients or persons with disabilities in facilities such as hospitals, nursing homes, clinics, private homes and group homes.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$35,072 / \$46,717 / \$51,510

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 2.8%

MINIMUM EDUCATION: Certificate & LVN License ANNUAL AVERAGE JOB OPENINGS: 400

MEDICAL ASSISTANTS*

Medical assistants complete administrative and clinical tasks in the offices of physicians, hospitals, and other healthcare facilities. Their duties vary with the location, specialty, and size of the practice.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$24,584 / \$31,237 / \$36,132

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 4.0%
MINIMUM EDUCATION: Certificate
ANNUAL AVERAGE JOB OPENINGS: 642

MEDICAL & CLINICAL LAB TECHNICIANS*

Medical and Clinical Lab Technicians perform routine medical laboratory tests for the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of disease. They consult with pathologists to determine final diagnoses when abnormalities are found.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$31,822 / \$49,134 / \$59,145

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 2.9%



MEDICAL RECORDS & HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNICIANS*

Medical Records & Health Information Technicians compile, process and maintain medical records of hospital and clinic patients.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$23,419 / \$36,657 / \$44,856

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 3.0%
MINIMUM EDUCATION: Certificate
ANNUAL AVERAGE JOB OPENINGS: 136

NURSING ASSISTANTS & ORDERLIES*

Nursing assistants, sometimes called nursing aides, help provide basic care for patients in hospitals and residents of long-term care facilities, such as nursing homes. Orderlies transport patients and clean treatment areas.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$21,756 / \$27,148 / \$30,197

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 2.7%
MINIMUM EDUCATION: Certificate
ANNUAL AVERAGE JOB OPENINGS: 911

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS

Through rehabilitative programs, occupational therapists help persons with disabilities or developmental delays gain independence by learning vocational, homemaking and daily living skills.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$50,595 / \$76,749 / \$91,711

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 3.4%

MINIMUM EDUCATION: Master's Degree ANNUAL AVERAGE JOB OPENINGS: 54

PHYSICIANS & SURGEONS

Doctors of medicine (MDs) treat all types of diseases and injuries. Surgeons operate on patients in both outpatient and emergency situations.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$86,895 / \$151,791 / \$275,811

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 2.8%

MINIMUM EDUCATION: Doctoral or Professional Degree & Internship/Residency

ANNUAL AVERAGE JOB OPENINGS: 117

PHYSICAL THERAPISTS

Through individually designed patient programs, physical therapists help people adapt to the loss of bodily functions due to injuries or ailments.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$62,541 / \$92,095 / \$115,509

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 3.7%

MINIMUM EDUCATION: Doctoral or Professional Degree

ANNUAL AVERAGE JOB OPENINGS: 93

RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGISTS*

Radiologic technologists perform imaging tests to assist in diagnosing patients and are most easily associated with x-rays.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$40,639 / \$58,171 / \$67,510

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 2.8%





Becoming a registered nurse for most hospital systems in the Capital Area region requires earning at least an associate's degree and passing a national licensing exam.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$53,895 / \$68,010 / \$76,218

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 2.9%

MINIMUM EDUCATION: Associate's/Bachelor's Degree

ANNUAL AVERAGE JOB OPENINGS: 1,221

RESPIRATORY THERAPISTS*

Respiratory therapists generally work in hospitals and nursing homes with patients who are experiencing cardiology or pulmonary dysfunction.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$45,537 / \$57,804 / \$65,097

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 3.5%

MINIMUM EDUCATION: Associate's Degree ANNUAL AVERAGE JOB OPENINGS: 51

SURGICAL TECHNOLOGISTS & TECHNICIANS*

Surgical technologists/technicians assist in operations along with other surgical personnel. They may help set up the operating room, prepare patients for surgery, and other duties related to surgery.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$33,425 / \$46,268 / \$54,367

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 2.7%
MINIMUM EDUCATION: Certificate
ANNUAL AVERAGE JOB OPENINGS: 79

HUMAN SERVICES

HAIR DRESSERS, HAIR STYLISTS & COSMETOLOGISTS*

Hairdressers, hairstylists and cosmetologists provide haircutting, hairstyling, and a range of other beauty services.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$17,603 / \$25,677 / \$37,296

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 2.6%
MINIMUM EDUCATION: Certificate
ANNUAL AVERAGE JOB OPENINGS: 721

REAL ESTATE BROKERS & SALES AGENTS*

Real estate brokers and sales agents help clients buy, sell, and rent properties. Although brokers and agents do similar work, brokers are licensed to manage their own real estate businesses. Sales agents must work with a real estate broker.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$31,287 / \$69,398 / \$106,606

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 2.1%
MINIMUM EDUCATION: Certificate
ANNUAL AVERAGE JOB OPENINGS: 98



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY



COMPUTER PROGRAMMERS*

Programmers create, modify and test code, forms and script that allow computer applications to run.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$57,448 / \$86,042 / \$106,562

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 0.7%

MINIMUM EDUCATION: Bachelor's Degree ANNUAL AVERAGE JOB OPENINGS: 262



COMPUTER USER & NETWORK SUPPORT SPECIALISTS*

Support specialists troubleshoot and evaluate existing network systems to ensure that networks operate correctly with minimal interruption.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$32,215 / \$46,678 / \$59,651

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 2.4%

MINIMUM EDUCATION: Certificate/Associate's Degree

ANNUAL AVERAGE JOB OPENINGS: 1,068



COMPUTER SYSTEMS ANALYSTS*

Computer systems analysts aim to automate or improve existing technological systems, and review computer systems capabilities to best meet the needs of an organization.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$61,150 / \$85,421 / \$108,863

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 2.4%

MINIMUM EDUCATION: Bachelor's Degree ANNUAL AVERAGE JOB OPENINGS: 868



DATABASE ADMINISTRATORS*

Database administrators manage computer databases, including updates and even security measures.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$62,572 / \$91,015 / \$106,944

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 2.6%

MINIMUM EDUCATION: Bachelor's Degree ANNUAL AVERAGE JOB OPENINGS: 136



INFORMATION SECURITY ANALYSTS*

Information security analysts plan, implement, upgrade or monitor security measures to protect computer networks and information.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$78,914 / \$108,253 / \$130,376

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 4.4%

SOFTWARE DEVELOPERS, APPLICATIONS & SYSTEMS SOFTWARE*

Software developers are the creative minds behind computer programs. Some develop the applications that allow people to do specific tasks on a computer or another device. Others develop the underlying systems that run the devices or that control networks.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$67,308 / \$105,184 / \$124,019

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 5.8%

MINIMUM EDUCATION: Bachelor's Degree ANNUAL AVERAGE JOB OPENINGS: 2,154

WEB DEVELOPERS*

Web developers design, create and modify websites. They work with users to improve website content, graphics, performance and capacity.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$44,085 / \$71,359 / \$88,170

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 2.8%

MINIMUM EDUCATION: Associate's Degree ANNUAL AVERAGE JOB OPENINGS: 223

LAW, PUBLIC SAFETY, CORRECTIONS & SECURITY

PARALEGAL & LEGAL ASSISTANTS*

Paralegals and legal assistants support lawyers by investigating facts, preparing legal documents and filing them at courthouses, or researching legal precedents.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$32,669 / \$48,509 / \$58,718

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 2.7%

MINIMUM EDUCATION: Associate's Degree ANNUAL AVERAGE JOB OPENINGS: 375

LAWYERS

Lawyers represent clients in criminal and civil cases and can specialize in a certain type of law or may practice many areas.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$67,608 / \$102,144 / \$160,968

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 2.3%

MINIMUM EDUCATION: Doctoral or Professional Degree

ANNUAL AVERAGE JOB OPENINGS: 489

POLICE & SHERIFF'S PATROL OFFICERS*

Officers enforce local, tribal, state or federal laws to maintain order and protect life and property.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$48,421 / \$69,829 / \$81,078

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 2.1%

MINIMUM EDUCATION: Postsecondary non-degree award, such as a certificate, &

On-The-Job Training

ANNUAL AVERAGE JOB OPENINGS: 365



FIREFIGHTERS*

Firefighters respond to emergency situations such as fires where life, property or the environment is at risk, such as controlling house or forest fires.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$36,143 / \$56,143 / \$67,280

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 2.2%

 ${\it MINIMUM\ EDUCATION:\ Postsecondary\ non-degree\ award,\ such\ as\ a\ certificate,\ \&\ postsecondary\ non-degree\ award,\ such\ as\ a\ certificate,\ &\ postsecondary\ non-degree\ award,\ such\ as\ a\ certificate,\ a\ postsecondary\ non-degree\ award,\ such\ a\ postsecondary\ non-degree\ non-degree\$

On-The-Job Training

ANNUAL AVERAGE JOB OPENINGS: 168

MANUFACTURING

INDUSTRIAL MACHINERY MECHANICS*

Industrial machinery mechanics maintain plants and factories by detecting breakdown conditions, making machinery adjustments and repairing faulty equipment.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$33,452 / \$45,573 / \$53,986

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 2.3%

MINIMUM EDUCATION: High School Diploma/GED & On-The-Job Training

ANNUAL AVERAGE JOB OPENINGS: 144

MACHINISTS*

Machinists set up, operate and repair machine tools that are used to produce precision parts and instruments.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$31,876 / \$43,398 / \$50,575

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 1.8%

MINIMUM EDUCATION: High School Diploma/GED & On-The-Job Training

ANNUAL AVERAGE JOB OPENINGS: 161

SEMICONDUCTOR PROCESSORS*

Semiconductor processors perform a variety of functions in the manufacture of electronic semiconductors, including loading material into furnaces and cleaning, polishing and loading wafers into special purpose furnaces, chemical baths, and equipment.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$28,257 / \$37,617 / \$42,874

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 0.8%



SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING & MATH



ARCHITECTURAL AND CIVIL DRAFTERS*

Drafters use software to convert the designs of engineers and architects into technical drawings. Most workers specialize in architectural, civil, electrical, or mechanical drafting and use technical drawings to help design everything from microchips to skyscrapers.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$37,713 / \$49,138 / \$60,826

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 2.5%

MINIMUM EDUCATION: Associate's Degree ANNUAL AVERAGE JOB OPENINGS: 125



BIOLOGICAL TECHNICIANS*

Biological technicians assist scientists in laboratories by monitoring experiments, recording observations and maintaining lab equipment.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$32,334 / \$38,671 / \$48,460

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 2.3%

MINIMUM EDUCATION: Some college, no degree; certificates/associate's

degrees are available in this field

ANNUAL AVERAGE JOB OPENINGS: 27



ELECTRICAL & ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING TECHNICIANS*

Electrical and electronic engineering technicians install, maintain and repair electrical equipment needed in manufacturing plants, pipeline systems and other high-tech operations.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$50,637 / \$68,286 / \$74,594

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 1.4%



TRANSPORTATION, DISTRIBUTION & LOGISTICS



AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE MECHANICS & TECHNICIANS*

These technicians and mechanics diagnose, adjust and repair automotive vehicles. They change tires, oil and fix damage to automobiles, among other duties.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$29,249 / \$46,283 / \$59,927

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 2.2%

MINIMUM EDUCATION: High School Diploma/GED & On-The-Job Training

ANNUAL AVERAGE JOB OPENINGS: 570



HEAVY & TRACTOR TRAILER TRUCK DRIVERS*

These truck drivers unload, load and drive tractor-trailer combinations or trucks with a capacity of at least 26,000 pounds. These drivers may travel locally or nationally to pick up and deliver goods.

ANNUAL ENTRY/MEDIAN/EXPERIENCED SALARY: \$27,950 / \$36,405 / \$45,301

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH: 2.4%

MINIMUM EDUCATION: Certificate & Commercial Driver's License

ANNUAL AVERAGE JOB OPENINGS: 1,166



For more information, please contact:

Leslie Puckett, Director of Research & Career Awareness leslie.puckett@wfscapitalarea.com